



PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY
SINCE 1957
BUSINESS CENTER
144 Ferguson Road
MAIL
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604
PHONE
530.823.4860
530.823.4960 - fax
WWW.PCWA.NET

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Einar Maisch, PCWA General Manager

(530) 823-4860

or: Adam Carter

(775) 722-2878

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PCWA BOARD APPROVES EXPANDED WATER RESTRICTIONS

AUBURN, Calif. (Apr. 17, 2015) – The Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors adopted the Stage 2 Water Warning condition under PCWA’s Water Shortage Contingency Plan at its meeting on April 16. The expanded regulations comply with the State Water Resources Control Board’s emergency regulations adopted on March 17 and the Governor’s executive order issued on April 1.

“As we work to comply with complicated state regulations, we have to rely on public understanding and responsibility to successfully meet the mandated reduction levels,” PCWA General Manager, Einar Maisch said. “The Board’s adoption of the Stage 2 Water Warning is the first step in preparing PCWA and its customers for any additional reductions.”

PCWA has been operating under a Stage 1 Water Alert condition designed to achieve a reduction of up to 20% since April 2014. In addition to Stage 1 restrictions, the Stage 2 Water Warning condition limits irrigation to two days per week and is designed to achieve up to a 30% reduction in potable water use. Communications will be sent to all customers informing them of the Board’s adoption of the Stage 2 Water Warning and what it means in terms of their water use practices. Additional information will be posted to the Agency’s website.

PCWA’s revised Water Storage Contingency Plan was adopted by the Board on April 2 and ensures that the Agency’s water supplies will be sufficient for the duration of the 2015 drought despite dismal snowpack and below average precipitation.

Deputy Director of Technical Services Tony Firenzi, the Agency’s drought project manager, presented results of the April 1 snow surveys to the Board. PCWA snow courses on the American River watershed registered at 1 percent of average while PG&E’s Yuba-Bear watershed registered at 3 percent of average. To date, seasonal precipitation within the watershed is 39.1 inches, or 65 percent of average.

-more-

In other news, PCWA directors:

- Heard from Linda Yager, PCWA Deputy Director of Customer Services, regarding the agency's water savings incentive program for agricultural and rural residential landowners. Under this program, participants can receive rebates of up to 50% of the cost for installing irrigation upgrades and/or turf replacement.
- Approved the initiation of the Middle Fork Project Communications Systems Upgrade Project. The project will increase the reliability and efficiency of communications facilities used for the Middle Fork American River Project.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2015, at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. For drought updates and water conservation information, visit www.pcwa.net.

###

About PCWA

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) is the primary water resource agency for Placer County, California, with a broad range of responsibilities including water resource planning and management, retail and wholesale supply of drinking water and irrigation water, and production of hydroelectric energy.