

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during March 2016

As of March 31, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 110 percent of average to date; snow water content, 85 percent of average to date (85 percent of the April 1 average); runoff, 115 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 85 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2016, observed through March 31, 2016 was about 12.2 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 111 percent of average. In comparison to Water Year 2015, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through March 31, 2015 was about 6.9 MAF, or about 63 percent of average.

On March 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 51.9 inches, which is about 125 percent of the seasonal average to date and 104 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During March, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 16.4 inches, or about 238 percent of average for the month. Last year on March 31, the Water Year 2015 seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 31.7 inches, or about 76 percent of average.

On March 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 35.8 inches, which is about 107 percent of the seasonal average to date and 88 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During March, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 8.7 inches, or about 143 percent of average for the month. Last year on March 31, the Water Year 2015 seasonal total for the 5-Stations was 13.7 inches, or about 41 percent of average.

Daily Precipitation (in inches) for Selected Stations as of 03/31/2016					
Station	Oct 1 to Date 2015 - 2016	% Average	Season to Date 2014 - 2015	% Average	% Average Oct 1 - Sep 30
Mount Shasta	35.50	99	30.58	86	81
Eureka	41.03	123	27.29	82	102
Redding	31.85	111	20.99	73	92
South Lake Tahoe	17.68	110	8.29	51	87
Sacramento Executive Airport	14.72	91	13.45	83	79
Santa Rosa (Sonoma Co AP)	28.65	89	20.84	65	79
San Francisco	20.51	97	16.04	76	87
Stockton	13.42	110	9.45	78	95
Yosemite	32.32	102	11.39	36	85
Monterey	20.64	146	13.32	94	128
Paso Robles	7.21	63	7.70	67	56
Fresno	12.87	132	4.60	47	112
Bakersfield	3.91	70	4.53	81	60
Death Valley	1.28	73	1.05	60	54
Los Angeles	6.06	45	7.33	55	41
Riverside	4.67	43	3.85	36	38
Palm Springs	2.45	55	2.07	46	43
San Diego	6.84	75	6.51	71	66

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 03/31/2016								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	1,280	1,927	66	2,448	52	---	1,168
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	4,027	3,691	109	4,552	88	258	525
Lake Oroville	Feather	3,060	2,696	114	3,538	86	183	478
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	816	701	116	966	84	17	150
Folsom Lake	American	691	628	110	977	71	52	286
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	617	1,510	41	2,400	26	-1,428	1,803
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,218	1,483	82	2,030	60	-472	812
Lake McClure	Merced	338	565	60	1,025	33	-379	687
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	345	366	94	520	66	-175	175
Pine Flat Res	Kings	387	564	69	1,000	39	-399	613
Isabella	Kern	61	201	30	568	11	-301	507
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,059	1,846	57	2,041	52	---	980

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for April 2016, issued March 31, 2016, suggests above-normal precipitation for all of California, except the southern fourth of the State where normal precipitation is indicated.