



News for Immediate Release

November 26, 2007

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DWR Announces Initial 2008 State Water Project Allocation

SACRAMENTO - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has announced its initial allocation for water delivery to the State Water Project (SWP) contractors in calendar year 2008.

The initial allocation is 25 percent of the water contractors' total requested amounts, or 1,038,861 acre-feet, and may increase during the winter months. This is significantly less than the initial allocation for calendar year 2007 of 60 percent, which remained unchanged throughout the year.

Hydrologic conditions this year resulted in a "dry" water year in the Sacramento region and a "critically dry" water year in the San Joaquin region. Subsequently, SWP storage conditions going into the 2008 water year are less than average.

DWR records indicate that 25 percent is the lowest initial allocation since 2003. Should California experience another dry winter, more severe water delivery shortfalls and associated impacts to end water users will result next year.

To assure water supply for California's future, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is urging passage of a comprehensive water bond measure that includes new funding for above and below ground water storage. Additional funding would go to Delta restoration, water supply reliability and specified watersheds throughout the state.

SWP water is distributed among 29 long-term SWP contractors who serve more than 25 million Californians and about 750,000 acres of irrigated farmland.

In making this allocation of SWP water, a major source of water for many Californians, the department considered a conservative projection of hydrology, SWP operational constraints and 2008 contractor requests. SWP Contractors' Table A water for 2008 totals 4,165,931 million acre-feet, of which 4,145,124 million

acre-feet were requested. Table A water is the maximum contractual amount that SWP contractors can request each year. The department will revise the allocation as hydrologic and water supply conditions develop and provide for additional deliveries.

A Notice to SWP contractors appears on DWR's State Water Project Analysis Office Web site at: <http://www.swpao.water.ca.gov/notices/>

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.