Western Governors’ Drought Forum

NOV. 13-14, 2014

California State Capitol, Sacramento, CA

Drought Impacts and Solutions in the Agricultural Sector

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Reservoir Conditions

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

- Trinity Lake: 23% | Historical Average: 35%
- Shasta Reservoir: 24% | Historical Average: 40%
- Lake Oroville: 26% | Historical Average: 43%
- Folsom Lake: 30% | Historical Average: 80%
- New Melones: 21% | Historical Average: 37%
- San Luis Reservoir: 20% | Historical Average: 36%
- Millerton Lake: 34% | Historical Average: 80%
- Pyramid Lake: 93% | Historical Average: 103%
- Castaic Lake: 29% | Historical Average: 39%

Graph Updated 11/12/2014 03:45 PM
Western Governors’ Drought Forum

November 13, 2014
Our Family – June 2014
Our Products
Sacramento River Hydrologic Region Water Use

- Required Delta Outflow: 25%
- Irrigated Agriculture: 37%
- Instream Flow: 17%
- Managed Wetlands: 3%
- Wild & Scenic Rivers: 14%
- Urban: 4%
Re-Managing the Flow

The major rivers and streams of the Sacramento Valley provide essential pathways for spawning salmon and steelhead. Flow agreements to benefit these fish are on every major watercourse in the Sacramento Valley.

**Sacramento River below Kekerchief Dam**
In 1990, flow objectives were established for the protection of fish and wildlife. In 1990 and 1991 this policy was modified requiring more cold water when warmer temperatures would be harmful to fish.

**Sacramento River at Wilkins Slough**
The Rivers and Harbors Act of 1935 mandated a specific flow rate at Wilkins Slough be maintained. The primary goals at that time were navigation and flood control. In 1992, Congress made protection of fish and wildlife a secondary goal and this requirement was updated in 2009.

**American River below Nimbus Dam**
In 2009, the Flow Management Standard was developed, which established minimum flow standards to improve the conditions for fall-run Chinook salmon and steelhead. Additionally, releases are adjusted to maintain sufficient flow water temperatures for steelhead rearing in summer and Chinook spawning in the fall.

For more details visit www.norcalwater.org/efficient-water-management/instream-flows/
Building the Sites Reservoir
WATER FOR OUR CITIES, FARMS AND WILDLIFE

The ongoing drought has cost our state billions of dollars of farm production, diminished wildlife habitat and reduced urban water supplies. For our future prosperity, we need to capture water in rainy years through offstream storage to help the state survive future dry years. Every Californian will benefit from the increased water storage and flexible water management that will come from Sites Reservoir.

Benefits:
- More reliable water supplies for millions of households, farms, birds and migrating salmon
- Greater flexibility to save water during surplus conditions for use during dry periods
- Stores water during the winter to generate clean and renewable power for peak summer demands
- Helps recharge groundwater supplies
- Recreational opportunities including boating, camping, fishing and hiking

The map shows the proposed location of Sites Reservoir and the surrounding area. The water would be pumped into the reservoir from existing canals.
WE ARE HOMELESS!

WE ARE BROKE!
Drought stops Food Production.

Chris Kraft
Colorado Dairy Farmer
Dairy Farmers of America
Western Dairy Association
Jackson Lake
2012

Set ourselves up to succeed in the DRY year!
Be careful removing ag water and sending to municipalities
Intensive water management to recharge underground aquifers
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WGA Thanks Our ...

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The Western Governors’ Drought Forum initiative is being conducted in partnership with NOAA’s National Integrated Drought Information System.