

Water Utilities Update

Low – Income Oversight Board

Water Division

September 29, 2021



**California Public
Utilities Commission**

Overview

- Senate Bill 222
 - Current Status
- Drought Conditions
 - Water Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) Actions

Senate Bill 222

Water Rate Assistance Program

- Introduced January 14, 2021 by State Senator Bill Dodd
 - Response to State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) AB 401 report
- Establishes the **Water Rate Assistance Program (Program)** & the **Water Rate Assistance Fund (Fund)** in the State Treasury
 - Provides affordability assistance to low-income ratepayers for both drinking water and wastewater services
 - Funding dependent upon appropriation by legislature and consultation with SWRCB
 - Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) to develop and administer the program and the fund
- Requires low-income data sharing from electric and gas utilities with CSD
 - By July 1, 2022, CPUC will establish mechanism to share data from Energy IOUs
 - CSD is authorized to enter agreements with publicly owned energy utilities
- Ordered to **Inactive File** September 3, 2021

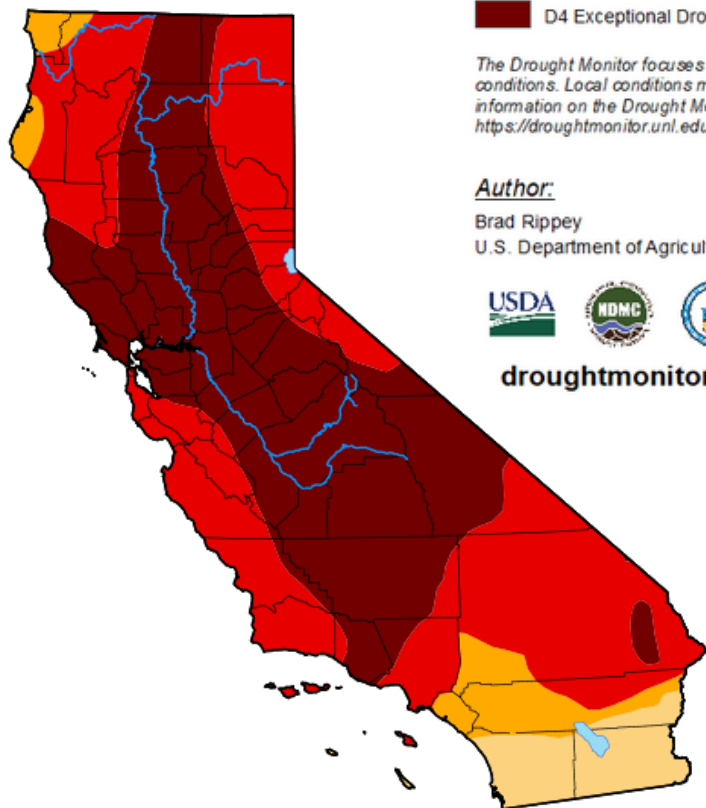


SB 222 will replace existing CAP programs for Water IOUs

Current Drought Conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor California

September 21, 2021
(Released Thursday, Sep. 23, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

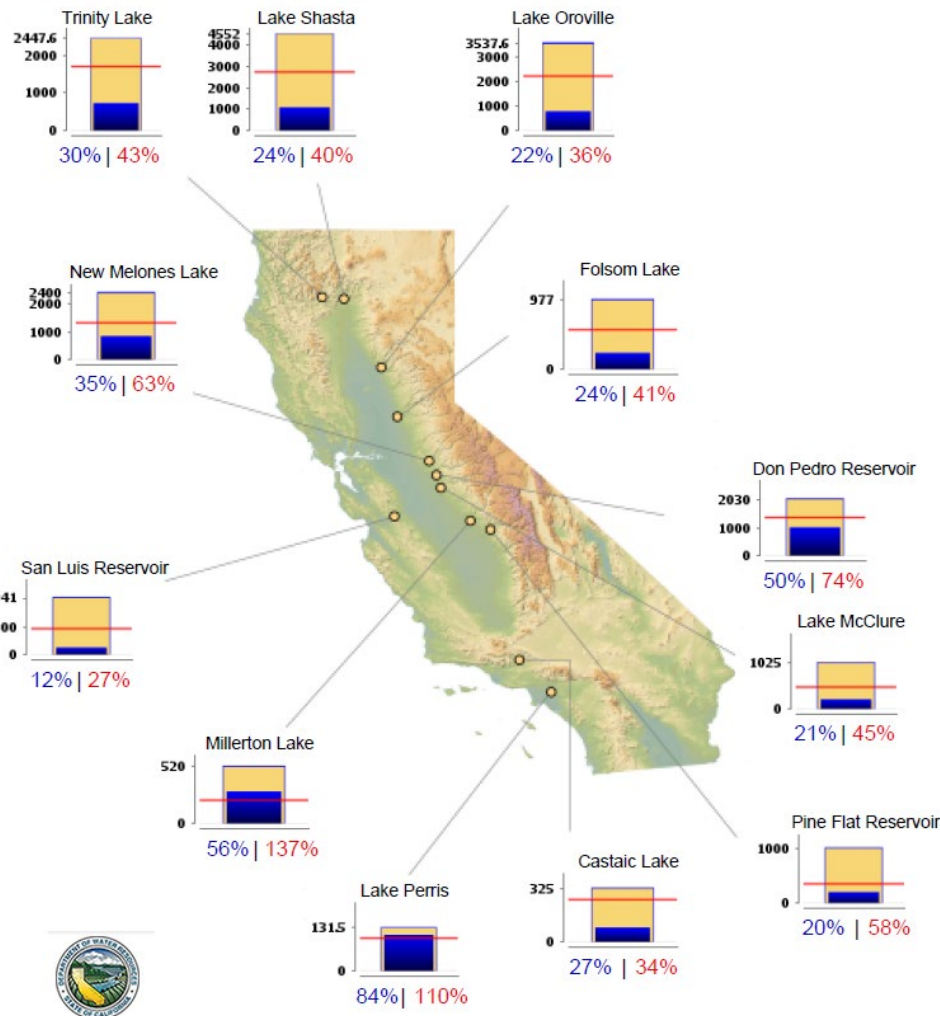
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



Drought Actions

- Governor's Office
 - Drought Emergency Declarations: April 21, May 10, July 8
 - 50 counties
 - **Voluntary Conservation of 15%** from 2020 levels
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
 - Mandatory Conservation of 15% from 2019 levels
- California Department of Water Resources & Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
 - [Save Our Water](#)
 - Resources for conservation
- CPUC Letters to Water IOUs
 - June 8: Encourage customers to conserve and promote Save Our Water and other conservation programs
 - July 8: Implement voluntary conservation measures to achieve 15% reduction

Rule 14.1 & Schedule 14.1

- Rule 14.1
 - Authorizes Water IOUs to establish **voluntary conservation** measures
 - Example: restrict non-essential or wasteful uses of water
- Schedule 14.1
 - Authorizes Water IOUs to implement **mandatory conservation**
 - Divided into stages
 - Higher (more severe) stages include water allocations and drought surcharges
- Differs among each utility

CLASS	Rule 14.1	<u>Activated</u> Schedule 14.1	<u>Implemented</u> Drought Surcharges
A	9 of 9	7 of 9	2 of 9
B	3 of 3	None	None
C	14 of 20	4 of 20	None
D	22 of 60	4 of 60	None