



February 28, 2022

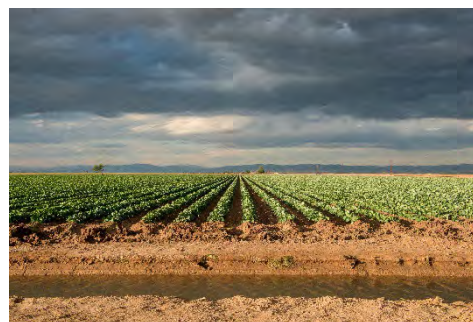
The California Drought Update is a weekly roundup of conditions, state actions and upcoming developments. It is produced by an interagency team that includes the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Public Health. For the latest on drought, please visit www.drought.ca.gov. For tips and resources for conserving water, please visit www.saveourwater.com.

Current Conditions

- The water year that ended Sept. 30 was the second driest on record. All of California's 58 counties are under a drought emergency proclamation.
- Following substantial rain and snowfall in December 2021, January and February 2022 were the driest consecutive January and February on record dating back over 100 years in the Sierra Nevada.
- Californians are being asked to reduce their water use by 15 percent over 2020 levels to protect water reserves and help maintain critical flows for fish and wildlife wherever possible.
- As of Feb. 27, the state's [voluntary household dry well reporting system](#) received reports of nine dry wells in the past 30 days.
- The state is providing hauled or bottled water to eight separate small water providers experiencing supply outages in Monterey, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Tulare, Shasta, El Dorado and Los Angeles counties. The providers together serve a population of a little under 3,000 people.

Recent Events and State Actions

New analysis estimates drought impact on agriculture in 2021 (Feb. 24): A [new analysis](#) estimates the drought cost the California agriculture sector about \$1.1 billion and nearly 8,750 full-time and part-time jobs in 2021. The analysis, led by UC Merced researchers as part of a California Department of Food and Agriculture-funded research project, estimated total economic impacts at \$1.7 billion and 14,634 full-time and part-time jobs lost. The report identifies at least 395,000 additional acres of idled land, nearly all in the Central Valley. Several regions in the Sacramento Valley, the west side of the San Joaquin Valley, Tulare County and Kern County were the most affected. Crops most significantly affected by increased fallowing included rice in the Sacramento Valley, cotton in the San Joaquin Valley, and grain and field crops statewide.



Central Valley Project announces initial waters supply outlook for 2022 (Feb. 23): The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation [announced initial 2022 water supply allocations](#) for Central Valley Project contractors. Water service contractors north and south of the Delta can expect to receive zero deliveries, while irrigation districts with water rights that pre-date the construction of the Redding-to-Bakersfield project and wildlife refuges will get a 75% allocation. Most cities that depend upon the project, including Redding and West Sacramento, will get a 25% allocation. As the water year progresses, changes in hydrology and opportunities to deliver additional water will influence future allocation decisions. The CVP supplies more than 3 million acres of land in central California.

Curtailments adjusted (ongoing): The Water Board lifted curtailments in most watersheds following December's storms, but dry conditions in January and February have led to re-imposition of curtailments in some areas. Curtailments have been reinstated in a few sub-watersheds of the Delta watershed. It is likely that additional curtailments will be reinstated in the Delta watershed next week if conditions remain dry. Water Board staff will continue to adjust curtailment orders as conditions change.

Tribal / Local Actions

- **Tribal governments:** Tribal emergency drought proclamations as reported by Cal OES to date: Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, Karuk Tribe, Resighini Rancheria, Tule River Indian Tribe, Yurok Tribe, Wiyot Tribe.
- **Local government:** Local emergency drought proclamations as reported by Cal OES to date: Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yolo.
- **Water suppliers:** The following public water suppliers have imposed mandatory water use reductions on customers, according to information voluntarily provided to the Association of California Water Agencies and / or recent announcements. The list likely is not comprehensive:
 - Alameda County Water District – mandatory water use restrictions aimed at reducing water use by 15 percent.
 - Brooktrails Community Services District – usage cap of 9,000 gallons per month, all customers
 - Indian Wells Valley Water District – 20 percent
 - Marin Municipal Water District – 40 percent
 - Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Conservation Improvement District – 40 percent
 - Modesto Irrigation District – irrigation allocation capped at 36 inches per acre
 - Montague Water Conservation District – 95 percent
 - Nevada Irrigation District – 20 percent
 - Reclamation District 1500 – 25 percent
 - Richvale Irrigation District – 50 percent
 - City of Santa Rosa – 20 percent
 - Westlands Water District – no outdoor water use by municipal and industrial customers
 - Zone 7 – 15 percent

The following private water companies have imposed a 15 percent mandatory water use reduction:

- San Jose Water Company, with drought surcharges for excessive water use
- Great Oaks Water Company, with drought surcharges for excessive water use
- California-American Water Company (in the Larkfield and Geyserville districts of Sonoma County, as well as the Los Angeles and San Diego districts of the respective counties, with fines for non-essential water use)
- Cold Springs Water Company in Tuolumne County
- North Gualala Water Company in Sonoma County

Upcoming Decisions / Milestones

Next snow survey: DWR will hold its monthly snow survey press event on **March 1** at Echo Summit off Highway 50.

Key Data Points and Resources

- Daily Hydrological & Climate Information summary: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/reportapp/javareports?name=DLYHYDRO>
- Statewide water conditions: http://cdec.water.ca.gov/water_cond.html
- Daily Reservoir Storage Summary: <https://cdec.water.ca.gov/reservoir.html>
- Water Year Forecast and Monthly Distribution: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/reportapp/javareports?name=B120DIST>
- Monthly water supplier reports on water production and conservation: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/conservation_reporting.html
- Latest groundwater conditions and information: <https://sgmatest.water.ca.gov/CalGWLIVE/>
- Information on state drought actions and assistance: <https://www.drought.ca.gov>
- Conservation tips and resources for consumers: <https://saveourwater.com/>