California Weather-Hydro Conditions during May 2012

As of May 31, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 75 percent of average to date; runoff, 65 percent of average to date; snow water equivalent, 3 percent of average for the date (1 percent of the April 1 average); and reservoir storage, 105 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff observed through May 31, 2012 was about 10.1 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 64 percent of average. For comparison, on May 31, 2011, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 19.7 MAF, or about 126 percent of average.

Precipitation in May was generally below average across California and temperatures above average. On May 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 40.2 inches, which is about 84 percent of the seasonal average to date and 80 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During May, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 0.5 inches, which is about 24 percent of the monthly average. Last year on May 31, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 68.9 inches, or about 145 percent of average for the date.

On May 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 24.2 inches, which is about 62 percent of the seasonal average to date and 59 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During May, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 0.2 inches, which is about 11 percent of the monthly average. Last year on May 31, the seasonal total for the 5-Stations to date was 61.3 inches, or about 158 percent of average for the date.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 05/31/2012 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
City	Jul 1 to Date 2011 - 2012 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2010 - 2011 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2011- 2012
Eureka	38.81	98	43.84	111	96
Redding	22.80	67	34.45	102	66
Sacramento	12.18	67	22.48	123	66
San Francisco	15.60	66	26.88	114	66
Fresno	8.15	72	15.60	138	71
Bakersfield	4.93	77	10.25	160	76
Los Angeles	7.61	60	17.83	140	59
San Diego	8.03	78	12.59	123	78

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 05/31/2012								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,324	2,154	108	2,448	95	---	124
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	4,299	3,960	109	4,552	94	-253	253
Lake Oroville	Feather	3,500	3,043	115	3,538	99	-38	38
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	946	832	114	966	98	-20	20
Folsom Lake	American	926	835	111	977	95	-51	51
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,838	1,500	123	2,420	76	-582	582
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,672	1,531	109	2,030	82	-330	358
Lake McClure	Merced	778	714	109	1,025	76	-190	247
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	433	407	106	520	83	-87	87
Pine Flat Res	Kings	815	723	113	1,000	82	-185	185
Isabella	Kern	215	294	73	568	38	-146	353
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,307	1,670	78	2,039	64	---	732

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for June 2012, issued May 31, 2012, suggests above average precipitation for the extreme northern portion of California. The outlook suggests no tendency for above or below average rainfall for the remainder of the State.