

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-2967 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Water Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Staff reports are attached to the agenda and available for review online. Questions or concerns may be directed to Chuck Schaich at (310) 781-6900. Agendas and Minutes are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

**TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M.
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
CITY HALL
AT 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE, CA 90503**

**WATER COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members Deemer, Glass, Kawai, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, Chair Jay

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, September 22, 2022.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30-minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 3 minutes per speaker. Please do not use Bluetooth or speaker devices, mute the volume on your television or other electronic devices and speak clearly. Your phone call to the Commission meeting will be recorded as part of the meeting. By staying on the line and making public comment during the meeting, you are agreeing to have your phone call recorded.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approval of Minutes

- I. Regular Meeting July 27, 2022

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Matters listed under Administrative Matters are considered separately. Comment by members of public on each is limited to a maximum of 2 minutes per item. Speakers must stay on topic and confine their comments to the item under consideration.

7A. Discussion - Drought Conditions in State and Water Supply Situation -
Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

7B. Discussion - Completion of North Torrance Wellfield Project (NTWP) and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file the report.

7C. Discussion - Monthly Water Operations Report - Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. Metropolitan Water District Director's Report.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of the Water Commission Meeting to Wednesday, October 26, 2022

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Glass, Kawai, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, and Chairperson Jay.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak, Deputy Public Works Director Matthew Knapp, Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich, Administrative Analyst Leah Portman, and Engineering Manager John Dettle.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Chairperson Jay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's Website.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

– None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 25, 2022

MOTION: Commissioner Kawai moved to approve the May 25, 2022 minutes as presented. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. DISCUSSION – PRESENTATION REGARDING STATUS OF THE NORTH TORRANCE WELLFIELD PROJECT

Engineering Manager Dettle gave a presentation on the status of the North Torrance Wellfield Project:

- Project is being constructed for the City to pump 5,640-acre-feet per year; this will assist in stabilizing water rates for customers.

- Phase I and Phase II have been completed, Stage III is currently in progress.
- New wells and a water facility have been completed during Stage III; the connection of Well Nine, demolition of Well Six, and the McMaster Park expansion has yet to take place.
- Engineering Manager Dettle provided photos describing / outlining the project.
- Project was delayed due to a chip shortage, but the panel has been provided and work has been completed in exception to the work being done at McMaster Park.
- Staff is working with the Department of Drinking Water on permitting, the facility must be permitted by the Water Resource Board.
- An inspector is scheduled to come out the first week of August 2022; Staff is working to answer all questions.
- All access to the facility is currently through the access road south side of the school; access road will be used for the delivery of chemicals which will only be done during non-school hours.

Commissioner Deemer inquired if the permit from the Department of Drinking Water will be fixed or indefinite. Water Operations Manager Darlak replied that once the site is permitted, the permit is final unless changes are made to the site.

Commissioner Deemer inquired on the timeframe for work to be done at McMaster Park and when the park would be turned back over to the Parks and Recreation Department. Engineering Manager Dettle replied that the work will consist mostly of demolition and landscaping; anticipated timeline is approximately four weeks.

Commissioner Siani inquired on what other areas of the City were expected to be serviced with the additional capacity. Engineering Manager Dettle replied that more of North Torrance will be serviced.

Commissioner Glass inquired how often inspections would take place. Engineering Manager Dettle replied that the inspector will come out once to do the inspections and the City would provide an annual report on water quality.

MOTION: Commissioner Glass moved to accept and file the report on the North Torrance Wellfield Project. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7B. ELECTION OF WATER COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR FISCAL 2022-23

Chairperson Jay thanked Vice Chair Kawai, Staff, and the Commission for the support and comradery over the past year and stated that he would like to continue serving as Chairperson along with Vice Chair Kawai holding the same position.

Chairperson Jay gave an alternate nomination to have Vice Chair Kawai serve as Chairperson and Commissioner Siani serve as Vice Chair.

MOTION: Chairperson Jay moved to continue serving as Chairperson alongside Vice Chair Kawai for fiscal year 2022-2023. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-1 approval (Commissioner Siani voting against the motion).

7C. DISCUSSION – STATUS OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY SITUATION

Leah Portman gave a presentation on the status of drought conditions and water supply:

- Majority of the state is in an extreme / exceptional drought status.
- This is the third drought event California has had in the last thirteen years; droughts have been more frequent and has had deeper impact.
- Governor Newsom has called for 15% voluntary reduction in water use.
- Demand is 1.8-million-acre-feet and supply is 1-million-acre-feet; gap is caused by water being withdrawn from storage. Metropolitan has borrowed 143-acre-feet to meet the demand.
- Lake Mead levels continues to drop rapidly, if the decline continues, a Level II shortage condition will be implemented.

Commissioner Glass inquired about the City of Torrance's regulation on watering outdoors. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied that Level I Conservation Ordinance limits watering to three days per week with no more than 10 minutes per station.

Commissioner Mattie stated that she saw questions from residents on social media regarding who they should contact if they receive a violation letter and inquired who residents should reach out to. Water Operations Manager Darlak replied that residents can reach out to Public Works and ask for him / Water Division.

Commissioner Siani inquired who was issuing the violation letters. Water Operations Manager Darlak replied that a link was available on Public Works website where one could report water wasting; reports are generated every Wednesday, a work order is created, and a door hanger is issued. Deputy Public Works Director Knapp stated that it's not always overwatering that's being reported, broken irrigation prompts violation letters as well.

MOTION: Commissioner Glass moved to accept and file the report on the Status of Drought Conditions and the Water Supply Situation. Commissioner Mattie seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7D. CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION – ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL WATER SHORTAGE

Chuck Schaich presented a PowerPoint presentation on the acceptance of Annual Water Shortage:

- An annual plan assessment needs to be conducted between water demand versus supply; this was enacted in the State Water Code in 2019.
- The Water Supply Contingency Plan evaluates both potable and non-potable shortage assessments; the end of the plan is to determine if there's a water shortage or a water surplus condition.
- Water supply exceeds the water demand, studies project a surplus condition.

- Monthly surplus ranges from 21% - 56% and the overall average is a 36% surplus.

Commissioner Deemer inquired how the refinery is calculated into the demand. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied that the refinery is considered and that the demand and refinery is recalibrated every year.

Commissioner Siani inquired that if Lake Mead dropped below approximately 1,015-acre-feet, would Metropolitan and the public see cutbacks. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied and confirmed; if conditions continue to decline, in 2-3 years, Metropolitan will have to face cutbacks.

Commissioner Siani inquired when the new desalter will come online. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied that there have been changes and the desalter will not be at the Transit Center. Deputy Public Works Director Knapp replied that an investigation process is taking place to see if a location will be feasible.

MOTION: Commissioner Kawai moved to accept and file the report on the Acceptance of the Annual Water Shortage. Chairperson Jay seconded the motion.

- The recording secretary experienced technical difficulties; the Commission decided to vote on the motion during the next item.

7E. DISCUSSION – MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Water Operations Manager Darlak gave a presentation on the June 2022 Monthly Water Operations Report.

- Both treatment facilities continue to pump at optimal levels.
- All potable sources were higher last year due to the refinery taking more potable water because of the West Basin water.
- Five main breaks were reported; City Council approved the next water main replacement project at 182nd and Doty.
- Metropolitan Water will have an emergency shutdown beginning September 6, 2022 for fourteen days. Metropolitan will request that all agencies have no outdoor watering during the shutdown; every agency will be on State Water Project water.

Chairperson Jay inquired if the Well is subject to the humic acid issues experienced at other Wells. Water Operations Manager Darlak replied that WRD has a contractor in the yard currently figuring out what treatment is best.

MOTION: Commissioner Siani moved to accept and file the report on the June 2022 Monthly Water Operations Report and the Acceptance of the Annual Water Shortage report. Commissioner Glass seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

– None

9. **COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Deemer requested clarification on the notice the public would receive regarding a newly implemented Ordinance. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied that it would be a situational matter making it difficult to predict; Staff will inform the Commission with any information received.

Commissioner Kawai stated that he's looking forward to continuing as Vice Chair on the Commission and welcomed Commissioner Deemer.

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich stated that City Council voted to return to in-person meetings; the next Commission meeting will be in person.

Chairperson Jay thanked Staff and inquired if the State did pass a declaration, if the public would need to move to a two-day irrigation plan. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich replied and confirmed.

Regarding the September 2022 shutdown, Chairperson Jay inquired if a two-week shutdown had been presented to the public before. Water Operations Manager Darlak replied that he was unaware of a similar situation. Chairperson Jay stated that there should be public outreach ahead of time to inform residents.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 7:46 p.m., Commissioner Masnek moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, August 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: STATUS OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY SITUATION

With nearly four consecutive years of near record breaking dry conditions, approximately 50% of California is in an extreme or exceptional drought status, which are the most severe drought levels. Although the drought situation in 2015 was more widespread throughout the state at that time, the current event is more serious since it has drastically limited imported water supplies derived from snow melt from the Sierra and Cascade Mountain ranges, which have been experiencing extremely low snowpacks beginning in early 2020.

In addition, virtually the entire west region is experiencing major drought impacts, with over 90% of the western states experiencing extremely prolonged dry conditions. The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) normally provides over half of all potable water supplies used in its 5,200 square mile service area in Southern California from imported water supplies secured from the State Water Project in northern California and MWD's own Colorado River Aqueduct Project. Both imported water sources are facing unprecedented shortages. Staff will provide a brief presentation regarding this situation.

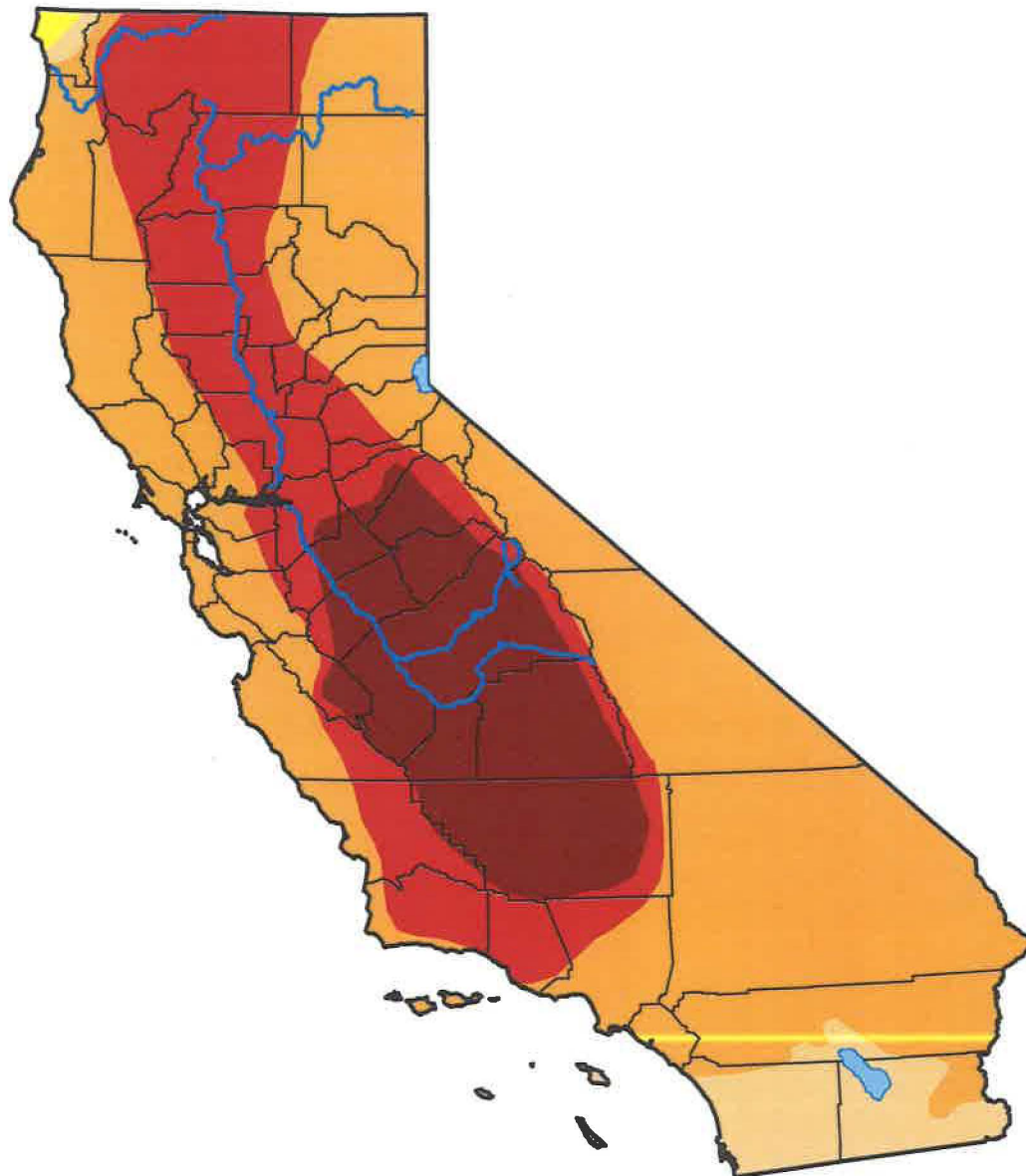
For 

Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations
Andy Darlak







Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Glass _____ Kawai _____ Masnek
_____ Mattie _____ Siani _____ Chairperson Jay

U.S. Drought Monitor California

September 20, 2022
(Released Thursday, Sep. 22, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

State Water Project Resources

SWP Table A – 5% - 95,575 AF



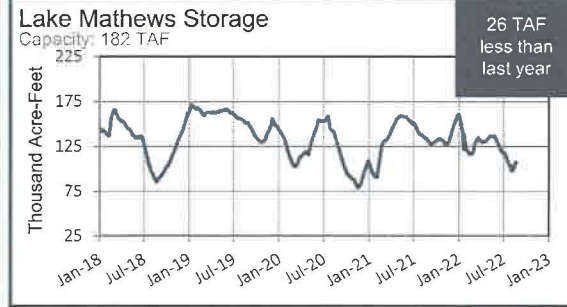
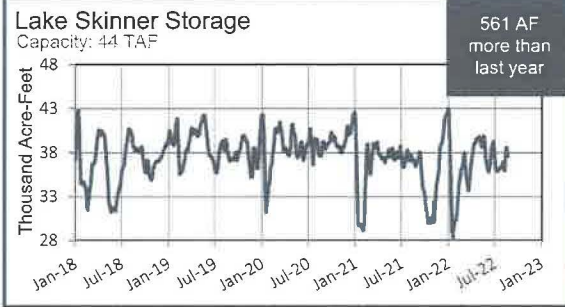
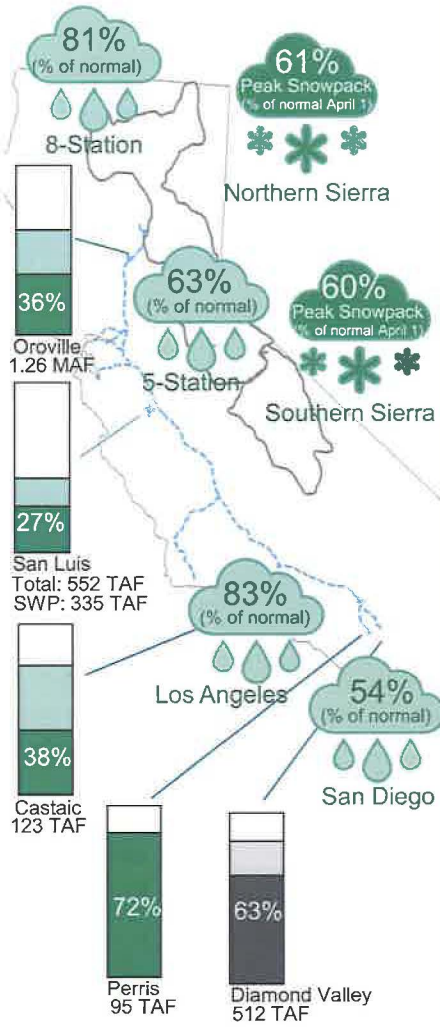
WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS REPORT

Water Year 2021-2022
As of: September 20, 2022

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions – 1,117,000 AF

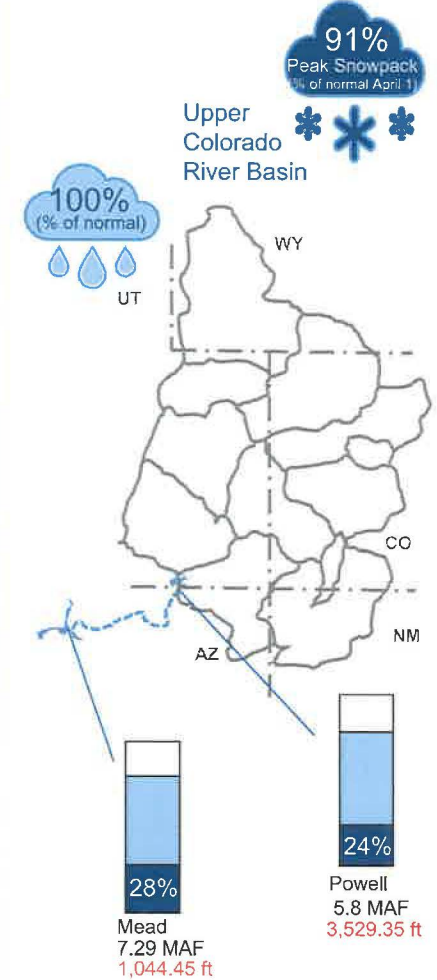
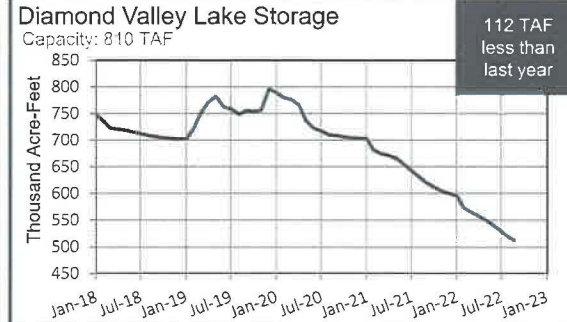
Metropolitan Resources



MWD WSDM Storage

Calendar Year 2022

	Take Capacity
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	179 TAF
State Water Project System	188 TAF
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	426 TAF
Other Programs	11 TAF
Total WSDM Storage Take Capacity	804 TAF



Highlights

- For more information on the current drought, including the Emergency Conservation Program tracking: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/how-we-plan/drought/>



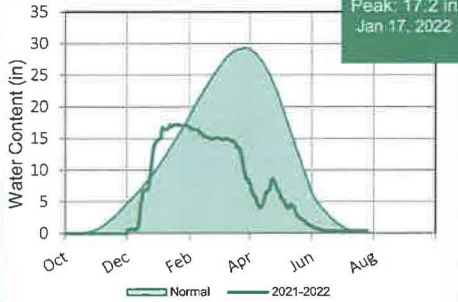
This report is produced by the Water Resource Management Group and contains information from various federal, state, and local agencies. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. Readers should refer to the relevant state, federal, and local agencies for additional or for the most up to date water supply information. Reservoirs, lakes, aqueducts, maps, watersheds, and all other visual representations on this report are not drawn to scale. Questions? Email mferreira@mwdh2o.com

<http://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>

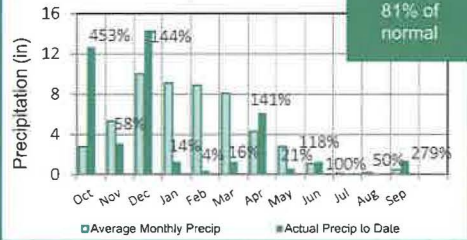
State Water Project Resources

As of: 09/20/2022

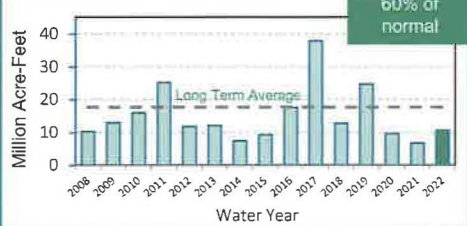
Northern Sierra Snowpack



8 Station Index Precipitation



Sacramento River Runoff



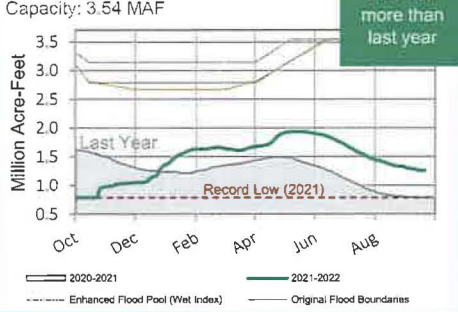
Other SWP Supplies

Calendar Year 2022

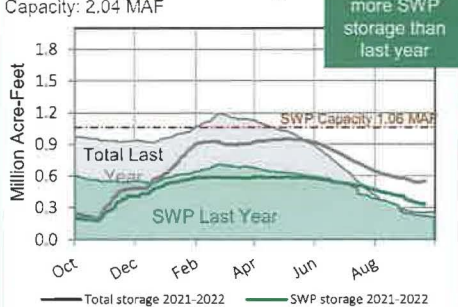
Carryover 38,000 AF (Est.)

Human Health and Safety 133,000 AF

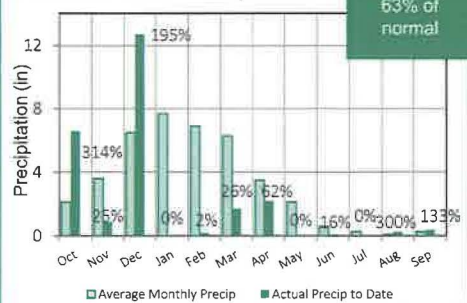
Oroville Reservoir Storage



San Luis Reservoir Storage



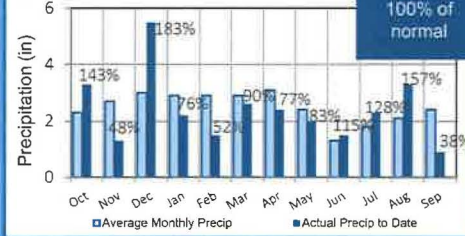
5 Station Index Precipitation



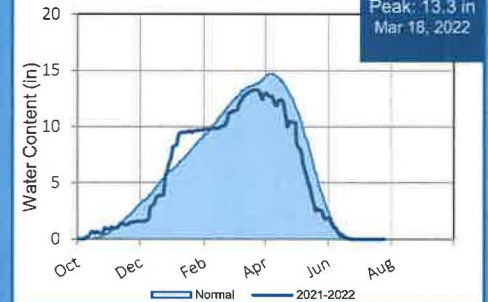
Colorado River Resources

As of: 09/20/2022

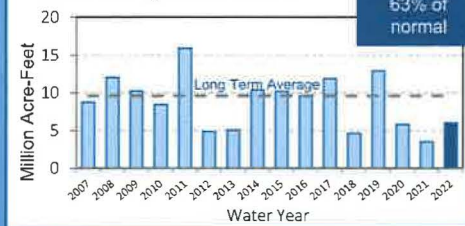
Upper Colorado Precipitation



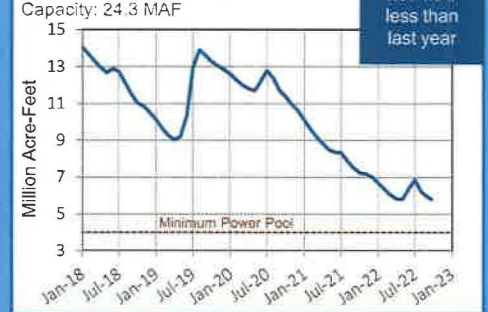
Upper Colorado Snowpack



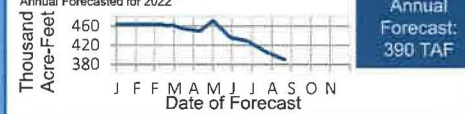
Powell Unregulated Inflow



Lake Powell Storage



PVID/Yuma Agricultural Use



Projected Lake Mead ICS

Calendar Year 2022 Put (+) / Take (-) -133,000 AF

Lake Mead Surplus/Shortage Outlook

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Surplus	0%	0%	0%	0%
Shortage	100%	93%	100%	93%
Metropolitan DCP*		77%	71%	67%
		282 TAF	302 TAF	293 TAF

Likelihood based on results from the August 2022 CRMMS in Ensemble Model/CRSSE model run. Includes DCP Contributions.

* Chance of required DCP contribution by Metropolitan. Volume is average contribution when needed.

Lake Mead Storage



TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF NORTH TORRANCE WELLFIELD PROJECT AND RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

The North Torrance Wellfield Project (NTWP) has been completed for all operational facilities and systems. The project completion was delayed for a number of months because of supply chain issues related to the unavailability of several critical electrical components. We are currently seeking final approval to obtain the required permit to operate the facility from the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW). Once the permit is issued, the NTWP will be placed into active service.

The NTWP consists of a number of major facilities including: two new groundwater wells, a 2.5 million gallon storage reservoir, a pumping plant, a treatment plant and various ancillary facilities and equipment. Our existing Well Number 9 located in McMaster Park has been re-piped into the new treatment and pumping plant located at the NTWP facility. The completion of the NTWP is a "watershed" milestone for Torrance Municipal Water, since it will triple our local potable groundwater production and reduce our reliance on vulnerable imported water supplies purchased from the Metropolitan Water District from 75% to approximately 50%. In addition, the groundwater produced by the facility will be substantially less expensive than MWD imported supplies, and this project will lower our water costs to help mitigate future water rate increases in the future.

The North Torrance Wellfield Project will be officially dedicated once the permit from DDW is secured. If the permit is issued within the next week, a "ribbon cutting ceremony" will tentatively take place on Wednesday October 19th at approximately 3 p.m. If the permit process is delayed, the event will be rescheduled to a later date. Invitations will be sent to all commissioners.


Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Glass _____ Kawai _____ Masnek
_____ Mattie _____ Siani _____ Chairperson Jay

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR AUGUST 2022

It is the recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

Monthly Water Department highlights for the month of August 2022 are:

1. Total potable water produced from local potable sources is 19.8% lower than in August 2021. On a year-to-date basis, potable water is 7% higher than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 1.8% higher than in 2021. There has been a significant increase in potable water sales to the Torrance Refining Company, as a result of continued high refinery production and quality related issues with recycled water received from the West Basin Municipal Water District.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)

Month: August

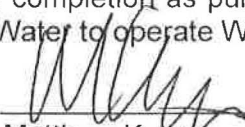
Water Source	August 2021	August 2022	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells*	127.2	128.0	0.7%
WRD Desalter*	315.5	227.0	-28.0%
Subtotal	442.7	355.0	-19.8%
Imported Potable			
MWD	1,341.6	1,409.7	5.1%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	479.2	497.7	3.9%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	1,784.3	1,764.7	-1.1%
All Sources + Recycled	2,263.4	2,262.4	0.0%

*data estimate based on production reads

Year to Date: 2021 vs 2022

Water Source	2021 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells	1,171.5	1,252.1	6.9%
WRD Desalter	1,622.1	2,248.2	38.6%
Subtotal	2,793.6	3,500.3	25.3%
Imported Potable			
MWD	9,262.0	9,401.9	1.5%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	3,779.3	3,213.9	-15.0%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	12,055.6	12,902.2	7.0%
All Sources + Recycled	15,834.8	16,116.0	1.8%

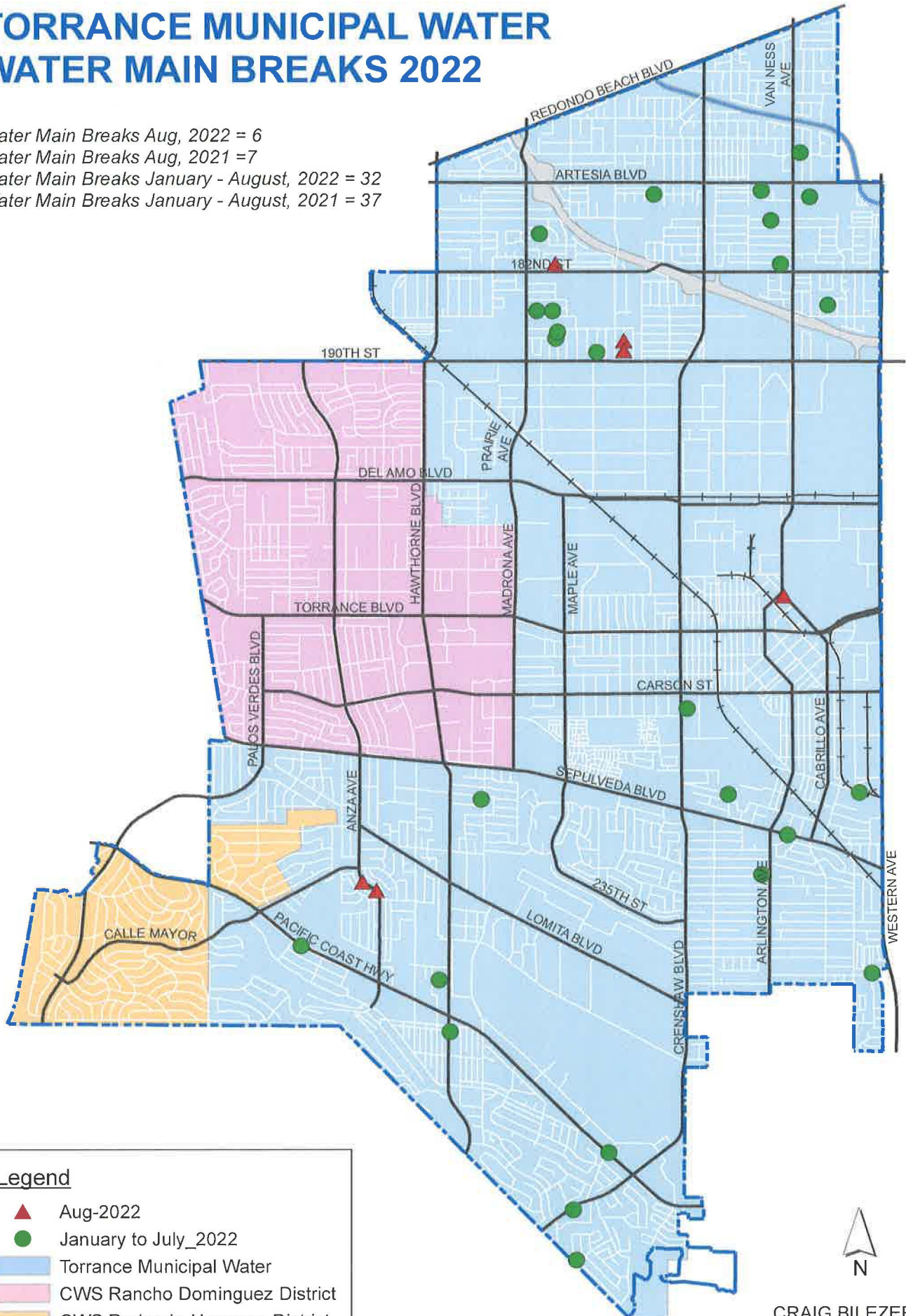
2. There were 6 water main breaks for the month of August 2022, compared to 7 for the same period in 2021. Total main breaks for calendar year 2022 are 32 compared to 37 last year.
3. Currently, the Goldsworthy Desalter is operating at half capacity. The City Yard Well has been taken offline for rehabilitation and is expected to be back online by the end of this calendar year.
4. The North Torrance Wellfield Facility is nearing completion as pump testing continues. The City is awaiting approval from Department of Drinking Water to operate Wells #10 and #11.


 Matthew Knapp
 Deputy Public Works Director – Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Glass _____ Kawai _____ Masnek
 _____ Mattie _____ Siani _____ Chairperson Jay

TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER WATER MAIN BREAKS 2022

Water Main Breaks Aug, 2022 = 6
 Water Main Breaks Aug, 2021 = 7
 Water Main Breaks January - August, 2022 = 32
 Water Main Breaks January - August, 2021 = 37



Legend

- ▲ Aug-2022
- January to July_2022
- Torrance Municipal Water
- CWS Rancho Dominguez District
- CWS Redondo-Hermosa District



CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR