

**CITY OF SIMI VALLEY
MEMORANDUM**

May 1, 2023

TO: Board of Directors, Ventura County Waterworks District No. 8

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION DECLARING A STAGE I WATER SUPPLY CONDITION CALLING FOR VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION WWD-291

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors (Board) adopt Resolution No. WWD-293 declaring a Stage I Water Supply Condition calling for voluntary conservation, effective immediately, and rescinding Resolution No. WWD-291.

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

On March 24, 2023, the Governor issued Executive Order N-5-23 ending the requirement that local water agencies implement Stage 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans. The Executive Order, however, maintains specific restrictions on wasteful water uses, such as watering nonfunctional turf on commercial properties, including HOAs. In taking this action, the Governor considered the current condition of water supplies in the state. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) recently reported that the Sierra snowpack is now one of the largest ever. Consistent with the Governor's Order, and following similar direction from their supplier, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas) adopted a resolution on April 5, 2023, rescinding their Stage 2 Water Shortage and calling for continued water use efficiency practices.

As short-term conditions improve, other water supply and water use regulations that continue to threaten or restrict supplies or usage should be considered:

- Groundwater basins are much slower to recover than surface water, and though the District is not primarily dependent on groundwater, much of the surrounding water users are, so the District is indirectly impacted by groundwater resources.
- MWD's primary water source, the Colorado River, is facing supply cuts as the Federal Bureau of Reclamation is currently evaluating alternatives to impose restrictions on all end users of this supply.
- The State Water Board is underway with the rulemaking process on Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life, adopted in 2018. Briefly, all water retailers, including the District, will need to establish an annual water budget. Exceeding the budget could result in monetary fines after November 2027.

FINDINGS AND ALTERNATIVES

In May 2021, the Board adopted the Waterworks District's *2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP)*. Among the approved elements of the WSCP are the six water shortage stages. The following table depicts the shortage stages:

WSCP Shortage Stage	Municipal Code Shortage Level	Percent Supply Reduction	Designated Watering Days
I	1	Up to 10%	No Designated Days
II	2	Up to 20%	2 Days/Week in Winter 3 Days/Week in Summer
III	3	Up to 30%	1 Day/Week in Winter 2 Days/Week in Summer
IV		Up to 40%	1 Day/Week Only
V		Up to 50%	Hand Watering Only
VI	4	50% or More	No Watering

Waterworks District's Stage I permanent water conservation mandates include:

- Water only after 5 p.m. and before 9 a.m.;
- A limit of fifteen (15) minutes irrigation per controller station or valve, per day;
- Obligation to fix leaks, breaks, or malfunctions within seven days.

Continuing state and Waterworks District's Stage I permanent water conservation mandates include:

- No washing down hard or paved surfaces;
- No excessive irrigation runoff;
- Washing of individual private motor vehicles with use of a positive shut-off nozzle;
- No irrigation during and 48 hours after rainfall;
- No irrigation of turf on street medians;
- Recirculating water required for water fountains and decorative water features.

Staff will also continue to support the state mandate that non-functional turf on commercial, industrial, institutional and HOA properties may not be irrigated.

The following alternatives are available to the Board:

1. Adopt attached Resolution No. WWD-293 declaring a Stage I Water Supply Condition calling for voluntary conservation, effective immediately, and rescinding Resolution No. WWD-291;
2. Do not adopt the Resolution, and provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1.

SUGGESTED CITY COUNCIL MOTION

I move to adopt Resolution No. WWD-293 declaring a Stage I Water Supply Condition, calling for voluntary conservation, effective immediately, and rescinding Resolution No. WWD-291, suspending the Water Shortage Stage II.

SUMMARY

On March 24, 2023, the Governor ended the requirement that local water agencies implement Stage 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans; however, watering nonfunctional turf on commercial properties, including HOAs remains prohibited. In taking this action, the Governor considered the current condition of water supplies in the state, including the report that the Sierra snowpack is now one of the largest ever. Consistent with the Governor’s Order, and following similar direction from their supplier, the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas) adopted a resolution rescinding their Stage 2 Water Shortage and calling for continued water use efficiency practices.

Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. WWD-293 declaring a Stage I Water Supply Condition, calling for voluntary conservation, effective immediately, and rescinding Resolution No. WWD-291, suspending the Water Shortage Stage II.

Ronald K. Fuchiwaki, Director
Department of Public Works

Prepared by: Wanda Moyer, Environmental Compliance Program Coordinator

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RESOLUTION NO. WWD-293

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 8 DECLARING A STAGE I WATER SUPPLY CONDITION CALLING FOR VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION WWD-291

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 8 (Waterworks District) contracts with Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas) to deliver water imported by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) from the State Water Project (SWP), and is considered a SWP dependent agency by MWD; and

WHEREAS, the Waterworks District Board of Directors, following a public hearing on May 11, 2009, adopted Ordinance No. WWD-08, entitling Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 6 of the Simi Valley Municipal Code (Water Conservation Program); and

WHEREAS, the Waterworks District Board of Directors, following a public hearing on May 17, 2021, passed Resolution No. WWD-283, adopting the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP); and

WHEREAS, the adopted WSCP describes six stages of actions the District can take in accordance with California Water Code 10632(a)(3)(A), and provides a cross reference to the Municipal Code Water Conservation Program providing the authority for the Waterworks District Board of Directors to adopt any of the six stages in the WSCP in accordance with California Water Code 10632(a)(3)(B); and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2023, MWD rescinded their Emergency Water Conservation Plan, adopted on April 26, 2022 pursuant to California Water Code, and other applicable authorities, to preserve supplies for its SWP dependent agencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023 the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced a 2023 SWP allocation increase to 75 percent, up from 35 percent announced in February 2023, and the initial five percent allocation announced on December 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2023, DWR announced, following a series of atmospheric rivers since late December 2022, that the Sierra snowpack is one of the largest ever with anticipated runoff that will further boost key reservoir levels and likely warrant an increase to the final 2023 SWP allocation which will be announced in April or May 2023; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Calleguas Municipal Water District adopted a resolution *Rescinding their Stage 2 Water Shortage and Calling for Continued Water Use Efficiency Practices, and Encouraging Expanded Groundwater Recharge*.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 8 DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Resolution No. WWD-291 adopted on February 27, 2023, which established a Stage II Water Shortage irrigation schedule is hereby rescinded.

SECTION 2. A WSCP Stage I Water Supply Condition calling for voluntary conservation is hereby declared effective immediately (May 1, 2023), and will remain in effect until rescinded by the Board of Directors. All permanent restrictions listed under the *2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan* (dated June 1, 2021) Stage I Water Shortage remain in effect. Municipal Code Title 6, Chapter 11 remains in effect for all other aspects relating to water conservation requirements.

SECTION 3. In consideration of the State's mandate for the development of new long-term water use efficiency targets and enforcement mechanisms in all urban sectors, all water users are advised to vigilantly monitor their water use, seek opportunities to optimize such use, and take full advantage of available rebate programs.

SECTION 4. It is recommended that water users maintain seasonally appropriate, efficient schedules and continue to implement other water use efficiency measures in accordance with State mandates to Make Water Conservation a California Way of Life.

SECTION 5. The District Secretary shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and shall cause a certified resolution to be filed in the Office of the District Secretary. Within five (5) days following the declaration of the shortage level, the Waterworks District will publish a copy of the resolution in a newspaper used for publication of official notices.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 1st day of May 2023.

Attest:

Lucy Blanco, City Clerk/
District Secretary

Fred D. Thomas, Chair of the Ventura
County Waterworks District No. 8

Approved as to Form:

Approved as to Content:

David L. Caceres,
District Counsel

Brian Paul Gabler, District Manager

Ronald K. Fuchiwaki
Public Works Director

Governor Newsom Eases Drought Restrictions

Published: Mar 24, 2023

WHAT TO KNOW: Climate change has made California’s dry and wet spells more extreme and unpredictable – after the three driest years on record, recent rain and snowfall have dramatically changed conditions in many parts of the state. The state has also advanced actions to boost storage and supply. Today’s action eases drought emergency provisions that are no longer needed while maintaining others to support impacted communities statewide.

Harnessing water captured and stored from recent storms, the state also announced a major increase in expected State Water Project deliveries to local agencies – now an anticipated [75% allocation](#).

YOLO COUNTY – Governor Gavin Newsom today rolled back some drought emergency provisions that are no longer needed due to current water conditions, while maintaining other measures that support regions and communities still facing water supply challenges, and that continue building up long-term water resilience. Amid climate-driven weather whiplash, the state has taken action to boost water supplies through groundwater recharge, stormwater capture, reservoir storage, and more.

Today’s action comes as the state announced [increased water deliveries](#) to 29 public water agencies that serve 27 million Californians, now expecting to deliver 75% of requested water supplies – up from 35% announced in February, and the highest since 2017.

While recent storms have helped ease drought impacts, regions and communities across the state continue to experience water supply shortages, especially communities that rely on groundwater supplies that have been severely depleted in recent years. Today’s order is responsive to current conditions while preserving smart water measures:

- Ends the voluntary 15% water conservation target, while continuing to encourage that Californians make conservation a way of life;
- Ends the requirement that local water agencies implement level 2 of their drought contingency plans;
- Maintains the ban on wasteful water uses, such as watering ornamental grass on commercial properties;
- Preserves all current emergency orders focused on groundwater supply, where the effects of the multi-year drought continue to be devastating;
- Maintains orders focused on specific watersheds that have not benefited as much from recent rains, including the Klamath River and Colorado River basins, which both remain in drought;
- Retains a state of emergency for all 58 counties to allow for drought response and recovery efforts to continue.

A copy of today’s executive order can be found [here](#).

WHAT GOV. NEWSOM SAID: “We’re all in this together, and this state has taken extraordinary actions to get us to this point. The weather whiplash we’ve experienced in the past few months makes it crystal clear that Californians and our water system have to adapt to increasingly extreme swings between drought and flood. As we welcome this relief from the drought, we must remain focused on continuing our all-of-the-above approach to future-proofing California’s water supply.”



FACT SHEET

Since Governor Newsom announced the 15% voluntary conservation goal, **Californians conserved 600,000 acre-feet of water** – representing 1.2 million households' yearly usage.

The Governor today visited the Dunnigan Groundwater Recharge Project in Yolo County, where

he highlighted the state’s work to accelerate and increase groundwater recharge to make the most of winter storms. California is working to expand groundwater recharge by at least 500,000 acre-feet in potential capacity as part of our water supply strategy.

Leveraging the state’s long-term water supply strategy and more than \$8.6 billion committed by Governor Newsom and the Legislature in the last two budget cycles to build water resilience, California is taking aggressive action to prepare for hotter and drier conditions driven by climate change that could reduce the state’s water supply by up to 10% by 2040. In the 2023-24 state budget, Governor Newsom is proposing an additional \$202 million for flood protection and \$125 million for drought-related actions.

Here are other actions that Governor Newsom and the Legislature have taken to boost water supply, expand storage, and improve infrastructure:

- **EXPANDING SUPPLY & STORAGE BY 1.1 MILLION ACRE-FEET:** California has bolstered supply and storage through groundwater recharge and other projects, including a combined 1.1 million acre-feet of water – enough for 2.2 million households’ yearly usage.
- **EXECUTIVE ORDERS TO CAPTURE & STORE MORE WATER:** During recent storms, Governor Newsom signed [executive orders](#) to accelerate stormwater capture to boost groundwater recharge and other conservation measures.
- **FAST-TRACKING GROUNDWATER RECHARGE:** The state is expanding groundwater recharge by at least 500,000 acre-feet in potential capacity – streamlining permits and \$1 billion for groundwater recharge projects for 88,000 more acre-feet per year.
- **MAXIMIZING STORMWATER CAPTURE:** \$176 million for 67 stormwater projects and streamlining permitting to take advantage of major storm events.
- **EXPANDING STORAGE ABOVE & BELOW GROUND:** California is supporting seven locally-driven water storage projects that would expand the state’s capacity by 2.77 million acre-feet – about three times as much water as Folsom Lake can hold. And, California is working to expand San Luis Reservoir by 135,000 acre-feet to store more storm runoff.
- **ADVANCING CLEAR, AMBITIOUS TARGETS:** [142 actions](#) to improve water resilience and bolster water supplies, and a [roadmap](#) for expanding urban stormwater capture capacity by 250,000 acre-feet and adding 4 million acre-feet of water storage capacity.
- **MODERNIZING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE:** California is working to modernize aging water conveyance systems across the state to safeguard long-term water reliability and help carry winter storm runoff into storage.

###

RESOLUTION NO. 2073

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
RESCINDING STAGE 2 WATER SHORTAGE,
CALLING FOR CONTINUED WATER USE EFFICIENCY PRACTICES, AND
ENCOURAGING EXPANDED GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

WHEREAS, Calleguas is reliant upon deliveries of water imported by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) from the California State Water Project (SWP), and is considered a SWP dependent agency within the Metropolitan service area; and

WHEREAS, in June 2021, Calleguas adopted an Urban Water Management Plan pursuant to the California law, which includes a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) that is triggered during Water Shortage conditions and describes staged actions the District may take to manage demand and allocate available supplies; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed that a state of emergency exists in all California counties due to severe drought conditions, and called on all local and regional water suppliers to implement WSCPs that are responsive to local conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State has experienced elevated snowpack, precipitation, and runoff levels in critical watersheds since the beginning of Water Year 2022-2023 which have resulted in markedly improved water supply conditions throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, the Board of Directors of Calleguas adopted Resolution 2070 which suspended enforcement of the 1-day-per-week watering restriction, rescinded a Stage 3 water shortage, and declared a Stage 2 Water Shortage; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2023, Metropolitan rescinded the Emergency Water Conservation Program (EWCP), which had been adopted on April 26, 2022 pursuant to Water Code §§350 et. seq., Water Code §§375 et. seq., and other applicable authorities, to preserve supplies for its SWP dependent agencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023 the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced a 2023 SWP allocation increase to 75 percent, up from 35 percent announced in February 2023, and the initial 5 percent allocation announced on December 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, following a series of at least 19 atmospheric rivers since late December 2022, the Sierra snowpack is at its highest levels since 1995 with anticipated runoff that will further boost key reservoir levels and likely warrant an additional increase to the final 2023 SWP allocation which will be announced in April 2023; and

Res. No. 2073

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-5-23 modifying drought emergency provisions contained within his State of Emergency Proclamations dated April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, and Executive Orders N-7-22 (March 28, 2022), N-32-3 (February 13, 2023), and N-4-23 (March 10, 2023). Specifically, Executive Order N-5-23 ends the voluntary 15 percent water conservation target and the requirement for water agencies to implement at minimum Level 2 of their WSCPs, but preserves all current emergency orders related to groundwater supply, retains a state of emergency for all 58 counties to allow for continued drought response and recovery efforts, and maintains the ban on wasteful water uses - including watering non-functional turf with potable water; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the multi-year drought continue to have a devastating effect on groundwater supplies; and

WHEREAS, due to the current extreme high flows in the SWP system, DWR is making available additional water above the Table A allocation volume to any contractor that has the ability to store the water in its own system, including through groundwater recharge (Article 21 water); and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River system is still in the midst of a 23-year drought and Metropolitan continues to prepare for steep cuts to these supplies.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Calleguas Municipal Water District:

1. The Stage 2 Shortage condition established on February 15, 2023 is rescinded and no supply shortage condition is declared.
2. Retail purveyor member agencies are encouraged to expand groundwater recharge efforts where feasible to maximize beneficial use of Article 21 water in the service area.
3. In consideration of the State's mandate for the development of new long-term urban water use efficiency targets and enforcement mechanisms in all urban sectors, area water users are advised to vigilantly monitor their water use, seek opportunities to optimize such use, and take full advantage of available rebate programs.
4. It is recommended that communities maintain seasonally appropriate, efficient irrigation schedules and continue to implement other water use efficiency measures in accordance with State mandates to Make Water Conservation a California Way of Life.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this fifth day of April, 2023.



Scott Quady, President
Board of Directors

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of Calleguas Municipal Water District held on April 5, 2023.

ATTEST:



Raul Avila, Secretary
Board of Directors

(SEAL)