
DWR Notice to SWP Contractors
May 23, 2007



NOTICE TO

STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS

NUMBER: 07-06

DATE: MAY 23 2007

SUBJECT: Final 2007 Water Allocation

FROM: 
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Due to current water conditions, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is announcing a final 2007 water allocation to its 29 Long-Term Water Supply Contractors of 60 percent, and Contractors are advised to begin implementation of any additional water conservation measures available to them.

Although 2006 water conditions left a promising 2007 water supply outlook, 2007 water supply conditions to date have been well below average. In 2006, the Northern Sierra Precipitation 8-Station Index was 160 percent of average. This generated a 100 percent water allocation, over 630 TAF of Article 21 water, over 380 TAF of carryover water, and left the State Water Project reservoirs essentially full.

However, so far for 2007, the Northern Sierra Precipitation 8-Station Index is only 77 percent of average and the statewide snow pack is only 27 percent of average. It's now official, for 2007, the Sacramento Region is listed as a "Dry" water year and the San Joaquin Region is listed as a "Critically Dry" water year.

Because of these conditions, please be advised that water allocations for 2008 could be low if a below average water year materializes. Also, Contractors' scheduled Carryover water into 2008 is only 155 TAF. Therefore, Contractors are being asked to begin implementation of any and all additional water conservation measures available to soften the potential water shortages in 2008.

Water conditions for 2008 are uncertain at best. Accordingly we should prepare for dry conditions. DWR staff will be in contact to discuss conservation and Dry Year Program strategies.