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STATE PROJECTS ZERO PERCENT ALLOCATION FROM THE STATE WATER PROJECT, ANNOUNCES WORST-EVER WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Low Allocation Underscores Need to Modernize State's Water System

Today, the California Department of Water Resources announced that the water agencies who receive water from the State Water Project may receive zero percent of their allocated water supplies. These agencies serve 25 million people, businesses and farms and many rely on State Water Project as a primary source of water. In Southern California, about 30 percent of our water comes from the State Water Project. The allocation announced today is a projected forecast, and may change as we move through the winter. However, this is the first time in history the allocation has ever hit bottom. It underscores the need for us to modernize our water delivery system so that we have more reliable water supplies and more flexible water operations. The announcement today also underscores the need for Californians to keep conservation a priority. Earlier this week, SCWC announced its unanimous support for the Governor's call for 20 percent voluntary conservation.

"We're in uncharted territory—never in history have our water agencies faced the prospect of getting absolutely no water from the Sierras. Southern California has invested in local supplies, conserved a considerable amount of water and explored innovative solutions to long-standing water challenges, but now it's time to tighten our belts even more. No matter how much water you use, it's time to use less."

Rich Atwater Executive Director Southern California Water Committee

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