# **Water Tracker**



A monthly assessment of trends in water supply and use for Santa Clara County, California

# Outlook as of April 1, 2022

Based on continued drought conditions, the imported water allocations are low. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced the reduction of the Central Valley Project (CVP) Municipal and Industrial allocation from 25% of historic use to an allocation for Public Health and Safety, effective April 1, 2022. The State Water Project (SWP) allocation was reduced on March 18, 2022, from 15% to 5% of contract amount. Santa Clara County continues to be in a water shortage emergency condition. Due to severe drought and increased reliance on imported water in the next 10 years while Anderson Reservoir storage is unavailable, meeting the Board of Directors call for 15% water use reduction relative to 2019 is essential.

#### Weather

- Rainfall in San José:
  - » Month of March, City of San José = 0.31 inches
  - » Rainfall year total = 7.95 inches or 62% of average to date (rainfall year is July 1 to June 30)
- Snowfall in the Northern Sierra:
  - » April 1 snowpack was 28% of normal for this date

### **Local Reservoirs**

Total April 1 storage = 41,722 acre-feet

Reservoir Storage	All Ten Valley Water Reservoirs	All Reservoirs Except Anderson
Current storage as % of unrestricted capacity	25%	50%
Current storage as % of restricted capacity <sup>(1)</sup>	67%	64%
Current stoage as % of the 20-year average for April 1	42%	79%

(1) Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order, the capacity of Anderson Reservoir was restricted to the deadpool storage of about 3,050 acre-feet. The total restricted capacity for all ten reservoirs is 62,592 acre-feet.

- Approximately 47 acre-feet of imported water delivered into Calero Reservoir during March 2022
- Total estimated releases to streams (local and imported water) during March were 3,200 acre-feet (based on preliminary hydrologic data)

#### Groundwater

Groundwater conditions have continued to improve this month in most of North County
while conditions in South County have started their seasonal declines. Additionally, current
groundwater levels in many wells remain lower than March 2021 levels. Groundwater levels
and storage are expected to decline this year with continued dry conditions, and projected
2022 end-of-year groundwater storage is in the upper range of Stage 2 (Alert) of the Water
Shortage Contingency Plan

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	Subbasin
March 2022 managed recharge estimate	2,700	1,500	1,800
YTD managed recharge estimate	11,500	3,100	5,000
YTD managed recharge as % of 5-year average	108%	85%	143%
February 2022 pumping estimate	5,000	700	1,600
YTD pumping estimate	8,500	1,500	3,200
YTD pumping as % of 5-year average	100%	101%	96%
Current index well groundwater levels compared to March 2021	5 Feet Higher	1 Foot Higher	5 Feet Lower

All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2022 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-Date

# **Imported Water**

- 2022 SWP and CVP allocations:
  - » The 2022 SWP allocation for Valley Water is currently set at 5%, which equates to 15,000 acre-feet
  - » The 2022 CVP allocation for Valley Water is currently set at only Public Health and Safety water
- Statewide reservoir storage information, as of March 30, 2022:
  - » Shasta Reservoir at 38% of capacity (48% of average for this date)
  - » Oroville Reservoir at 47% of capacity (67% of average for this date)
  - » San Luis Reservoir at 45% of capacity (52% of average for this date)
- Valley Water's Semitropic groundwater bank reserves are near 83% of capacity, or 289,668 acre-feet, as of February 28, 2022
- Estimated SFPUC deliveries to Santa Clara County:
  - » Month of February = 3,267 acre-feet
  - » 2022 Total to Date = 5,950 acre-feet
  - » Five-year annual average = 48,700 acre-feet
- Board Governance Policy No. EL-5.3.3 includes keeping the Board informed of imported water management activities on an ongoing basis. No imported water agreements have been executed under EL-5.3.3 since the last Water Tracker update

#### **Treated Water**

- Above average demands of 6,424 acre-feet delivered in March
- This total is 117% of the five-year average for the month of March
- Year-to-date deliveries are 17,218 acre-feet or 105% of the five-year average

#### **Conserved Water**

- Saved 76,584 acre-feet in FY21 through Valley Water's long-term conservation program (baseline year is 1992)
- Long-term program goal is to save nearly 100,000 acre-feet by 2030 and 110,000 acre-feet by 2040
- On June 9, 2021, the Board called for a 15% reduction in water use compared to 2019, for the public to limit irrigation of ornamental landscapes with potable water to a maximum of three days per week, and for retailers, cities and the County to implement local water restrictions
- The cumulative water savings since the water use reduction call in June 2021 through February 2022 is 6%

# **Recycled Water**

- Estimated March 2022 production = 1,046 acre-feet
- Estimated year-to-date through March = 2,740 acre-feet or 115% of the five-year average
- Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center produced an estimated 1.7 billion gallons (5,150 acre-feet) of purified water in 2021. Since the beginning of 2022, about 851 acre-feet of purified water has been produced. The purified water is blended with existing tertiary recycled water for South Bay Water Recycling Program customers

# Alternative Sources •

 As of December 10, 2019, Valley Water's wastewater contract right from Palo Alto/ Mountain View remains at 11,200 acre-feet/year

# **CONTACT US**

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, email <code>info@valleywater.org</code> or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <code>https://deliver.com/2yukx</code>.









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