



# Adopt Resolution Declaring a Regional Drought Emergency

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Item 7-8

November 8, 2021

# Purpose of Regional Drought Emergency

- Acknowledge drought emergency throughout California
- Call on region to reduce use of State Water Project supplies
  - Preserve limited SWP supply now as rainy season develops
  - Defer to local agencies the amount/types of mandatory actions
  - Work within actions identified in Water Shortage Contingency Plans
- Recognize the varied needs of the region
- Provide the General Manager additional authorities
- Prepare for more action if drought persists

# Many targeted drought actions began in January 2021

Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021
<p>Began releases from DVL to serve connections on the Lakeview Pipeline</p>  <p>Map showing the Lakeview Pipeline system, including the Mills Plant, Inland Feeder, and Lakeview Pipeline. Other labeled areas include Silverwood Lake, Colwood River Aqueduct, and various reservoirs and pipelines.</p>	<p>Metropolitan began pump-back operations at Lake Perris to withdraw flexible storage to meet Mills demands</p>  <p>Photograph of Lake Perris, showing the water body and surrounding landscape.</p>	<p>Returns from Semitropic Storage Program and Kern Delta Storage Program began</p>	<p>Began operating CRA at full capacity for the first time since 2015</p>  <p>Photograph of a large water reservoir, likely the Central Region Aqueduct (CRA), showing the water level and surrounding infrastructure.</p>
<p>Minimize operational flow of SWP to areas that can receive both SWP and CRW</p>			<p>Board voted to explore purchasing transfers north of the Delta</p>
			<p>Bulkheads installed to allow deliveries from DVL to Mills Plant</p> <p>Eastern MWD began shifting deliveries, when possible</p>

# And the drought actions continued through the summer

**May 2021**

**Board approved new Operational Shift Cost Offset Program (OSCOP)**

**Lakeview Pipeline improvements completed**



**DVL to Mills Plant in operation for the first time in Metropolitan's history**

**Jun 2021**

**Greg Avenue pumping station tests completed and began operation**



**Amended agreement with DWR to increase stated max flow rate for DVL to Mills Plant operation**

**Jul 2021**

**West Basin MWD began shifting demands**

**LADWP began shift through OSCOP**

**Aug 2021**

**Began receiving exchange of surface water supplies from the Arvin-Edison Storage Program**

**Continue to discuss OSCOP potential with other member agencies**

**Board declared a Water Supply Alert, calling for consumers and businesses to voluntarily reduce their water use**

**Sep 2021**

**TVMWD began shift through OSCOP**

# A potential for the drought to continue spurs more action

Oct 2021

Governor Newsom declares State of Emergency for all California counties

“Bomb cyclone” provides good start to new water year



Nov 2021

Board considers drought-related actions:

Drought emergency declaration for service area

Expanded conservation programs

Resolution to seek grant funds

Dec 2021

Board considers drought-related actions:

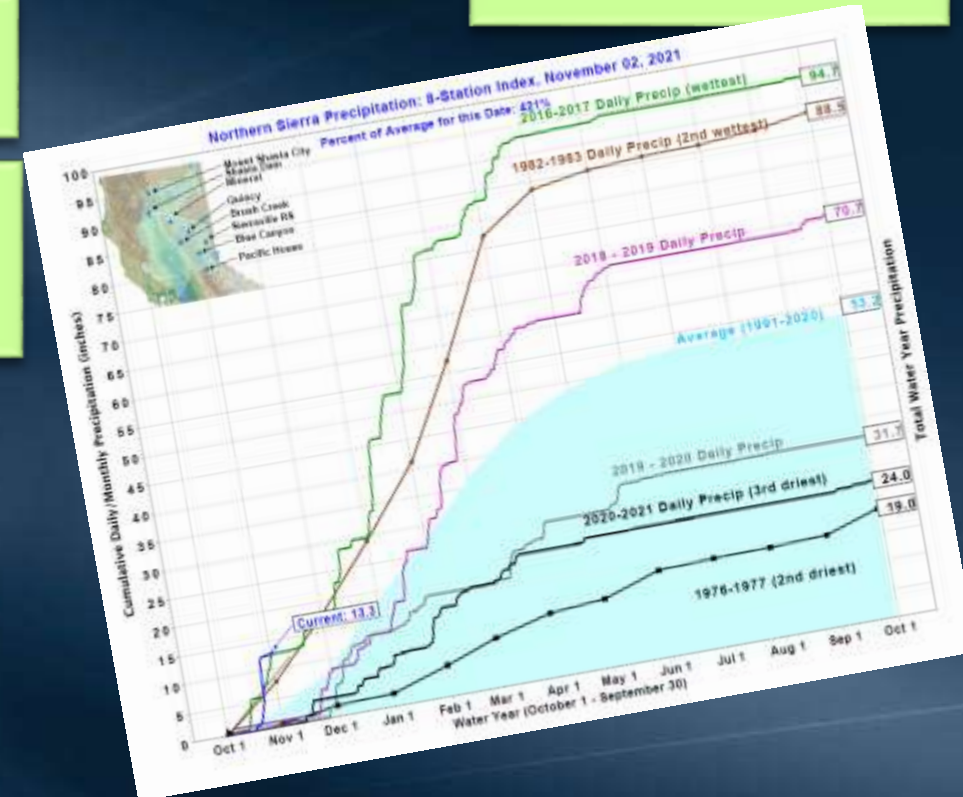
Initiating design for reliability improvements

Agreements with San Bernardino Valley MWD and DWR

Jan 2022

Feb 2022

Wide range of potential actions, depending on water supply conditions.



# Resolution calls on Member Agencies to:

- Review past drought response measures
- Adjust operations to reduce use of SWP supplies
- Immediately mandate and implement conservation/water-use efficiency measures to reduce the use of SWP supplies
- Call for action includes agencies drawing from SWP storage

# Resolution directs General Manager to:

- Develop unified regional messaging
- Expand regional conservation programs
- Identify and implement measures to ensure all portions of the service area a high level of reliability against multi-year, severe droughts
- Seek state funding to accelerate actions

# Resolution provides GM additional authority to:

- Take actions needed to address the regional drought emergency
  - Enhance local water production, recycling, conservation & storage
  - Purchase, transfer or exchange water supplies
  - Procure equipment, materials, services and supplies
  - Provide media buying and placement services for a water awareness and conservation advertising campaign
  - Authority capped at \$5 million/action and total of \$25 million
- Conduct and approve CEQA documentation



# Resolution acknowledges uncertainty inherent with precipitation in coming months

- The Regional Drought Emergency and delegated authority sunsets when Governor Newsom's drought state of emergency lifted for all counties in service area
- Affirms that Board would consider further action if drought conditions persist
  - Actions could include declaring a Water Shortage Emergency Condition under California Water Code Section 350 et seq.

# Board Options

- Option #1
  - Adopt the proposed Resolution Declaring a Regional Drought Emergency
- Option #2
  - Adopt the proposed Resolution Declaring a Regional Drought Emergency with modifications to the actions called for within the resolution
- Option #3
  - Do not adopt the proposed Resolution Declaring a Regional Drought Emergency.

# Recommended Action

- Option #1

