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MP Region Water Supply Allocation

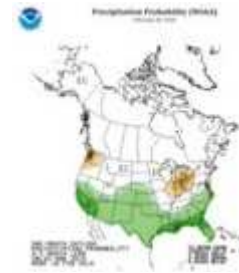
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Reclamation Announces Updated 2011 Central Valley Project Water Supply Allocation

[News Release](#)

The Bureau of Reclamation announces an update to February's initial water supply allocation for Central Valley Project (CVP) agricultural contractors, Municipal and Industrial (M&I) contractors and refuges.

This updated allocation is based on the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) March 1, 2011, Runoff Forecast, current hydrological conditions, and additional information and reflects improved precipitation and snowpack in the Sierra Nevadas.

DWR's third snow survey of the water year on March 1, 2011, reported snow water content to be 125 percent of normal statewide for this date. Precipitation in Northern California is 139 percent of the seasonal average compared to 98 percent this time last year. Precipitation in the Upper San Joaquin River Basin is 146 percent of the seasonal average compared to 94 percent this time last year.

Reclamation uses the 90-percent exceedence model for official allocation purposes, which means that in 9 out of 10 years, more favorable conditions are expected to occur. A 50-percent allocation is also prepared for informational purposes. This year, the water supply available to our contractors in the two forecasts is identical as a result of South-of-Delta pumping restrictions in our water right permits and requirements to protect listed species under the Endangered Species Act.

The Department of the Interior continues to work with numerous federal and state agencies and other interested parties to secure more reliable water supplies for water users South-of-Delta while addressing significant ecological issues.

The table below provides the allocations by water user category:

**Mid-Pacific Region
Water Year 2011 CVP Water Supply Allocation Update
March 2011**

	Water Year Type and Percentage of Average Runoff	North-of-Delta (Percentages of contracted water supply)				South-of-Delta (Percentages of contracted water supply)			
		AG	M&I	R*	WR**	AG	M&I***	R*	WR**
Conservative Forecast (90%)	Below Normal 77% of Average	100	100	100	100	55	80	100	100
Median Forecast (50%)	Below Normal 96% of Average	100	100	100	100	55	80	100	100
5-Yr Average Allocation		76	90	100	100	40	73	100	100

AG = Agriculture M&I = Municipal and industrial R = Refuges WR = Water Rights

*The allocation shown in the table for wildlife refuges applies to Level 2 water supplies only. A full water supply (including both Level 2 and incremental Level 4 water) to the wildlife refuges would be about 555,500 acre-feet. Level 2 is 422,251 acre-feet which accounts for approximately three-fourths of a full refuge supply.

** The allocation for water rights contractors is based upon pre-CVP held water rights, and wildlife refuges contractors are based upon pre-established Shasta inflow criteria.

***Percentage of historic use.

To summarize:

- Increased to 55 percent: Agricultural water service contractors South-of-Delta are allocated 55 percent of their contract supply of 1.965 million acre-feet, an increase of 5 percent from the initial allocation in February.
- Increased to 80 percent: M&I contractors South-of-Delta are allocated 80 percent of historic use, an increase of 5 percent from the initial allocation in February.
- Unchanged at 100 percent: Agricultural water service contractors North-of-Delta are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 443,000 acre-feet.
- Unchanged at 100 percent: M&I contractors North-of-Delta are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply.
- Unchanged at 100 percent: Sacramento River Settlement Contractors and San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors, who receive their CVP water supply based on a pre-CVP water right, are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 2.2 million acre-feet and 800,000 acre-feet respectively.
- Unchanged at 100 percent: Wildlife refuges (Level 2) North- and South-of-Delta, whose allocations are based on a pre-established inflow trigger to Shasta Reservoir, are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 422,000 acre-feet.

- Unchanged at 100 percent: Eastside water service contractors (Central San Joaquin Water Conservancy District and Stockton East Water District), whose water supplies are delivered from New Melones Reservoir on the Stanislaus River, are allocated their full contract supply of 155,000 acre-feet.
- Unchanged at 100 percent Class 1 and 20 percent Class 2: Friant Division contractors' water supply is delivered from Millerton Reservoir on the upper San Joaquin River. The first 800,000 acre-feet of water supply is considered Class 1; any remaining water is considered Class 2. Based upon DWR's March Runoff Forecast, the Friant Division allocation is 100 percent of Class 1 (800,000 acre-feet) and 20 percent of the contracted supply of 1.4 million acre-feet of Class 2 (280,000 acre-feet).

Reclamation has declared the availability of Section 215 water for those Friant Division repayment and long-term water service contractors that enter into a "Temporary Water Service Contract for Surplus Water" with Reclamation. The availability of this Friant Division Section 215 water is a separate action unrelated to the initial water allocation announcement made on February 18, 2011.

Section 215 refers to a section in the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-293) which defines temporary water supplies that are unusually large and not storable for project purposes and, among other measures, allows non-storable water to be applied to lands otherwise ineligible to receive federal water. These conditions are anticipated to last through May; however, contractors must use all water that was approved for rescheduling from Water Year 2010 prior to taking delivery of Section 215 water. In addition, the actual amount of Section 215 water made available will depend on actual hydrologic and operational conditions.

Changes to hydrology and opportunities to exercise operational flexibility of the CVP are factors and conditions that will influence the water supply and allocations as the water year progresses. Water supply updates will be made monthly or more often as appropriate and will be posted at <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/pa/water>.

For additional information, please visit <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/pa/water> or contact the Mid-Pacific Region's Public Affairs Office at 916-978-5100 (TTY 916-978-5608) or e-mail mpPublicAffairs@usbr.gov.

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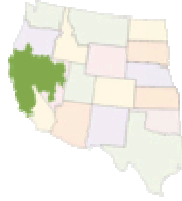
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region

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