

CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

2700 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD
LA CRESCENTA, CALIFORNIA

To be held on
April 28, 2021 at 2:00 PM

Agenda for the Meeting of the Community Relations/Water Conservation
Committee

of the Crescenta Valley Water District

Posted April 27, 2021 at 2:00 PM

TELECONFERENCING NOTICE

[This meeting will be held by teleconference only.]

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 18, 2020, the public may not attend the meeting in person.

Any member of the public may participate using a touchtone phone. You may select any of the following phone numbers (there are more than one for increased reliability during this time of increased phone traffic)

(669) 900-6833

(346) 248-7799

(929) 205-6099

(253) 215-8782

(301) 715-8592

(312) 626-6799

Then, enter Access Code: 812 7054 5480

[Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person]

Those members of the public who are able to and would like to additionally participate with a computer through videoconference may access the Zoom videoconferencing tool available at the following link – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81270545480>

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by contacting the District by phone or in writing at customerservice@cvwd.com. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.

Call to Order

Adoption of Agenda

Public Comment:

At this time, members of the public shall have an opportunity to address the Committee on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of this Committee. This opportunity is non-transferable, and speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. Under the provisions of the Brown Act, the Board is prohibited from taking action on items not listed on the agenda, except under certain circumstances.

Action Item(s)

The public shall have an opportunity to comment on any action item as each item is considered by the Committee prior to action being taken. This opportunity is non-transferrable, and speakers are limited to one two-minute (2) comment each.

1. **CVWD Water Education Center**
2. **Governor's Drought Declaration**

Committee Member's Request for Future Agenda Items

Next Community Relations/Water Conservation Committee Meeting

Adjournment

State of Emergency Proclamation

WHEREAS climate change is intensifying the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment and economy, and California must therefore improve drought resiliency and prepare to respond to more frequent, prolonged, and intense dry periods; and

WHEREAS much of the West is experiencing severe to exceptional drought and California is in a second consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in drought or near-drought throughout many portions of the State; and

WHEREAS these drought conditions can result in degraded water quality, fallowing of productive farmland, setbacks to vulnerable and rural communities through job losses and longer-lasting recoveries, significant impacts to tribal, commercial, and recreational salmon fisheries, constraints on access to traditional lifeways, loss of aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity, and ecosystem impacts; and

WHEREAS drought conditions vary across the State and some watersheds, including the Russian River and Klamath Basin, are extremely dry and are facing substantial water supply and ecosystem challenges; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to expeditiously mitigate the effects of the drought conditions within the Russian River Watershed, located within Mendocino and Sonoma counties, to ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment; and

WHEREAS experience in the last drought has demonstrated the value of preparing earlier for potential sustained dry conditions, the need to improve our monitoring and forecasting capabilities, and many other lessons that are captured in the Administration's *Report to the Legislature on the 2012-2016 Drought*; and

WHEREAS the State and its many partners have strengthened drought resilience since the last drought including state investments in water management systems, implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, establishment of the Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resilience Program, development of the Administration's *Water Resilience Portfolio*, and continued water conservation by Californians whose current statewide urban water use is 16% lower than at the beginning of the last drought; and

WHEREAS state agencies have been actively responding to current drought conditions and preparing for the possibility of a third dry year including through convenings of the interagency drought team, which was established at my direction, to organize, focus, and track changing conditions, coordinate state agency responses, and work closely with partners across the State; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the drought conditions, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the drought conditions; and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of, the drought conditions within the Russian River Watershed, and under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions of the Russian River Watershed, located within Mendocino and Sonoma counties.

NOW THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Mendocino and Sonoma counties due to drought conditions in the Russian River Watershed.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. To further the success of California's water conservation efforts and increase our drought preparedness, state agencies shall partner with local water districts and utilities to make all Californians aware of drought, and encourage actions to reduce water usage by promoting the Department of Water Resources' Save Our Water campaign (<https://saveourwater.com>) and other water conservation programs.
2. To continue coordination with partners across the State for the potential of prolonged drought impacts, the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Food and Agriculture shall work with regional and local governments, including groundwater sustainability agencies, to identify watersheds, communities, public water systems, and ecosystems that may require coordinated state and local actions to address issues stemming from continued dry conditions, to ensure that we can respond to water shortages and protect people, natural resources and economic activity.
3. To continue partnership and coordination with Californian Native American tribes, state agencies shall engage in consultation, collaboration, and communication with California Native American tribes to assist them in necessary preparation and response to drought conditions on tribal lands and potential impacts to cultural and traditional resources within ancestral lands.
4. To prioritize drought response and preparedness resources, the Department of Water Resources, the Water Board, the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Finance, shall:
 - a. Accelerate funding for water supply enhancement, water conservation, or species conservation projects.
 - b. Identify unspent funds that can be repurposed to enable projects to address drought impacts to people, ecosystems, and economic activities.
 - c. Recommend additional financial support for water resilience infrastructure projects and actions for potential inclusion in the upcoming May Revision.

5. To increase resilience of our water supplies during drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall:
 - a. Work with counties to encourage reporting of household water shortages, such as dry residential wells, on the website the Department maintains for that purpose, to enable tracking of drought impacts.
 - b. Work with counties, and groundwater sustainability agencies as appropriate, to help ensure that well drillers submit required groundwater well logs for newly constructed and deepened wells in a timely manner.
 - c. Work with agricultural water suppliers and agricultural water users to provide technical assistance, including implementation of efficient water management practices and use of technology such as the California Irrigation Management Information System.
 - d. Work with urban and agricultural water suppliers to encourage timely submittal by water districts and public posting of urban water management and water shortage contingency plans and agricultural water management and drought plans.
 - e. Accelerate updating the land subsidence data it is providing to support implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

6. To increase resilience of our water systems during drought conditions, the Water Board shall:
 - a. Use its authority, provide technical assistance, and where feasible provide financial assistance, to support regular reporting of drinking water supply well levels and reservoir water levels where the Water Board determines that there is risk of supply failure because of lowering groundwater levels or reservoir levels that may fall below public water system intakes.
 - b. Prioritize the permitting of public water systems that anticipate the need to activate additional supply wells where water quality is a concern and treatment installation needs to proceed to relieve a system's potential supply concerns.
 - c. Provide annual water demand data, information on water right priority, and other communications on water availability on its website.
 - d. Identify watersheds where current diversion data is insufficient to evaluate supply impacts caused by dry conditions, and take actions to ensure prompt submittal of missing data in those watersheds.

7. To address the acutely dry conditions in the Russian River Watershed, the Water Board shall consider:
 - a. Modifying requirements for reservoir releases or diversion limitations in that watershed to ensure adequate, minimal water supplies for critical purposes.
 - b. Adopting emergency regulations to curtail water diversions when water is not available at water rights holders' priority of right or to protect releases of stored water.

For purposes of carrying out this directive, Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are suspended in the counties of Mendocino and Sonoma to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought in the Russian River Watershed. The Water Board shall identify the projects

eligible for the suspensions pursuant to this paragraph and maintain on its websites a list of the activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

8. To ensure that equipment and services necessary for drought response in the Russian River Watershed can be procured quickly, the provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code applicable to procurement, state contracts, and fleet assets, including, but not limited to, advertising and competitive bidding requirements, are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of the drought in the Russian River Watershed, located within Mendocino and Sonoma counties. Approval of the Department of Finance is required prior to the execution of any contract entered into pursuant to this provision.
9. To increase the resilience of our natural habitats to protect vulnerable species during drought conditions, the Department of Fish and Wildlife shall:
 - a. Evaluate and take actions to protect terrestrial and aquatic species and, wherever possible, work with water users and other parties on voluntary measures to protect species.
 - b. Work to improve State hatcheries and increase water use efficiency on State wildlife areas and ecological reserves to maintain habitat for vulnerable species.
 - c. Respond to human-wildlife interactions related to ongoing dry conditions and increase public messaging and awareness.
 - d. Work with commercial and recreational salmon fishing and tribal representatives to anticipate and develop strategies to mitigate and respond to salmon fishery impacts, with particular emphasis on addressing impacts to salmon fisheries in the Klamath Basin.
10. To support our agricultural economy and food security during drought conditions, the Department of Food and Agriculture shall:
 - a. Provide technical assistance to support conservation planning, on-farm water and energy conservation practices and technologies, including augmenting the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program.
 - b. Conduct an economic analysis of drought impacts to agriculture, including land use, jobs, and rural food economies, expanding on existing research done in the last drought to include thorough regional analysis especially in the Central Valley, and in the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and alternative land uses for fallowed land.
 - c. Maintain a web page with drought resources for farmers and ranchers, including the United States Department of Agriculture and other federal and state resources.
 - d. Work with federal agencies to assist Klamath Basin farmers and ranchers contending with reduced water supplies.
11. To ensure the potential impacts of drought on communities are anticipated and proactively addressed, the Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the Water Board, shall develop groundwater management principles and strategies to monitor, analyze, and minimize impacts to drinking water wells.
12. To provide critical information on the different drought conditions across the State, the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Food and Agriculture,

and the Water Board, shall develop a California Drought Monitor by December 31, 2021, as recommended in the Administration's *Report to the Legislature on the 2012-2016 Drought*.

13. To prepare for potential salinity issues in the Delta, the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the Water Board, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Delta Stewardship Council, and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, shall initiate actions necessary to prepare for and address potential Delta salinity issues during prolonged drought conditions.

14. To prepare for potential impacts of drought conditions on species, the Water Board and the Department of Fish and Wildlife shall work with federal agency partners to manage temperature conditions for the preservation of fish in the Sacramento River downstream of Shasta Dam while balancing water supply needs.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 21st day of April 2021

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

DR. SHIRLEY WEBER
Secretary of State

Regional state of emergency proclaimed for Russian River Watershed to protect communities and reduce environmental impacts

UKIAH – With much of the West experiencing drought conditions and California squarely in a second consecutive dry year, Governor Gavin Newsom today directed state agencies to take immediate action to bolster drought resilience and prepare for impacts on communities, businesses and ecosystems if dry conditions extend to a third year.

In addition, the Governor proclaimed a regional drought emergency for the Russian River watershed in Sonoma and Mendocino counties, where reservoirs are at record lows following two critically dry years and accelerated action may be needed to protect public health, safety and the environment.

“California is facing the familiar reality of drought conditions, and we know the importance of acting early to anticipate and mitigate the most severe impacts where possible,” Governor Newsom said. “Climate change is intensifying both the frequency and the severity of dry periods. This ‘new normal’ gives urgency to building drought resilience in regions across the state and preparing for what may be a prolonged drought at our doorstep.”

The text of today's emergency proclamation can be found [here](#).





Governor Newsom announces regional drought emergency and executive actions to bolster water resilience.

With an extremely low Lake Mendocino as a backdrop, the Governor today announced that he is directing state agencies to work with regional and local governments – including groundwater sustainability agencies – to identify watersheds, communities, public water systems and ecosystems that may require coordinated state and local actions to address drought impacts and protect people, natural resources and economic activity.

To encourage Californians to reduce water use and conserve supplies in case drought conditions continue next year, the proclamation also directs state agencies to partner with local water suppliers to promote conservation tips and messages through the [Save Our Water](#) campaign. The campaign and website were critical resources for Californians during the 2012-2016 drought and remain a trusted information source on using water wisely.

The proclamation directs additional actions to coordinate with California Native American tribes; accelerate funding for water supply enhancement, conservation and species protection projects; work with counties to encourage and track reporting of household water shortages including dry residential wells; provide technical and financial assistance for water systems at risk of water shortages; support the agricultural economy and food security; and evaluate and take action to protect terrestrial and aquatic species.

To address acute drought impacts in the Russian River watershed, the proclamation directs the State Water Board to consider modifying requirements for reservoir releases

or diversion limitations to ensure adequate supplies for critical purposes. The regional state of emergency also enables flexibilities in regulatory requirements and procurement processes to mitigate drought impacts.

Under the Governor's direction, state agencies have been working together since November to prepare for continued dry conditions. The Governor recently formalized that coordination through the Drought Resilience Task Force, which includes the Natural Resources Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Food and Agriculture, Department of Water Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Water Resources Control Board, Department of Finance, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, California Health and Human Services Agency, California Public Utilities Commission and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

Other recent actions by state agencies to address dry conditions include:

The state has launched a new [drought preparedness website](#) detailing current conditions, the state's response and informational resources for the public.

- The State Water Board has identified water suppliers at extreme financial risk that may need additional support due to the combined impacts of COVID and drought.
- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has updated its [Dry Well website](#) that tracks reports of water supply outages.
- DWR has drafted a [Drought Contingency Plan](#) that explains how it will manage the State Water Project in a manner that protects fish and wildlife.
- The State Water Board has issued letters to approximately 40,000 water right holders across the state, advising them to [plan for potential shortages](#) by closely managing water use.
- Last month, [DWR released a report](#), prepared with extensive stakeholder involvement, that evaluates the water shortage risk of more than 4,000 small water providers.
- Informed by that report, this month the State Water Board completed its first-ever comprehensive look at California [water systems that are struggling](#) to provide safe drinking water to communities and how to help them. The assessment identifies both failing water systems and those at risk of failing, offering the most in-depth view of long-term drinking water safety the state has ever had.
- CDFA is coordinating closely with the USDA to provide aid to growers and ranchers in the Klamath Basin, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife is working with California Native American tribes and commercial and recreational salmon representatives to manage impacts to iconic salmon in the basin.

The 2012-2016 drought helped usher in some important water resilience policies that position the state to better handle another drought. These include:

- Enactment in 2014 of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to require and empower local agencies to bring overdrafted groundwater basins into sustainable conditions by 2042.
- Enactment of legislation to establish new standards for indoor, outdoor and industrial use of water.
- Funding for disadvantaged communities lacking access to safe drinking water through the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Act.
- Increase in the frequency of water use reporting.
- Expanded state authority to order failing public water systems to consolidate with better-run systems.
- Tighter landscape efficiency standards for new developments.

Kathy Viatella

Executive Legislative Representative

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

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April 21, 2021

METROPOLITAN GENERAL MANAGER ISSUES STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EMERGENCY DROUGHT PROCLAMATION

Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, issues the following statement on today's emergency drought proclamation by Gov. Gavin Newsom for two counties while ordering a prioritization of available state resources:

“Today’s action by the governor advances a much-needed effort on how to finance water progress in California while managing through the ongoing drought conditions. A window of opportunity appears to be opening at the state and federal levels to fund water infrastructure needs for California and the nation. The governor’s call for his departments to coordinate and recommend actions is a helpful step in the process. As Metropolitan continues its investments in conservation, Southern California communities are seeking to lead the nation in recycling wastewater that now is discharged to the Pacific Ocean - but we will need help. With leadership in Sacramento and Washington, we can take historic steps to build drought-proof water supplies for California.”

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 cities and retail suppliers, provide water for 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.



Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - April 26, 2021

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

