

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during May 2013

As of May 31, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 75 percent of average to date; runoff, 65 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 85 percent of average for the date. Snow water content was close to zero. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2013, observed through May 31, 2013 was about 10.3 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 66 percent of average. For comparison during Water Year 2012, on May 31, 2012, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 10.1 MAF, or about 64 percent of average.

Similar to January, February, March, and April, May had significantly below average rainfall for almost all of California. On May 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 42.4 inches, which is about 89 percent of the seasonal average to date and 85 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During May, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 1.3 inches, which is about 62 percent of the monthly average. Last year on May 31, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 40.2 inches, or about 84 percent of average for the date. The combined total January through May precipitation is the driest in about 90 years of record.

On May 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 25.9 inches, which is about 67 percent of the seasonal average to date and 63 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During May, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 0.8 inches, which is about 44 percent of the monthly average. Last year on May 31, the seasonal total for the 5-Stations was 24.0 inches, or about 62 percent of average for the date. The combined total January through May precipitation is the driest in about 90 years of record.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 05/31/2013 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
City	Jul 1 to Date 2012 - 2013 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2011 - 2012 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg "Water Year" Jul 1 to Jun 30 2012- 2013
Eureka	31.88	81	38.81	98	79
Redding	26.88	79	22.80	67	78
Sacramento	14.98	82	12.18	67	81
San Francisco	16.46	70	15.50	66	70
Fresno	5.67	50	8.15	72	49
Bakersfield	3.15	49	4.93	77	49
Los Angeles	6.89	54	7.61	60	54
San Diego	6.50	63	8.03	78	63

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 05/31/2013								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,004	2,154	93	2,448	82	---	444
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,363	3,960	85	4,552	74	-1,190	1,189
Lake Oroville	Feather	2,812	3,043	92	3,538	79	-726	726
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	788	832	95	966	82	-178	178
Folsom Lake	American	734	835	88	977	75	-243	243
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,334	1,500	89	2,420	55	-1,086	1,086
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,473	1,531	96	2,030	73	-529	557
Lake McClure	Merced	570	714	80	1,025	56	-398	455
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	403	407	99	520	77	-118	117
Pine Flat Res	Kings	484	723	67	1,000	48	-516	516
Isabella	Kern	106	294	36	568	19	-250	462
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	785	1,670	47	2,039	38	---	1,254

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for June 2013, issued May 31, 2013, suggests no tendency for above or below average rainfall for most of California, except for the northern quarter of the State where below average rainfall is expected.