

# Monthly Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update

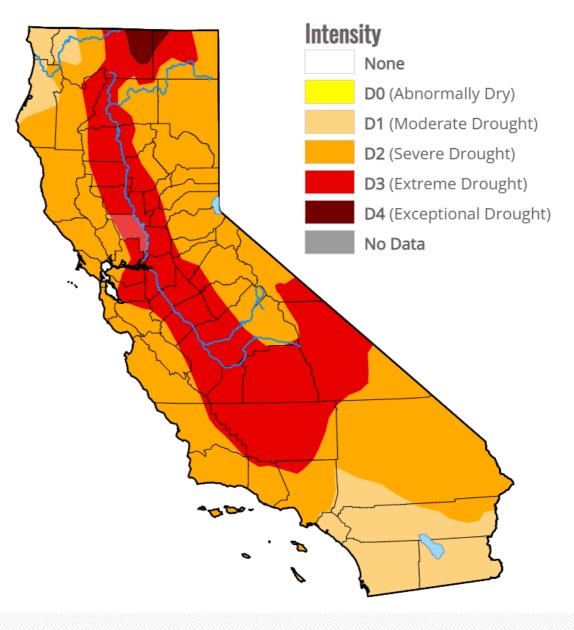
Valley Water Board Meeting January 11, 2022 Presenter: Neeta Bijoor, Ph.D.



## **Drought Status**

- Severe/Extreme drought
- Local reservoirs levels increased slightly
- State snowpack improved

Data sources: U.S. Drought Monitor, California DWR

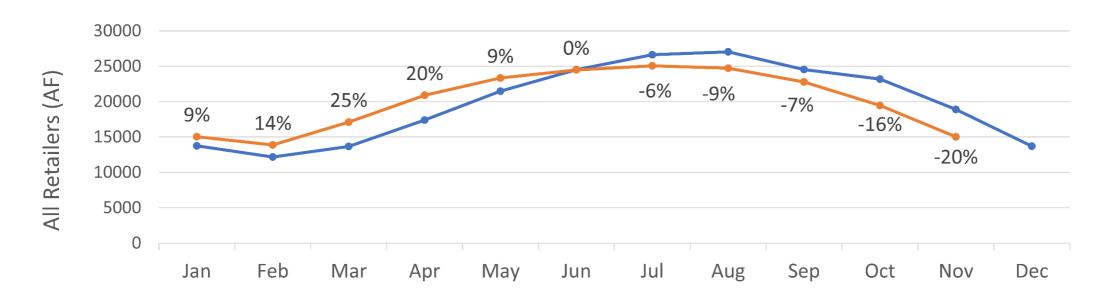




# Valley Water's water savings call was achieved in November

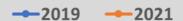
**→**2019 **→**2021

The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.

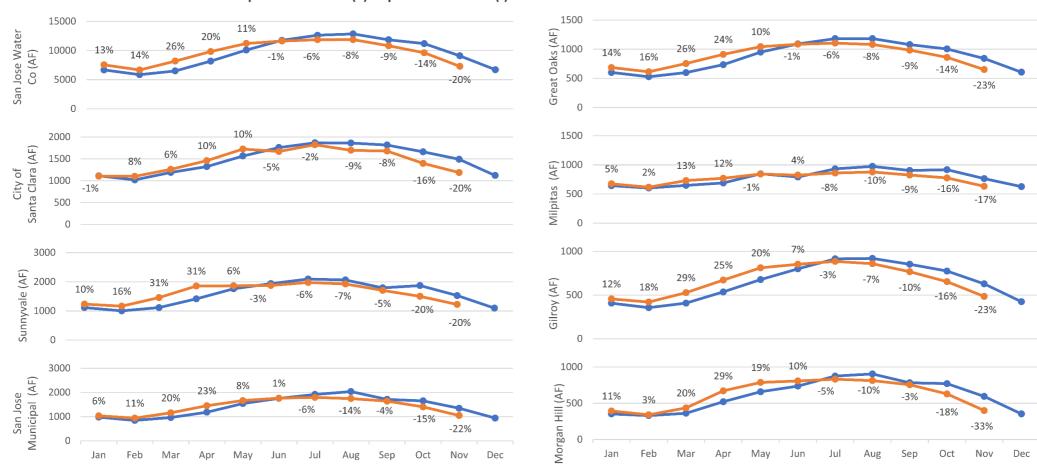




#### **Retailer Progress in Water Use Reduction**

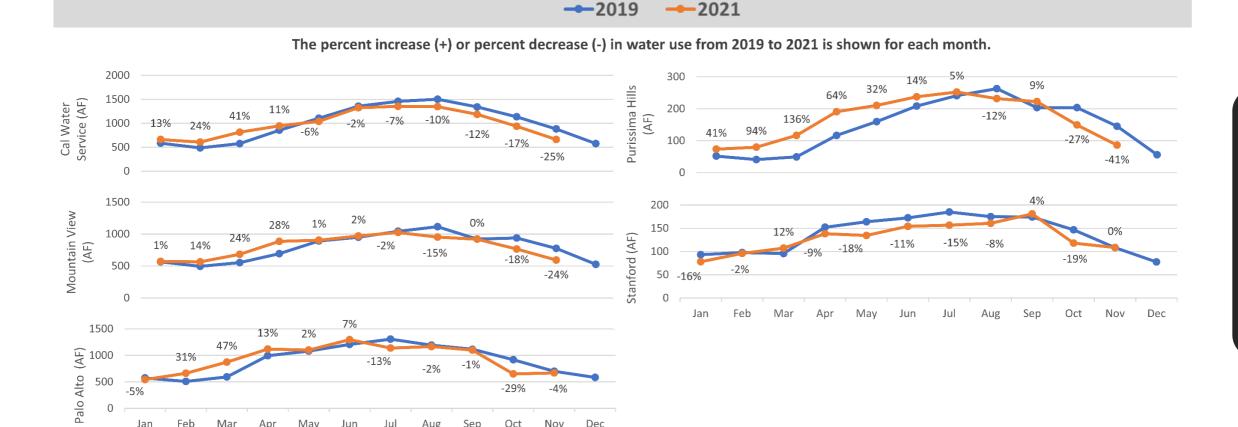


The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.





### **Retailer Progress in Water Use Reduction** (cont'd)



-29%



Jan

# **Water Supply Scenarios Evaluated**

Forecast of potential water supply conditions and potential actions needed based on:

- Median Conditions case for 2022
- Dry Conditions cases for 2022/2023
  - Dry, Low Imports
  - Dry, Minimal Imports (worst case)

Both cases assume critically dry 2022 and dry 2023



#### Table of Scenarios Evaluated<sup>1</sup>

	Imported		WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK			
Scenario	Supplies (Allocations, transfers, and Semitropic take)	Local Surface Supplies	Groundwater Recharge	Treated Water	Carryover	End of Year Groundwater Storage
Median	Adequate	64 TAF	Full recharge	Provide 100% delivery	Adequate	2022: 351 TAF Normal (Stage 1)
Dry, Low Imports	Low	2022: 0.7 TAF 2023: 15 TAF	Minimum recharge	Maintain 2021 delivery reduction (23%)	Minimal	2022: 253 TAF Alert (Stage 2) 2023: 203 TAF Severe (Stage 3)
Dry, Minimal Imports	Minimal	2022: 0.7 TAF 2023: 15 TAF	Minimum recharge	Significant delivery reduction (30% in 2022, 45% in 2023)	None	2022: 241 TAF Severe (Stage 3) 2023: 174 TAF Critical (Stage 4)



# **Planning Ahead**

Given the wide range in potential water supply conditions, we continue to:

- Actively track key indicators and changing conditions
- Prepare for continued dry conditions
- Recommend action and adapt as needed



# **Tracking Changing Conditions**

- Local and statewide hydrology and reservoir storage
- Groundwater levels
- Water quality
- Water demands
- Drought awareness
- Policy or regulatory changes



# **Preparations for Continued Dry Conditions**

- Securing emergency imported supplies
- Requesting Public Health and Safety Water
- Coordinating with DWR on Semitropic return
- Seeking FERC approval for water storage in Anderson Reservoir during 2022
- Supporting growth in water conservations programs
- Continuing consistent, coordinated water conservation messaging



## **Current Recommended Actions**

- Maintain Valley Water Resolution 21-68 call for 15% reduction in water use (compared to 2019)
- Work with untreated surface water users to achieve water use reduction call
- Continue increased conservation program rebate rate
- Outreach to agriculture, retailers, cities, County
- Continue to monitor water supply indicators and adapt as needed

# **Possible Future Actions**

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Assess scenario we are in by March 2022

Scenario	Possible Actions		
	Pursue emergency imported supplies	Consider increasing water use reduction or restrictions	
Median	Not needed	Not needed	
Dry, Low Imports	Recommended	Recommended	
Dry, Minimal Imports	Recommended	Recommended	



#### **Collaboration**

- Council action or administrative measures by County of Santa Clara and 13 cities
- Partnership with the County of Santa Clara and Office of Sustainability



# **Drought and Conservation Public Outreach**

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Media campaign and outreach

Retailer partnership

Speakers Bureau outreach

Youth Commission

Education

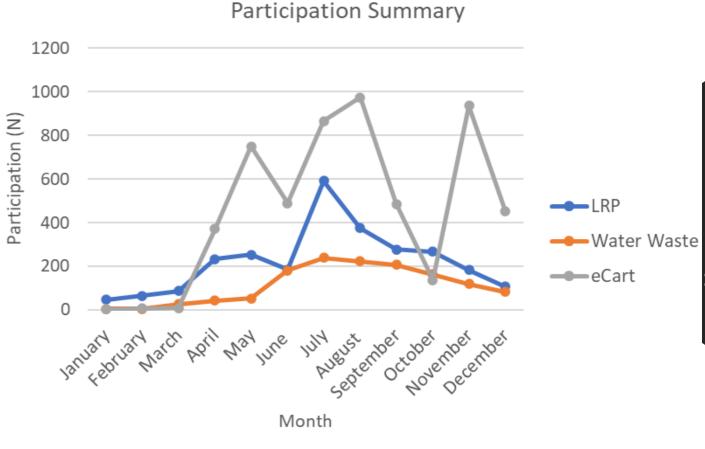


A joint message from the City of Sunnyvale Environmental Services Department and Valley Water



# **Water Conservation Programs**

- Increased participation
- Landscape Rebate Program
   application processing time
   reduced significantly
- Outdoor field services vendor will further reduce time





# **2022 Imported Water Supplies**

- State reservoir storage levels below normal
- State Water Project based on human health and safety
- Central Valley Project allocation late February
- Semitropic banking recovery 31.5 TAF
- Emergency transfers as needed



#### Groundwater

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#### **Conditions**

- Seasonal recovery of groundwater levels
- Emergency transfers, water use reduction helped slow groundwater level declines
- Continued risk of subsidence, wells going dry in 2022 if dry conditions continue and conservation target not met

#### **Managed Recharge**

- Increased recharge since August 2021
- Recharge was below average in 2021



#### **State and Federal Coordination**

- 18
- Each State legislative delegation office received a drought update
- Water rights curtailments suspended in advance of December storms
- Continued coordination with Bureau of Reclamation



# QUESTIONS





