

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) 781-6900 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 6:30 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, MARCH 27, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

6:30 P.M.

**WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
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, Jay, Masnek, Siani, Thomas, and Chair Kawai

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 March 21, 2024.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 15-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 1 minute per speaker.

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 –
Regular Meeting January 24, 2024.**

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Matters listed under Administrative Matters are considered separately. Comments by members of the public on each is limited to a maximum of 1 minute per item. Speakers must stay on topic and confine their comments to the item under consideration.

7A. Presentation and Discussion – Update Regarding Water Supply Conditions
Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

7B. Presentation and Discussion – Brackish Groundwater Reclamation Program and Goldsworthy Desalter Expansion
Recommendation of the Deputy Public Work Director - Operations that Water Commission accept and file this 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
Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of the Water Commission Meeting to Wednesday, April 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

January 24, 2024

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 6:33 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, in the West Annex Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Jay, Masnek, Siani, Thomas, and Chair Kawai.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak, Deputy Public Works Director Matthew Knapp, Senior Administrative Analyst Leah Portman, Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich, and Metropolitan Water District Director Russel Lefevre.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Policy and Resources Specialist 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

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 25, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Siani moved to approve the October 25, 2023, minutes. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – UPDATE REGARDING WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND STATUS OF COLORADO RIVER SITUATION

Senior Administrative Analyst Portman presented Item 7A:

- California is currently drought free, and reservoirs are in good condition due to wet conditions in 2023.
- Key Sierra Watersheds are below normal; however, levels will increase with recent precipitation.
- State Water Project Allocation is at 10% but is expected to increase in the coming months.
- DWR conducts monthly surveys to determine amount of snowpack and moisture content; January's survey showed less than normal snowpack, but the effects of El Nino may result in more precipitation in the next few months.
- Due to wet conditions in 2023, there has been a 6' increase in elevation at Lake Mead.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept Item 7A. Commissioner Deemer seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

7B. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL – OVERVIEW REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTOMATED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) SYSTEM IN TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICE AREA

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7B:

- The city currently has approximately 27,000 meters in the system on an automated meter reading (AMR) system, staff is looking to convert the system to an advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) through Neptune Technology Group.
- Benefits of AMI system includes saving employee time by eliminating drive-by meter routes, providing a portal for customers to see their water usage and billing information, and enabling customers to set alarms to identify leaks.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept Item 7B. Commissioner Jay seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

7C. DISCUSSION - MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7C:

- December 2023 had (7) water main breaks with a total of (41) main breaks in 2023, down from (57) main breaks the previous year.
- With recent testing, staff is confident that the North Torrance Well Field will generate over 300 acre-feet.

- Total water use is down 17,566 acre-feet total; potable water sources are down almost 8%.
- Goldsworthy has been running at 300 acre-feet a month.
- North Torrance Well Field's testing period is complete, blower is still running, and consultant is finalizing reports.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept and file Item 7C. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre presented Item 8A:

- The Delta Conveyance has gone through CEQA and DWR has approved it; the project has been approved.
- DWR cannot issue bonds to support the Delta Conveyance; there are (3) possibilities moving forward: appeal the decision, approve a revised bond resolution, or approve a bond resolution that authorizes the sale of bonds under a different section of the water code.

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre stated that more information on the Delta Conveyance will be obtained and that the Commission will be updated.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Jay moved to accept and file the Metropolitan Water District Director's Report. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public spoke.

Staff is looking to cancel the February 2024 meeting and come back March 2024 with the Rate Study information.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:03 p.m., Commissioner Masnek moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, February 28, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval.

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TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: UPDATE REGARDING WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS

Due to the heavy precipitation and snowpacks received in key northern California and Colorado River Basin watersheds during February, California is experiencing a slightly above average water year. In contrast to late 2022, when almost the entire state was either in an extreme or exceptional drought, currently there are no areas within the state that are in a drought condition.

In late February, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) increased the State Water Project (SWP) allocation up from 10% to 15% for all of its contracting agencies, including the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). This translates to an additional 100,000 acre-feet (AF) of water for MWD, which brings MWD's total current SWP allocated supplies to approximately 300,000 AF for the current year. However, it is anticipated that DWR will significantly increase the SWP allocations next month based on the relatively favorable hydrologic conditions in major watersheds. If the final SWP allocation exceeds 35%, MWD will likely have surplus water that will be banked into storage and increase MWD storage reserves to an all-time record. Although both Lake Mead and Lake Powell on the Colorado River system are still at very low levels at 37% and 32% of capacity, this is a significant improvement from 2022, when both reservoirs were at their lowest historic levels since being filled.

Despite March being a relatively dry month, snowpack in the northern Sierra range is at 115% of normal and central Sierra range is at 92% of normal as of mid-March. Both of these areas are major watersheds that provide source water to the SWP. Snowpack is extremely important, since it is an ideal reservoir that stores water during the winter and gradually releases it in spring and summer months. Almost all major reservoirs throughout the state are nearly full or well above average capacity. The southern Sierra is the third primary watershed on the state system and is the principal supply source for LA Aqueduct, which provides a major portion of City of Los Angeles water requirements and is only a minor supply source for the SWP. With the current high level storage reserves, the MWD service area will likely not experience any water shortages over the next couple of years. However, it is imperative to continue concerted conservation efforts to promote long-term reliability and sustainability of our limited water resources, since severe droughts are an endemic occurrence in California.

Staff will provide a brief presentation on this matter.

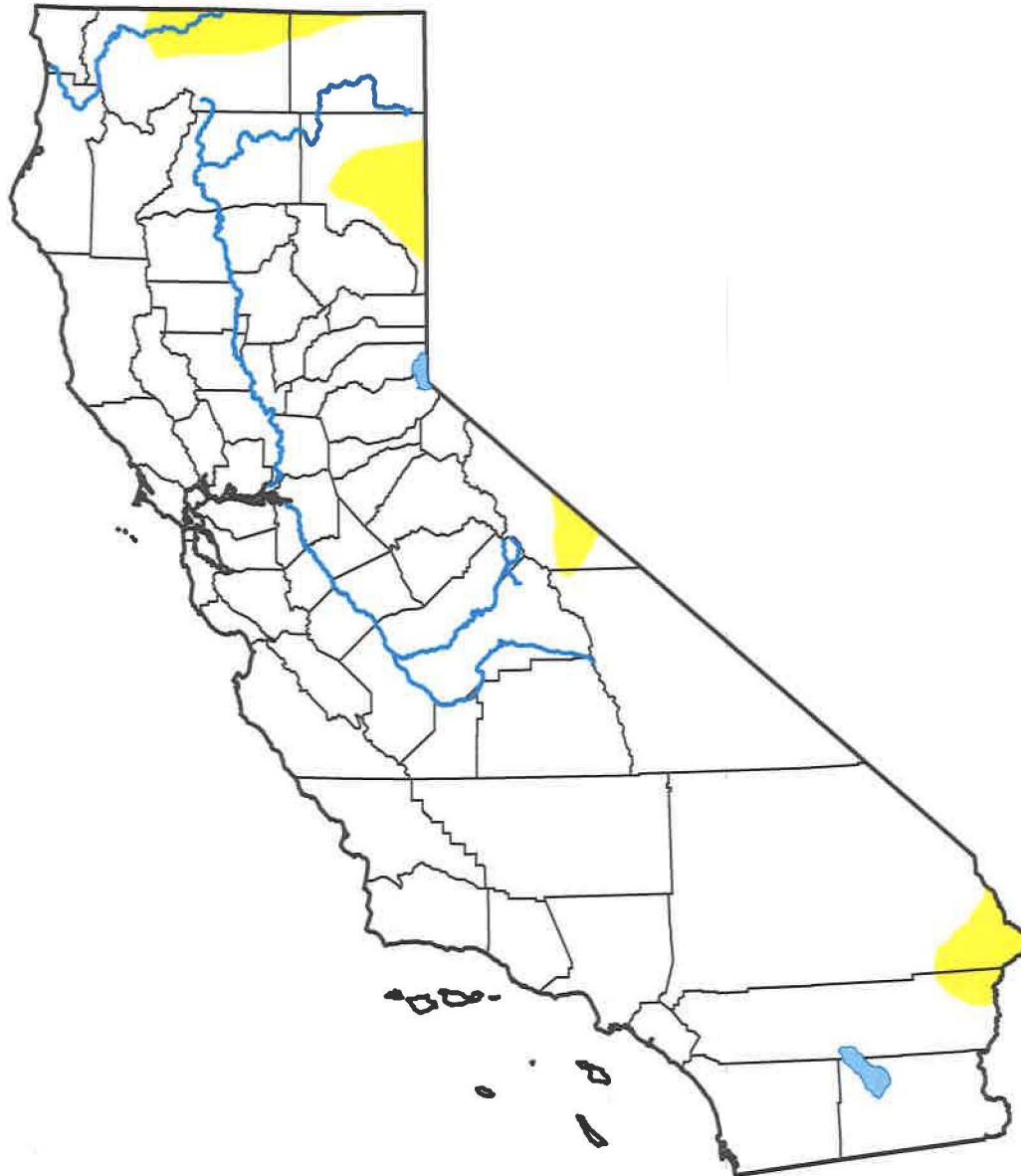


Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director – Operations

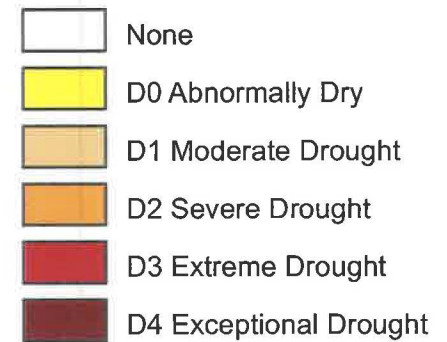
Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Vacant
_____ Siani _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Kawai

U.S. Drought Monitor California

March 12, 2024
(Released Thursday, Mar. 14, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:



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:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

State Water Project Resources

2024 SWP Table A – 15% - 286,725 AF



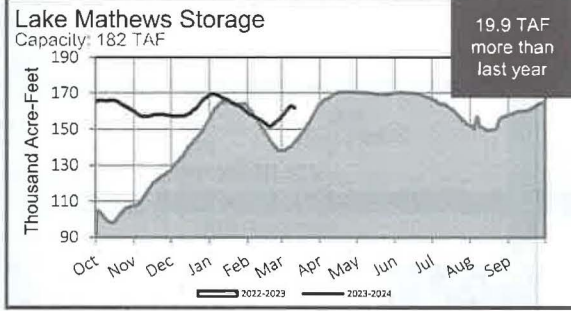
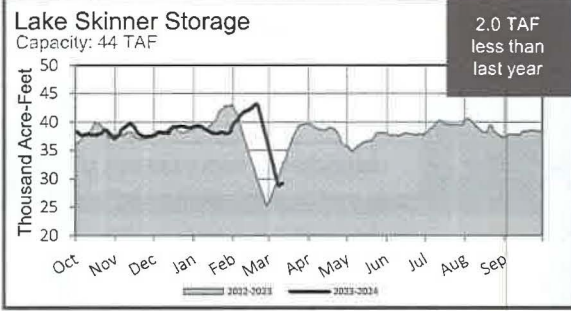
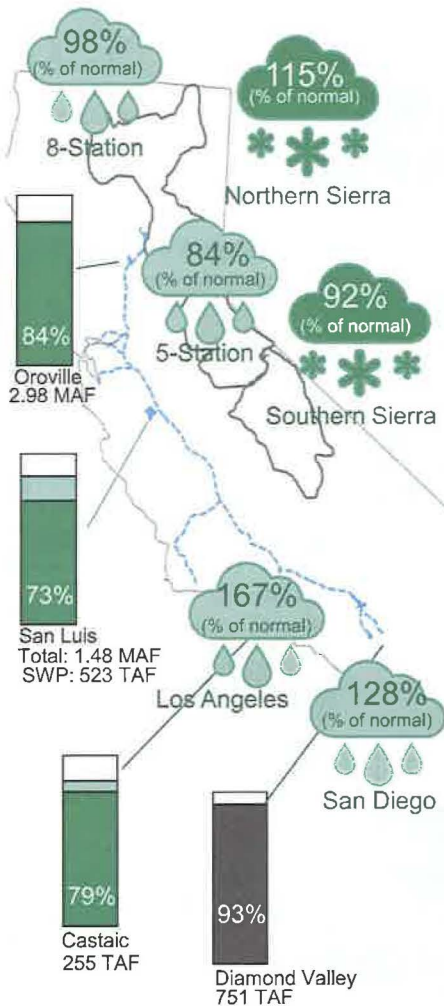
WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS REPORT

Water Year
2023-2024
As of March 10, 2024

Colorado River Resources

Projected 2024 CRA Diversions – 979,000 AF

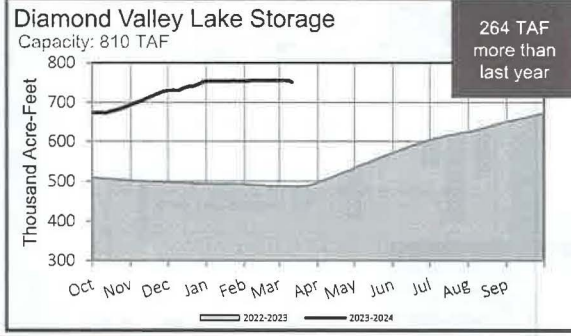
Metropolitan Resources



MWD WSDM Storage

Calendar Year 2024

	Take Capacity (2024)
Lake Mead ICS	130,000 acre-feet
State Water Project System	593,000 acre-feet
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	635,000 acre-feet



Highlights

Learn more about imported supplies:

- State Water Project - <https://www.mwdh2o.com/state-water-project-map/>
- Colorado River Aqueduct - <https://www.mwdh2o.com/colorado-river-aqueduct-map/>

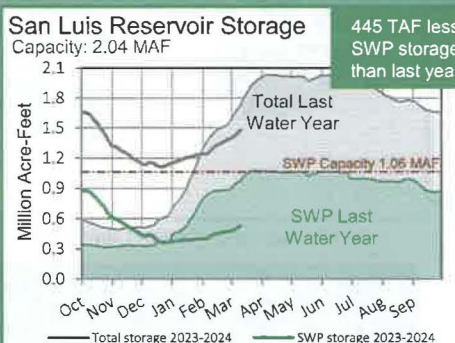
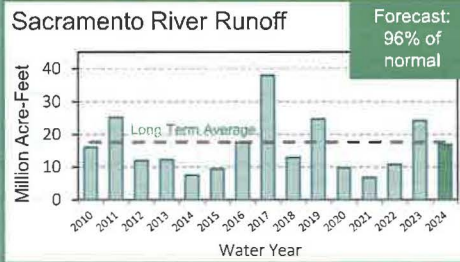
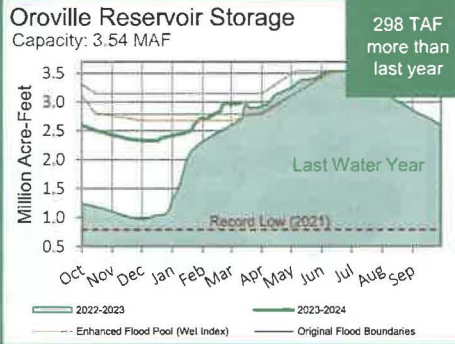
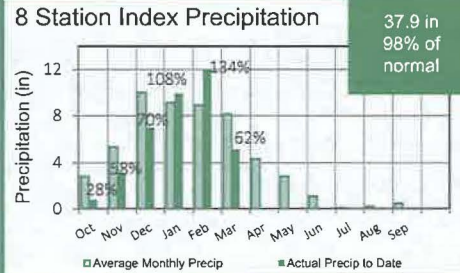
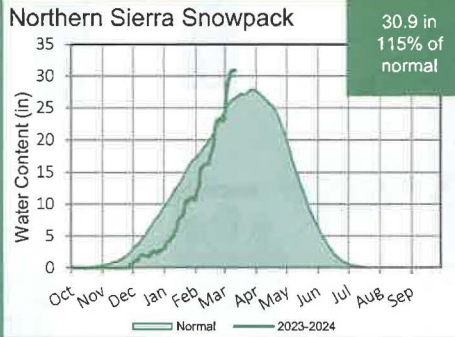
This report is produced by the Water Resource Management Group and contains information from various federal, state, and local agencies. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. Readers should refer to the relevant state, 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.

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



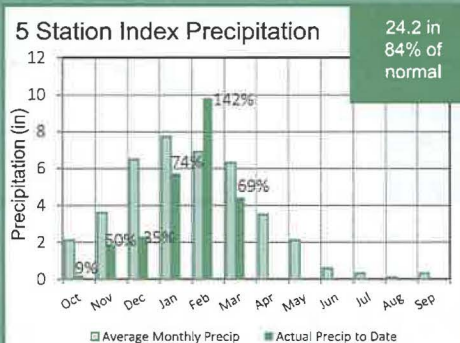
State Water Project Resources

As of: 03/10/2024



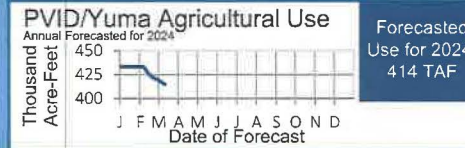
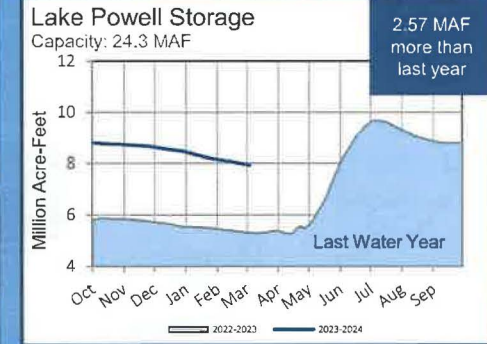
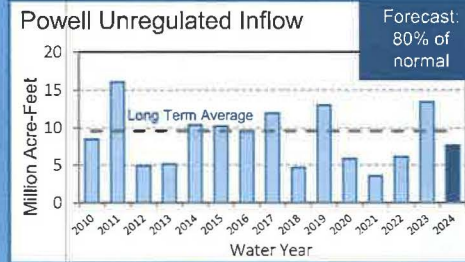
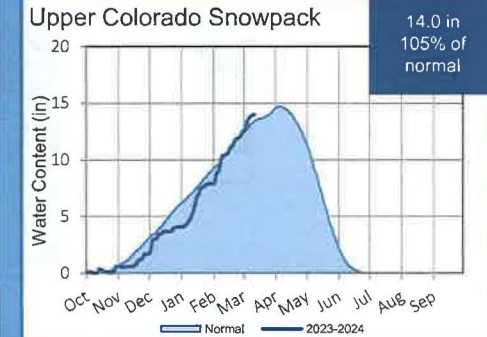
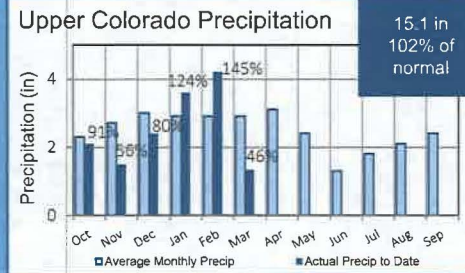
Other SWP Supplies - Carryover Calendar Year 2024

- Article 56c 200,000 acre-feet
- Article 12e 8,400 acre-feet
- Article 14b 19,500 acre-feet



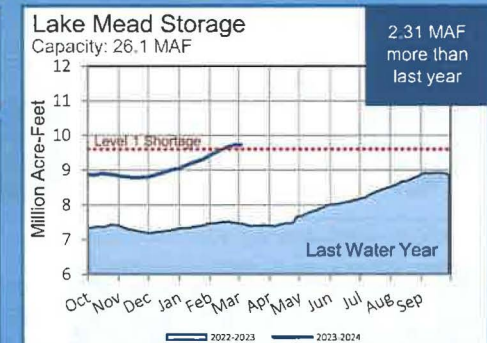
Colorado River Resources

As of: 03/10/2024



Projected Lake Mead ICS Calendar Year 2024

Put (+) / Take (-)
TBD



Lake Mead Surplus/Shortage Outlook

	2024	2025	2026
Surplus	0%	0%	0%
Shortage	100%	90%	83%
Metropolitan DCP*		10%	195 TAF

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

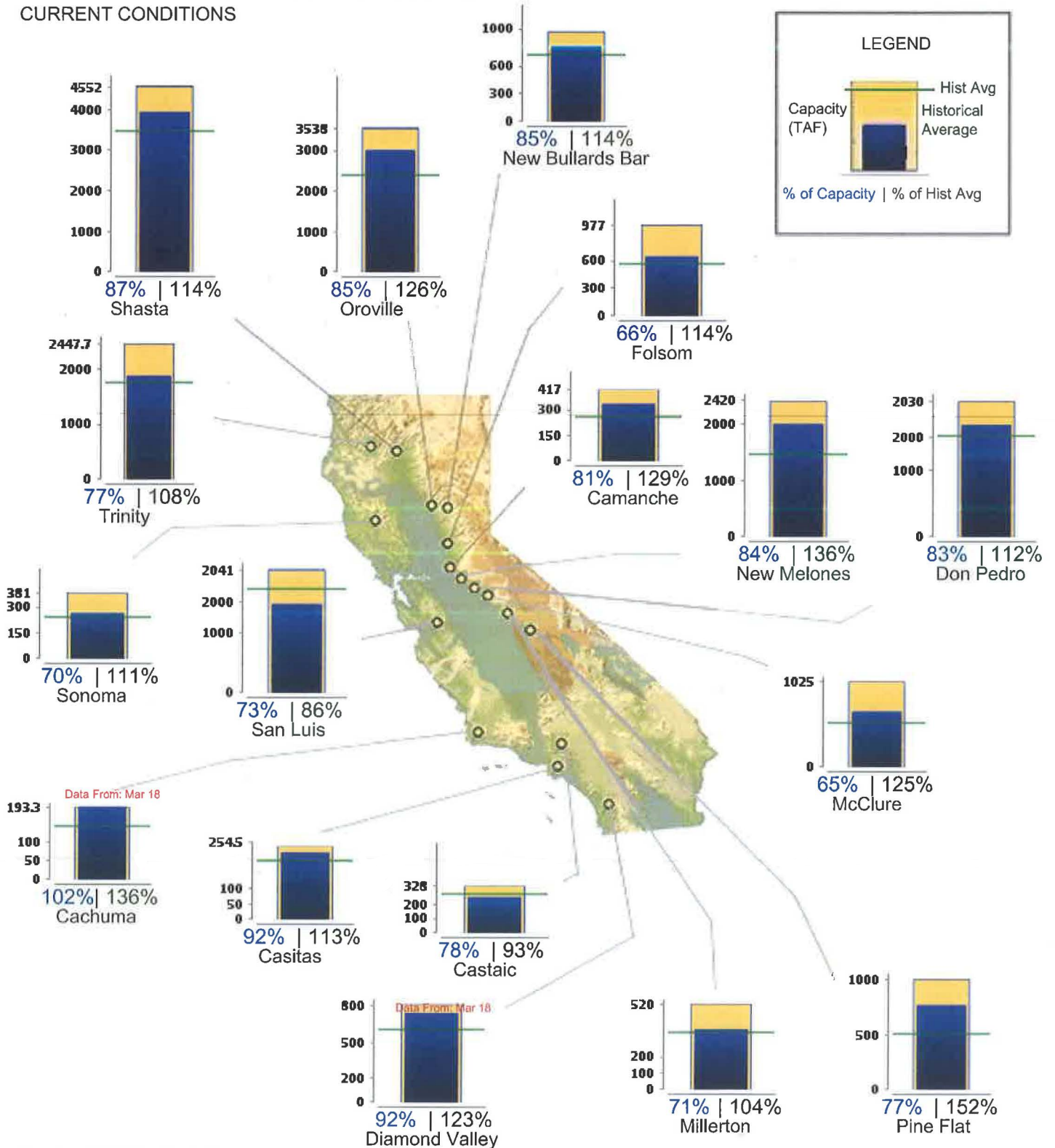


CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - March 19, 2024

CURRENT CONDITIONS



Item 7B has been deferred and the item will
be rescheduled for a future meeting

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR FEBRAURY 2024

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 February 2024 are:

1. Potable water produced from local potable sources is 80.3% higher than in February 2023. On a year-to-date basis, total potable water is 5.9% higher than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 6.2% higher than in 2023.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)

Month: February

Water Source	February 2023	February 2024	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells*	6.7	145.6	2066.5%
WRD Desalter*	223.3	269.2	20.6%
Subtotal	230.0	414.8	80.3%
Imported Potable			
MWD	1,181.5	991.4	-16.1%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	261.4	272.4	4.2%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	1,411.5	1,406.2	-0.4%
All Sources + Recycled	1,672.9	1,678.6	0.3%

Year to Date: 2023 vs 2024

Water Source	2023 YTD	2024 YTD	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells	6.7	447.5	6579.7%
WRD Desalter	403.6	524.1	29.8%
Subtotal	410.3	971.6	136.8%
Imported Potable			
MWD	2,355.0	1,957.3	-16.9%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	525.0	566.0	7.8%
All Potable Sources	2,765.3	2,928.9	5.9%
All Sources + Recycled	3,290.3	3,494.9	6.2%

*data estimate based on production reads

2. There were 3 water main breaks for the month of February 2024, compared to 3 for the same period in 2023. In addition, total main breaks for calendar year 2024 year-to-date are 7 which is the same number as recorded in 2023.
3. Goldsworthy Desalter will be producing approximately 200 to 275 acre feet (AF) per month to prevent premature loss of production in wells due to over pumping. The Water Replenishment District (WRD) continues to work on plans to connect the Brewer Well with the Goldsworthy Desalter planned expansion. In addition, WRD is planning to begin preliminary construction work on the Desalter expansion project in Summer 2024.



 Matthew Knapp
 Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Vacant
 _____ Siani _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Kawai