

MP-99-17

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 16, 1999**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION ANNOUNCES UPDATED WATER ALLOCATION FOR WATER YEAR 1999**

The Bureau of Reclamation is announcing an updated 1999 water allocation for the Central Valley Project (CVP). Two forecasts, a 90 and 50 percent exceedence level, have been prepared based on March 1, 1999, conditions with water supply information prepared by the California Department of Water Resources. The current conservative 90 percent exceedence forecast results in a slight increase for Stanislaus River contractors. Reclamation will update this allocation forecast in mid-April 1999.

Contractors	Dry Water Year		Above Normal Water Year	
	90 Percent Exceedence Percent Supply	Acre-Feet	50 Percent Exceedence Percent Supply	Acre-Feet
		(rounded to nearest 100K)		(rounded to nearest 100K)
Agriculture				
North of Delta	100	400,000	100	400,000
South of Delta	70	1,300,000	75	1,400,000
Urban	95	290,000	100	300,000
Wildlife Refuges	100	300,000	100	300,000
Sacramento River Water Rights and San Joaquin River Exchange	100	3,000,000	100	3,000,000
Stanislaus River	39	60,000	39	60,000
Friant				
Class 1	75	600,000	100	800,000
Class 2	0	0	10	140,000
Cachuma Project*	100 Percent Supply		25,714 Acre-Feet	

* Based on existing reservoir levels and predictions of average rainfall.

The forecast reflects operation of the CVP to implement the 12 environmental measures identified in the Department of the Interior's November 20, 1997, Final Administrative Proposal on the Management of Section 3406(b)(2) Water of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. The allocation is subject to change if there are changes in assumptions regarding the tools and actions identified in the Administrative Proposal.

This 90 percent exceedence forecast is based on a below-normal year type for the Sacramento Valley and dry-year type for the San Joaquin Valley as defined in the May 1995 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. The estimated water year inflow to Shasta Reservoir is about 6.8 million acre-feet (MAF).

The projected total September 30, 1999, carryover storage for Trinity Reservoir, Shasta Reservoir, Folsom Reservoir, and the Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is expected to be about 5.9 MAF in the 90 percent forecast as compared to about 6.9 MAF last year. In 1998, Friant contractors received 1.3 MAF.

Throughout the precipitation season, updated information will be provided as conditions warrant. The forecast of CVP operations is available on the Central Valley Operations Office home page on the Internet at <http://www.mp.usbr.gov/u/www/cvo/html/cvofores1.html>. Allocation information is also available by calling the Grapevine at 1-800-742-9474 and entering 24 or TDD number 916/978-5608. For more information on Friant and Cachuma deliveries, please call Tony Buelna at 559/487-5117.

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