



# **Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority**

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## **2018 Legislative Planning Session**

Presented by  
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Beth Olhasso

March 2018



# Overview


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- Water supply situation
- Capitol Update
- Key issues for 2018
- Election Overview



# Water Supply Situation

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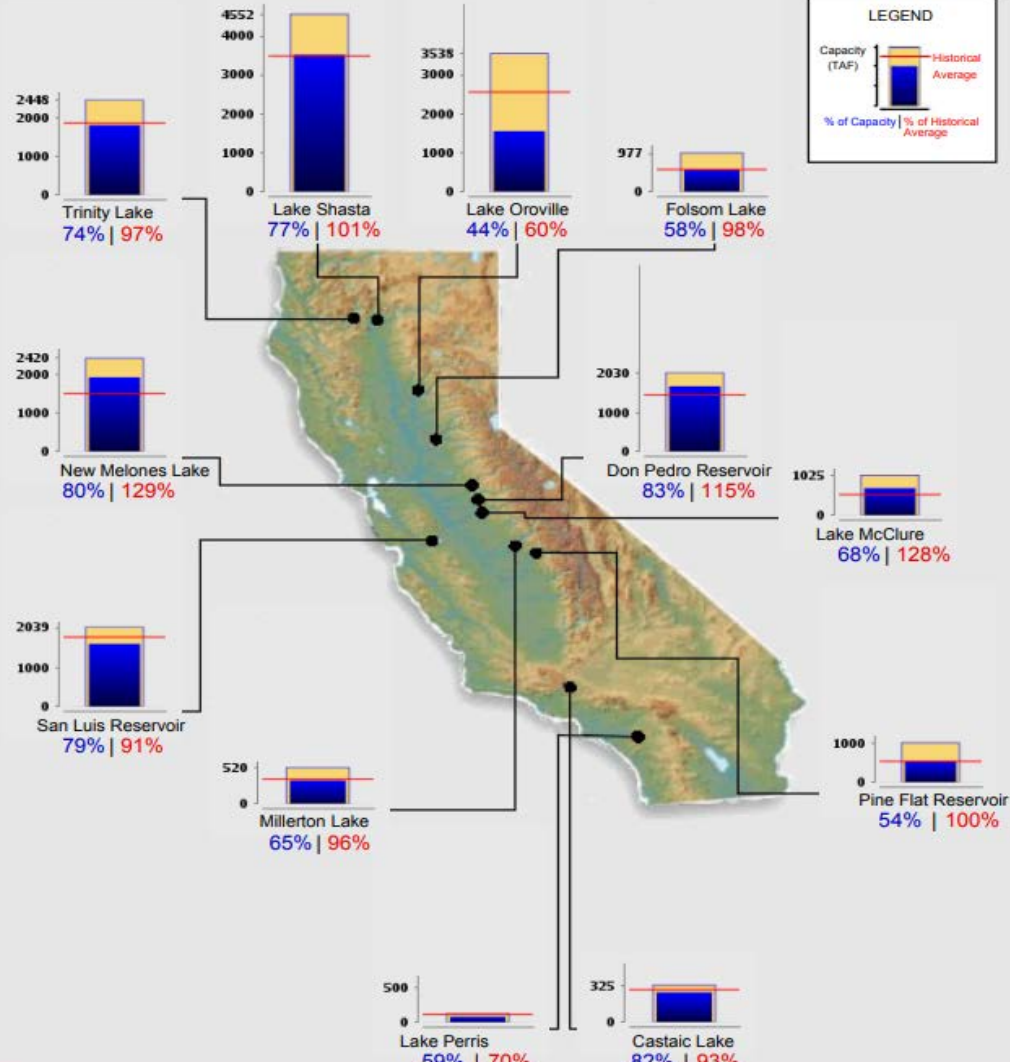
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- Dry fall and winter, but recent storms help
    - As 2017 ended, about 74 percent of the state was experiencing no drought conditions.
      - Just 11.8 percent today.
    - Southern California has pockets of “severe drought”
  - Major water supply reservoirs continue to sit above historic average levels
  - Sierra snowpack is 34% of April 1 averages (35% of normal)
  - SWP allocation currently at 20%

# Reservoir Conditions



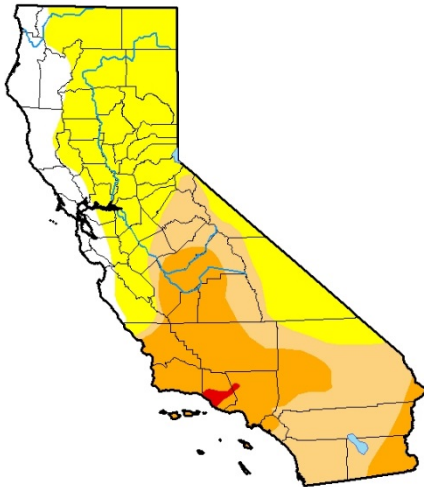
Ending At Midnight - March 14, 2018

## CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



# Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



**March 13, 2018**

(Released Thursday, Mar. 15, 2018)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	11.08	88.92	47.68	22.31	0.43	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <small>02-26-2018</small>	8.48	91.52	47.87	22.40	0.43	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <small>12-12-2017</small>	55.70	44.30	9.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <small>01-02-2018</small>	55.70	44.30	12.69	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <small>09-26-2017</small>	77.88	22.12	8.24	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <small>03-14-2017</small>	76.54	23.46	8.24	1.06	0.00	0.00

Intensity



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

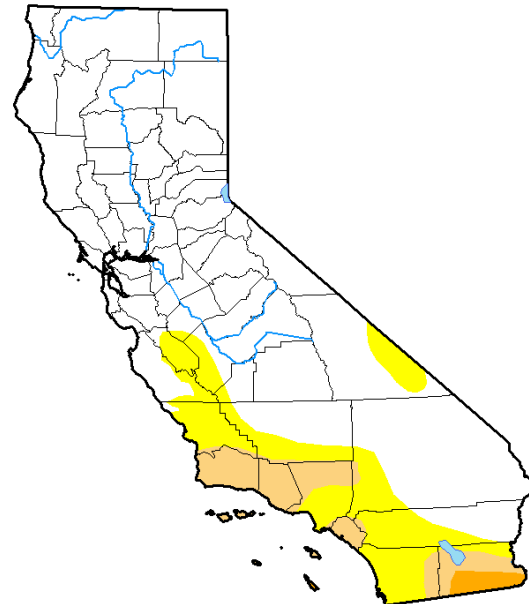
Author

Richard Tinker  
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

**March 14, 2017**



# Water Savings Update

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- SWRCB Report Highlights Water Conservation Declines

- Statewide 2018 savings at less than one percent
- South Coast region increased 3.8% OVER 2013 baseline
- Statewide GPCD at 71.1 gallons with south coast at 75.4 gallons.



# Capitol Update

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- Legislature reconvened for second year of the 2017-2018 session
  - 2,398 new bills introduced
  - Policy committees starting to consider legislation ahead of April 27 policy committee deadline
  - Sexual harassment scandal engulfs Capitol
    - Ongoing major distraction
    - Short-term policy implications

# Harassment Scandals Engulf Capitol

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- Allegations force three resignations
    - Assemblymember Raul Boccanegra (D)
    - Assemblymember Matt Dababneh (D)
    - Senator Tony Mendoza (D)
  - Assemblymember Christina Garcia (D) on unpaid leave
  - More accusations forthcoming
    - 14 active Rules Committee investigations
    - Allegations include rape and assault
  - Democrats lose 2/3 majority
  - Impacts debate/consideration of bills such as efforts to establish Clean Drinking Water Fund.



# Key Issues for 2018

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- Long-term conservation/efficiency

- AB 1668 (Friedman) & SB 606 (Skinner/Hertzberg)

- Water infrastructure financing

- Disadvantaged Community Drinking Water Charge

- SB 623 (Monning) Safe & Affordable Drinking Water Fund


- AB 2050 (Caballero) Small System Water Authority Act of 2018: Sponsored by Eastern MUD

- AB 2692 (Arambula)- Spot bill to establish a permanent source of funding for water infrastructure




# Key Issues for 2018, cont.


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- SWRCB “Waste and Unreasonable Use” regulations
  - SWRCB “Unimpaired Flows” Process
  - California Water Fix
    - Phased approach for tunnels
    - Benefits for fisheries
  - California Water Commission Water Storage Funding

# 2018 Water Bonds

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- SB 5/Prop. 68 on June ballot: \$4B (\$1.4B for water)
    - \$250 million for clean drinking water and drought preparedness
    - \$80 million for groundwater cleanup
    - \$290 million for regional water sustainability
    - \$80 million for recycled water
    - **Polling: Internal poll says 54% support, jumping to 66% after a "robust campaign"**
  - Meral Bond: (Nov Ballot): \$8.8 billion
    - \$3 billion for safe drinking water
    - \$2.8 billion for watershed and fisheries
    - \$940 million for habitat protection
    - \$855 million for improved water conveyance
    - \$685 million for groundwater sustainability and storage

# Governor's Race Continues to Tighten

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- Gavin Newsom (D) & Antonio Villaraigosa (D) lead
    - Newsom – 23%
    - Villaraigosa – 21%
    - Chiang – 9 %
    - Allen – 8%
    - Cox – 7%
  - 24% of likely voters remain undecided
  - Will a Republican be able to make the “top 2”
  - June 5<sup>th</sup> Primary

\*PPIC Poll conducted Jan 21-30. 4.3% margin of error

# SAWPA Engagement In Sacramento

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- Regularly coordinate legislative activities with the following:
    - Association of CA Water Agencies
    - CA Municipal Utilities Association
    - CA Special Districts Association
    - WaterReuse
    - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
    - State Water Contractors
  - Weekly SAWPA Legislative Calls



**Thank You!**

**Questions?**



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