

Regulation for Urban Water Conservation

Monthly Update and Proposal for Extension

Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

February 8, 2017 – Item 9



December 2016 Status of Implementation

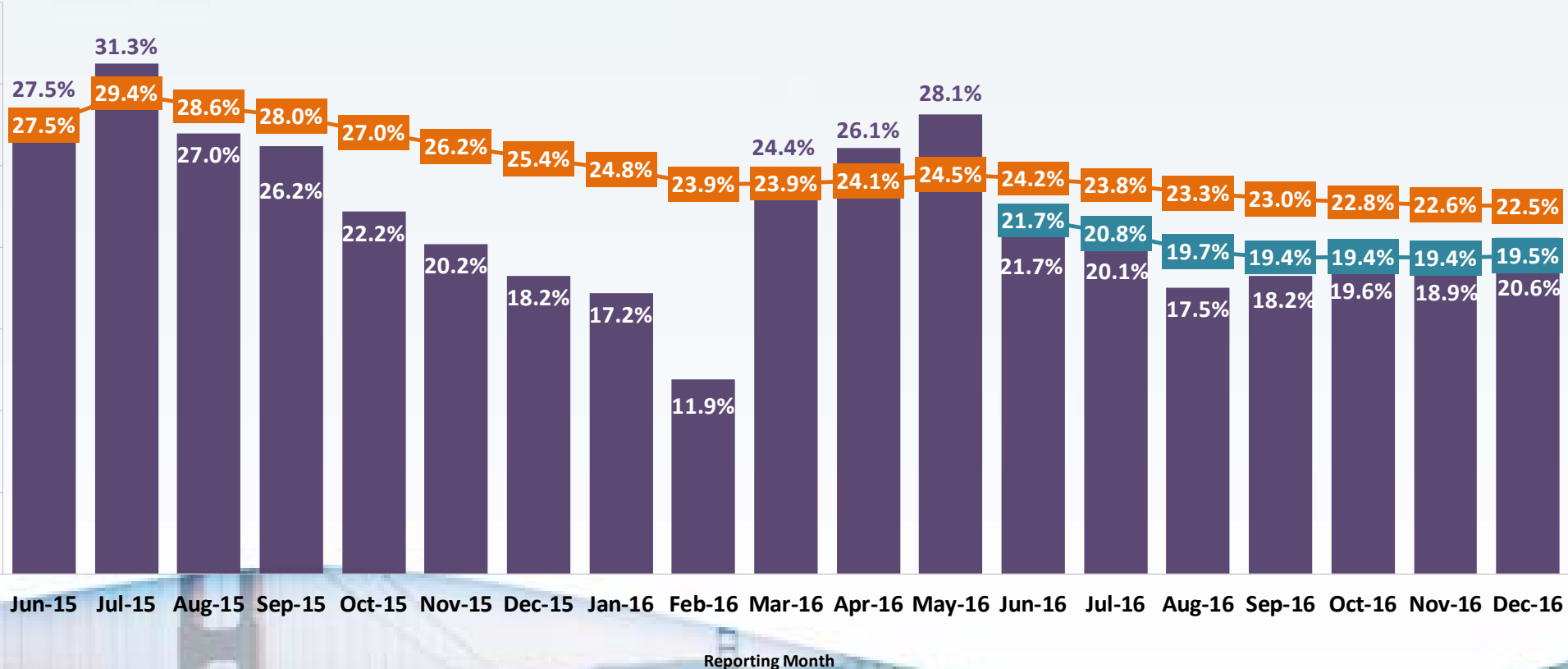
- Water production data collected since June 2014
- Urban water conservation requirements since June 2015
- Stress test for setting standards since June 2016

- **December 2016 statewide conservation 20.6 percent compared to December 2013 baseline**



Statewide Water Production Percent Reduction (Compared to 2013)

- Monthly Percent Reduction
- Cumulative Percent Reduction Since June 2015
- Cumulative Percent Reduction Since June 2016



Average Statewide December 2016 R-GPCD = 64.9

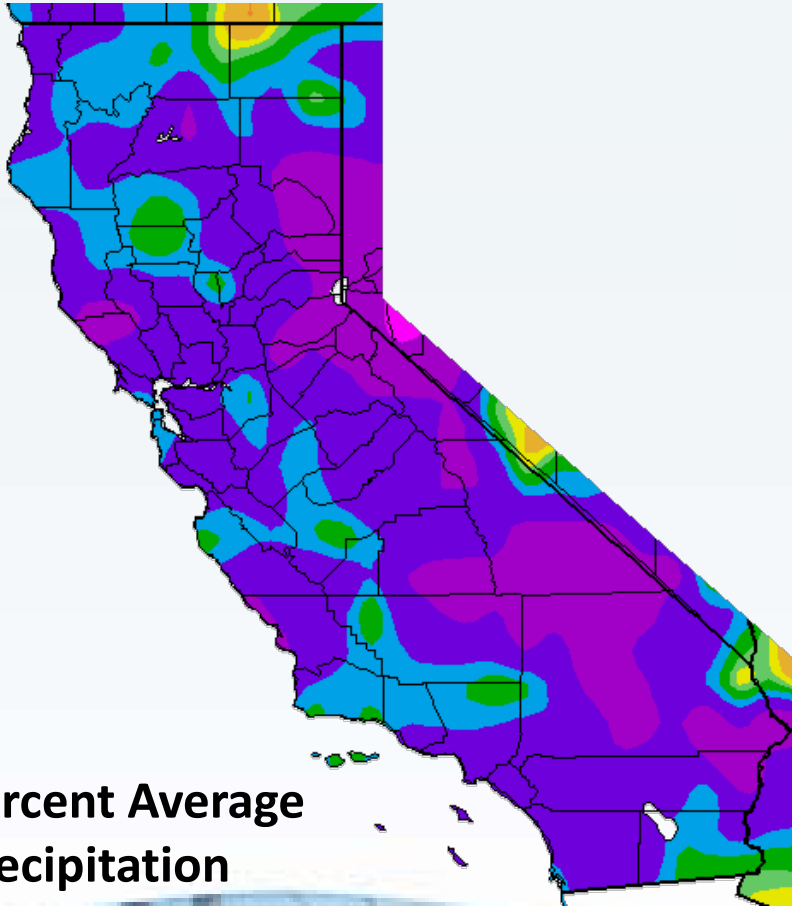
Statewide Cumulative Savings

(June 2015 – December 2016)

- 22.5 percent since June 2015:
2,434,323 acre-feet (793 billion gallons)
 - Savings is enough to provide 12.2 million Californians (31% of state population) with water for one year
- *19.5 percent since June 2016:
825,102 acre feet (269 billion gallons)*



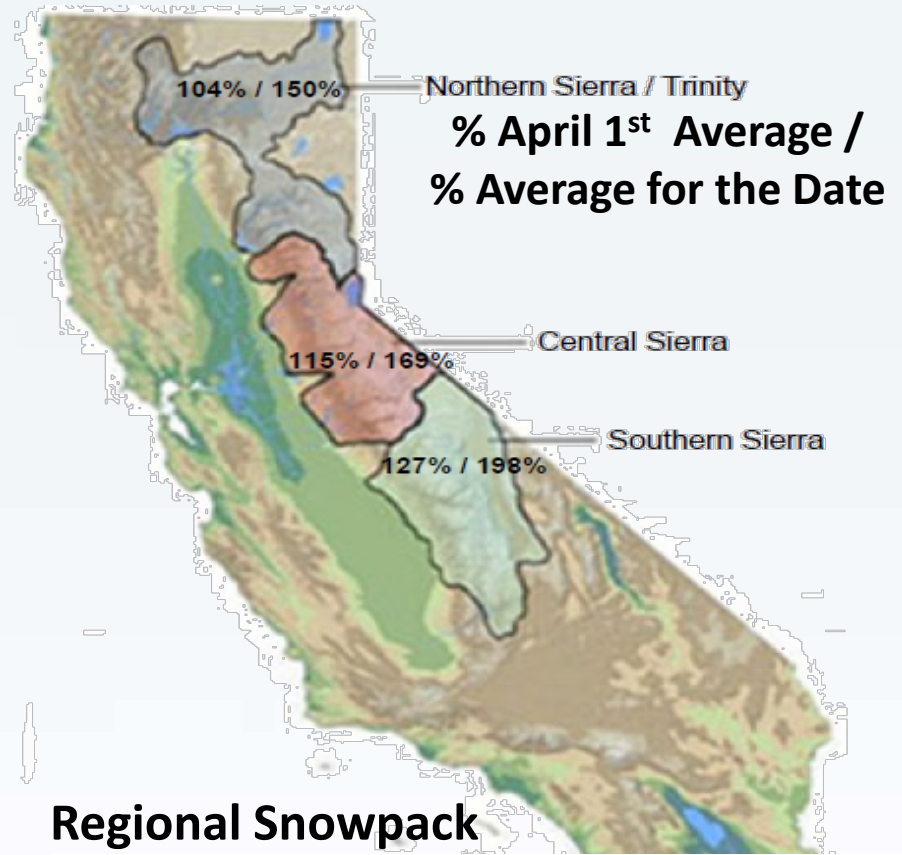
Current Hydrologic Conditions



**Percent Average
Precipitation
Water Year Thus Far:
10/1/2016 – 2/4/2017**



Generated 2/05/2017 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers



Regional Snowpack

STATE	
Data as of February 6, 2017	
Number of Stations Reporting	78
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	34.1
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	116
Percent of normal for this date (%)	173

Data source: cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweq.action

California's Hydrology Extremes

- Feast or Famine...

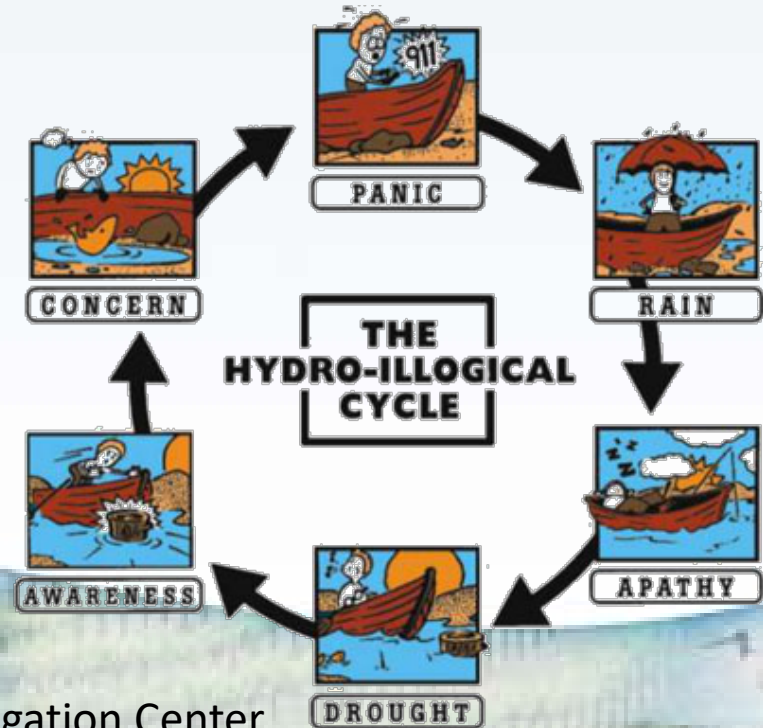


- Hydrologic conditions remain subject to significant change for the water year



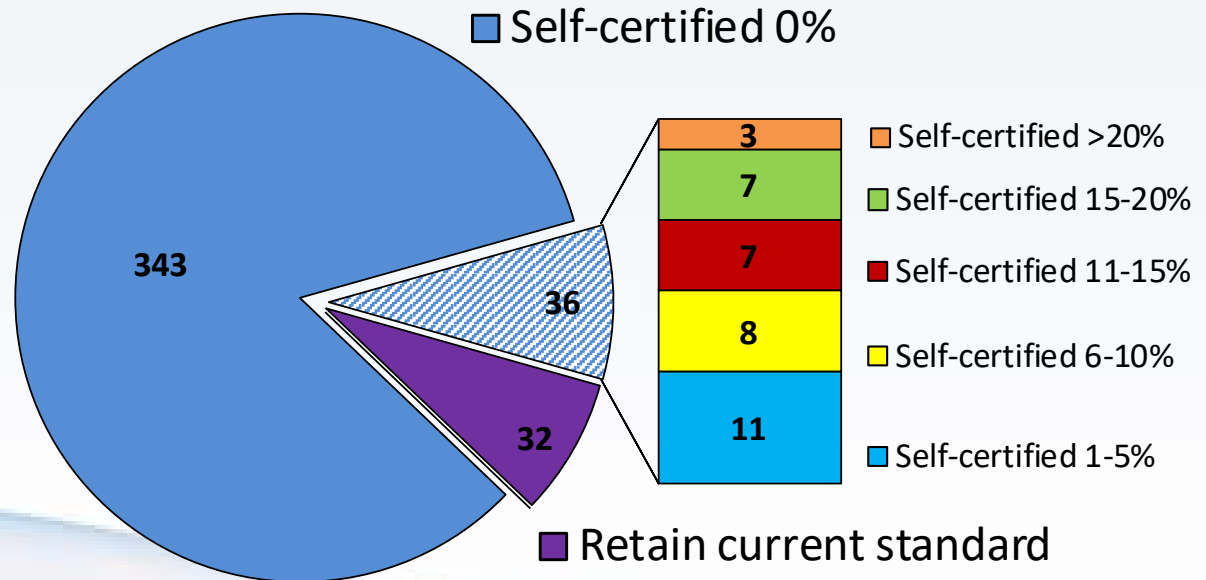
Background

- Governor's drought proclamation remains in effect
- Governor's Executive Orders B-37-16 establishes long-term conservation goals and improves drought planning
- Breaking the reactive cycle



May 2016 Emergency Regulation

- Conservation standards based on supply reliability
 - “Stress test” under additional three years of drought
 - Option to maintain state-mandated conservation standard



- Expires in February 2017

Staff Proposal

Readopts the existing regulation with a few minor changes

- Extends regulation for an additional 270 days, or until drought emergency order is rescinded
- Suppliers may submit or update 'stress test' by March 15, 2017 (optional) – no need to resubmit if stress test was completed in June 2016
- Prohibits cities/counties for imposing fines prohibited by section 8627.7 of the Government Code
- Eliminates small supplier report

Other provisions remain the same as the May 2016 regulation



Why Extend?

- The proposed regulation is modest in terms of scope
 - Those with a stress test showing zero shortage only have reporting requirements and the ongoing prohibitions on wasteful practices
- Middle of the water year
- Groundwater
- Some areas still affected by drought
- Governor's Drought Proclamation is still in effect



Comments Received

- Comments range from:
 - Let regulation expire
 - Rescind regulation in areas with adequate supply
 - Rescind regulation, keep monthly reporting
 - Support proposed regulation
- Concerns:
 - Need to maintain public trust, drought emergency is over
 - Impacts to economy
 - Groundwater



Response to Comments

- The Governor's Emergency Proclamation is still in effect
- Most suppliers already have self-certified with a zero percent conservation standard. The staff proposal continues the existing regulations.
- It is reasonable to continue reporting
- Under 2016 stress-test, most suppliers that self-certified 'zero' still maintained high conservation levels
 - Suppliers were able to message and communicate the need for reasonable, non-wasteful water use
- Groundwater remains depleted in many areas
- Important to be prepared should conditions change or 2016-17 be a reprieve in a longer-term drought



Timeline for Regulation Readoption

- **May 18, 2016:** Board modifies and extends regulation
- **January 18, 2017:** Public Workshop
- **February 2, 2017:** Staff-proposed draft regulation
- **February 8, 2017:** Board hearing
- **February 27, 2017:** Anticipated effective date



Post Adoption Timeline

- Office of Administrative Law action in 10 days
 - Regulation becomes effective upon OAL approval
- February 27, 2017: Anticipated effective date
- March 15, 2017: Urban supplier submittals or resubmittals of “stress test” (optional)

