

Storm Report

Jan. 12 – Feb. 8, 2021



Rainfall

RAINFALL IN INCHES AS OF FEBRUARY 8, 2021

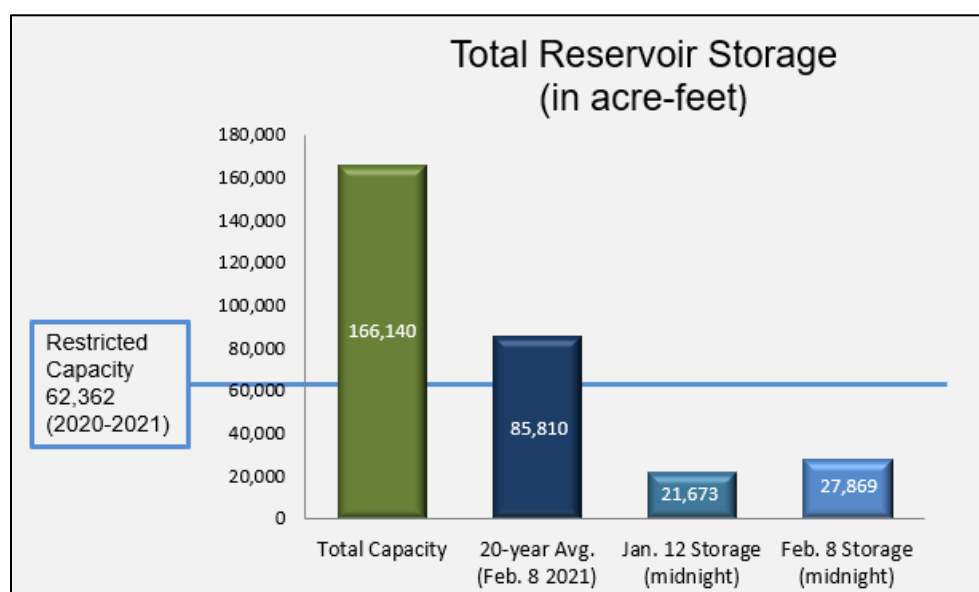
COUNTY RAIN GAUGE LOCATIONS	CURRENT PERIOD 1/12/21–2/8/21 (inches)	SEASON ¹ TO DATE 2/8/21 (inches)	SEASONAL AVG TO DATE (inches)	% SEASONAL AVG TO DATE	HISTORICAL SEASON AVERAGE (inches)
WEST² (Valley Christian)	8.78	14.21	26.59	53%	43.76
CENTRAL (San Jose)	3.35	4.33	8.49	51%	14.35
NORTH EAST (Penitencia)	3.50	5.51	9.01	61%	15.29
SOUTH (Coyote Reservoir)	5.94	9.09	12.27	74%	20.56

Reservoir Levels

- Shasta Reservoir storage was at 70% of historical average for Feb. 7, 2021, and Lake Oroville was at 54%.
- Estimated inflow into local reservoirs was approximately 9,180 acre-feet between Jan. 11 and Feb. 8, 2020.
- Total local reservoir storage on Feb. 8 was about 17% of total unrestricted capacity and 32% of normal when compared to the 20-year average for this date.

Raw Water Operations

- Anderson Reservoir was below the interim Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) restricted level and reached deadpool storage Dec. 2020.
- Coyote Reservoir was below the permanent DSOD restricted level.
- Almaden, Calero, and Guadalupe Reservoirs were below interim DSOD restricted levels. Flood releases from Calero were implemented.
- No transfers were made from Almaden Reservoir to Calero Reservoir through the Almaden-Calero Canal during this period.
- Percolation ponds were mostly offline due to a reduced recharge program.



¹ Rainfall season extends from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

² Rainfall Data stations: **West** – Santa Cruz Mountains; **Central** – near downtown San Jose; **Northeast** – near Milpitas; **South** – near Coyote Reservoir

Pre-storm Preparations

Field crews inspected trouble spots where trash and debris are known to accumulate and cleared trash and debris as necessary.

Communications



On January 21, 2021, Valley Water hosted a GET FLOOD READY virtual flood preparedness workshop, providing emergency preparedness tools and information to residents and businesses in areas at the highest risk of creek flooding. Chair Tony Estremera delivered opening and closing remarks to an audience of about 35 people, including residents and staff. Interpreters provided live translation services in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese. The video on Facebook has more than 12,000 views.

Staff prepared for the atmospheric river on January 26-27 by posting GET FLOOD READY messages on social media and from Chair Estremera on Nextdoor. Staff also supported the Emergency Operations Center during the storm event by providing social media posts, website updates and board updates. Valley Water responses were provided to media inquiries related to the storm, water supply and creek cleanups—specifically from NBC Bay Area reporter Damian Trujillo, Mercury News Reporter Paul Rogers, KCBS Reporter Matt Bigler, KPIX and KGO-TV assignment desks, Telemundo reporter Andres Brender, NBC Bay Area reporter Cheryl Hurd and KPIX reporter Wilson Walker.

Flood Management Operations

Valley Water activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on January 26, 2021 to support monitoring and coordination efforts with City of San Jose due to the

Atmospheric River forecast for Santa Clara County and adjacent region. The Joint Emergency Action Plan (flooding) with City of San Jose was activated and utilized during the event. Valley Water and City of San Jose coordinated and communicated leading up to the EOC Activation, as well as during the overnight response. Ultimately no flooding was observed.

Flooding

There was no flooding from Valley Water streams.

Fallen Trees and Debris Removal

Debris from the January 26 storm accumulated at many pier noses and trash racks throughout the county and was cleared by field crews after the storm event. Crews continue to address and clear blockages throughout the year.

Field Information Team (FIT)

Two FIT teams were deployed to monitor hot spots and creek conditions the morning of January 27. No flooding was observed.

Sandbags

On January 26, 3,200 filled bags were delivered to the Morgan Hill site along with 3 tons of loose sand plus empty bags. 1,600 filled bags were delivered to the Phelan site. On January 27, 3,200 filled bags were delivered to the Morgan Hill site. 1,600 filled bags were delivered to the Phelan site. Both Alviso and Palo Alto sites were monitored, and no deliveries were needed. On February 1, 2021, 1,600 filled bags were delivered to Morgan Hill and 1,600 filled bags were delivered to Phelan sandbag site.

As of February 8, sandbag totals per site are as follows: 2,000 bags at Palo Alto site, 1,700 bags at Alviso site, 1,800 filled bags at Phelan site, 2,000 bags at Winfield site, and 3,500 bags at Morgan Hill site.

This information is based on first-hand accounts from Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) staff and other monitoring sources between Jan. 12, 2021 and Feb. 8, 2021. As more information is gathered, some of the information reported here may change.

For questions, contact Sue Tippetts, Interim Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds at (408) 630-2253 or Aaron Baker, Chief Operating Officer, Water Utility at (408) 630-2135.