

## California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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## State Water Project Plans 90 Percent Deliveries

SACRAMENTO---To assure fresh Delta outflows, the State Water Project has been releasing water from storage to help keep salinity levels low in the western part of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Unusually dry conditions since mid-March have severely reduced natural flows into the Delta. The State and federal water projects have been making releases from storage in Oroville, Shasta, and Folsom reservoirs to help make up for these dry conditions.

While some impacts to the State Water Contractors' year 2000 water supplies can't be avoided, a 10 percent reduction in State Water Project deliveries from the 100 percent allocation made in March will help ensure that a prudent carryover of storage is maintained in the State Water Project's reservoir system in case next year turns out to be dry.

Thomas M. Hannigan, Director, California Department of Water Resources, noted that the SWP had made five consecutive years of 100 percent of their requested deliveries since the critically dry year of 1994.

The SWP provides at least part of the water supply for over half of California's population. SWP contracts allocate about 70 percent of project water to urban users and about 30 percent to agriculture agencies.

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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. The State Water Project provides water to two-thirds of California's population.*

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