

March 18, 2014
Regular Meeting
Board Reports
Supervisor Stump

State Weekly
Drought Brief



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



Weekly Drought Brief Monday March 17, 2014

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Recent Precipitation: Little to no precipitation fell over the past week across the state. Precipitation totals (in inches) from Monday, March 10 through Sunday, March 16:

- **Folsom: 0.40"** in the last week. 12.17" since July 1, 69% of normal by this date.
- **Fresno: 0.00"** in the last week. 3.40" since July 1, 38% of normal by this date.
- **Hetch Hetchy: 0.08"** in the last week. 14.59" since July 1, 51% of normal by this date.
- **Los Angeles: 0.00"** in the last week. 5.47" since July 1, 46% of normal by this date.
- **Modesto: 0.09"** in the last week. 5.01" since July 1, 48% of normal by this date.
- **Oroville: 0.84"** in the last week. 15.88" since July 1, 61% of normal this date.
- **Pollock Pines: 0.36"** in the last week. 19.28" since July 1, 46% of normal by this date.
- **Redding: 0.16"** in the last week. 16.80" since July 1, 61% of normal by this date.
- **Sacramento: 0.17"** in the last week. 7.05" since July 1, 41% of normal by this date.
- **Shasta: 0.16"** in the last week. 26.60" since July 1, 52% of normal by this date.
- **Willits: 0.24"** in the last week. 26.66" since July 1, 64% of normal by this date.

Near-term Outlook for Precipitation: Dry conditions are expected statewide through mid-week, with record high temperatures in some place. A weak pressure front will move in by the middle of the week with cooling temperatures, but little to no precipitation is expected.

****Despite above average rain and snow in February, much of California has received only about 50% of normal precipitation for this rainy season. Heavy rain and snow would have to fall throughout California very frequently from now until May to reach average annual rain and snowfall levels. Even with such precipitation, California would remain in drought conditions, due to low water supplies in reservoirs from the two previous dry years.****

Snow survey: The most recent snowpack survey, conducted on February 27, recorded California snowpack at 24% of normal. A more recent update using automated devices shows snowpack at 28% of normal as of March 16.

Reservoir Levels (% capacity): Reservoir Levels as of March 15 are very low, including: Don Pedro 53%; Exchequer 22%; Folsom Lake 41%; Lake Oroville 45%; Millerton Lake 33%; New Melones 44%; Pine Flat 21%; San Luis 39%; Shasta 45%; and Trinity Lake 52%. An update of water levels at other smaller reservoirs is also available.

Vulnerable Water Systems: The California Department of Public Health is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. Updated information can be found at the CDPH Drinking Water Program website.

Fire Danger: 730 fires have been reported across the state since January 1, burning 1,615 acres. CALFIRE reports that this current fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 252 fires, burning 817 acres. 65 new fires were reported over the past week.

KEY ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST WEEK

Federal Government

- **Interior Secretary visits Federal Water Project:** U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell travelled to California last week and visited the Jones Pumping Station in Tracy, one of the key components of the Federal Water Project. Secretary Jewell held an in-depth meeting with water contractors who are supplied by federal water reservoirs and toured the Jones Pumping Station. She reiterated the federal government's commitment to supporting California's drought response during her visit.
- **Drought assistance workshop in Northern CA:** The U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Department of Food and Agriculture will hold their 6th local informational session in Cloverdale on March 17. This session will provide information on drought resources for farmers, ranchers and farmworkers.

State Government

- **Real-time water management leads to post-storm water supply:** State and federal water management agencies continue to work together to allow exports of additional water from the Delta based on storms in the last six weeks. Recent precipitation has provided a window of opportunity to capture additional water for storage both north and south of the Delta, so state and federal water projects have increased pumping for a limited time to capture as much water as possible under current regulatory standards.
- **State streamlines approvals for domestic water tanks:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State Water Board announced that they will expedite approval of storage tanks built by rural residents for domestic water use. These storage tanks help protect drinking water supplies and increase fire safety by giving rural residents a water supply that they can manage on their own property.
- **Plan released to help fish survival and commercial fishing:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service last week released a contingency plan for the release of small fish raised in federal and state hatcheries. Due to the drought, new measures will be taken to release the hatchlings in portions of the Delta that allow for their migration to the ocean while enabling their eventual return to lay eggs and continue their life cycle.
- **State launches online center for drought information:** The Governor's Office and state agencies have launched drought.ca.gov, which will provide a central, one-stop location for drought information. Agencies will continue their own drought webpages, and drought.ca.gov will include a listing of these webpages.
- **Local government toolkit now available:** The Governor's Office of Planning and Research has posted online its drought toolkit for local governments, which outline actions that communities can take to respond to the drought. Debbie Davis, Local Drought Liaison, is leading this effort (drought.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov, 1-916-327-0068).
- **Tribal consultation:** This week on March 21, the Governor's Tribal Advisor will hold a Statewide Consultation Call with Tribal leaders to continue discussions on drought response with Drought Task Force officials.
- **Government Facilities Training:** The Department of General Services held a water conservation training last week for facility managers from state and local governments, as well as school districts across the state, to provide information and support to their water use reduction efforts. Over 300 managers from across the state participated.

- **Cost Data:** Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments, which is reported weekly to the Drought Taskforce.
- **Governor's Drought Task Force:** The Taskforce continues to meet daily to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought.

Local Government

- **Local Emergency Proclamations:** A total of 33 local Emergency Proclamations have been received to date from city, county, and tribal governments, as well as special districts:
 - **Counties:** Glenn, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Santa Barbara, San Joaquin, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Sutter, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba
 - **Cities:** Brooktrails Township-Mendocino County, City of Willits-Mendocino County, City of St. Helena-Napa County, City of Calistoga-Napa County, City of American Canyon-Napa County
 - **Tribes:** Hoopa Valley Tribe in Humboldt County, Yurok Tribe in Del Norte County, Tule River Indian Tribe in Tulare County, Karuk Tribe in Siskiyou/Humboldt Counties
 - **Special Districts:** Lake Don Pedro Community Services District, Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Twain Harte Community Services District, Carpinteria Valley Water District, Sonoma County Water Agency, Meiners Oaks Water District, Mariposa Public Utility District
- **Water Agency Conservation Efforts:** The Association of California Water Agencies has identified several hundred local water agencies that have implemented water conservation actions. These water agencies are responding to the drought by implementing conservation programs, which include voluntary calls for reduced water usage and mandatory restrictions where water shortages are worst.
- **County Drought Taskforces:** A total of 26 counties have established drought task forces to coordinate local drought response. These counties include: Amador, Butte, Fresno, Kern, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, and Tuolumne.

DROUGHT RELATED WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

Drought.CA.Gov: California's Drought Information Clearinghouse

Governor's Proclamation of Drought Emergency
 State's Water Conservation Campaign, Save our Water
 California Department of Food and Agriculture, Drought information
 California Department of Water Resources Current Water Conditions
 California Data Exchange Center, Snow Pack/Water Levels
 California State Water Resources Control Board, Water Rights, Drought Info and Actions
 California Natural Resources Agency, Drought Info and Actions
 California Department of Public Health, Drinking Water CDPH Drinking Water Program
 California State Water Project, Information
 USDA Drought Designations by County CA County Designations
 USDA Disaster and Drought Assistance Information USDA Programs
 Small Business Administration Disaster Support: www.sba.gov/disaster

March 18, 2014
Regular Meeting
Public Comment
Rick Phelps,
High Sierra Energy
Foundation

Info. on Direct Install
Program



**HIGH SIERRA ENERGY
FOUNDATION**

Dear Eastern Sierra Business Owner,

The High Sierra Energy Foundation is the implementer of the Eastern Sierra Energy Initiative – a Local Government Partnership with Southern California Edison.

This spring SCE contractors will be in the Eastern Sierra to implement the Direct Install program for small businesses, as described in the attached brochure from SCE:

*“With your approval, the contractor will install **FREE** energy efficient replacement equipment in qualifying businesses (up to \$10,000.) By replacing the less efficient equipment with new, energy efficient technology, your business will reduce its energy use, carbon footprint and electric bill – all at no cost to you.”*

Please call or email us with your interest in participating or with questions. Thank you.

Rick Phelps & Pamela Stayden (760) 934-4650
phelps@highsierraenergy.org
stayden@highsierraenergy.org

Direct Install Program



Get FREE energy-efficient products and installation from SCE



Save energy and money.

Let SCE help your business save money.

Today's economy is especially challenging for small businesses. Many are aggressively seeking ways to cut expenses and better manage operating costs. Southern California Edison (SCE) understands how energy costs can impact your bottom line...that's why we offer the Direct Install program.

The Direct Install program is an excellent way for your business to reduce energy costs and save money. The effortless program provides qualifying businesses with **FREE** energy-efficient products, **FREE** installation and long-term energy savings.

How Direct Install Works

SCE has contracted with highly-skilled energy efficiency experts who will come and evaluate your facility, free of charge, to identify energy-saving opportunities.

With your approval, the contractor will install **FREE** energy-efficient replacement equipment. By replacing the less-efficient equipment with new, energy-efficient technology, your business will reduce its energy use, carbon footprint and electric bill — **all at no cost to you.**

Our approved contractor will take 5–10 minutes to complete the energy assessment and make recommendations to improve the energy efficiency of your business. If you agree with the recommendations, the contractor will ask you to sign an Authorization Form and schedule an appointment for a convenient time to install the equipment. Installation of recommended energy-efficient equipment will take less than two hours and your business can remain open.

It's really that easy. There's no catch. Simply allow SCE to help your business use energy more efficiently, conserve precious resources and improve your bottom line.

Direct Install Program

Save energy and money. Get FREE energy-efficient products and installation from SCE.

What You'll Receive

You get long-term energy savings with no underlying costs!

- **FREE** energy evaluation and savings analysis
- **FREE** energy-efficient products that include:
 - **LED Lights** — Today's LED lights have great energy savings potential in many applications and have improved product life compared to incandescent and fluorescent lamps.
 - **Fluorescent Lighting** — Save up to 42% on lighting costs every month and help lower your cooling costs!
 - **Hi-Bay Lighting** — Save 50% or more on Hi-Bay lighting electricity costs with equivalent linear fluorescent lights.
 - **Refrigeration** — Door closers and strip curtains to improve the energy-efficient operation of your refrigeration equipment.
 - **Window Film** — Applying heat-rejecting window film is a low-cost way to help reduce both solar heat gain in the summer and heat loss in the winter.
 - **Occupancy Sensors** — Sensor lighting controls that turn off lighting when a space is unoccupied can reduce energy use by up to 50%.
 - **Vending Misers** — Energy efficiency product for vending machines that saves money by managing power consumption.
- **FREE** product installation

What Is Needed

You do not need to purchase anything to participate. Simply be willing to have your less-efficient equipment replaced with more energy-efficient products — **free of charge**.

To learn more about Direct Install or other SCE solutions to help your business manage energy costs and improve your bottom line, please visit www.sce.com/directinstall or call (800) 736-4777.

The SCE-approved contractors for the Direct Install program are:



The Direct Install program is funded by California utility ratepayers and is administered by Southern California Edison under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. The Direct Install program is available to qualified businesses using less than 200 kilowatts (kW) monthly. Corporately-owned national franchises are not eligible. Installed equipment is warranted by the manufacturer for one year and the contractor warranties their work for one year. Projects are limited to a maximum of \$10,000 per Service Account for accounts with demands of 0-99 kW, and \$15,000 per Service Account for accounts with demands of 100-199 kW. Program effective until funds are exhausted. Program may be modified or terminated without prior notice.

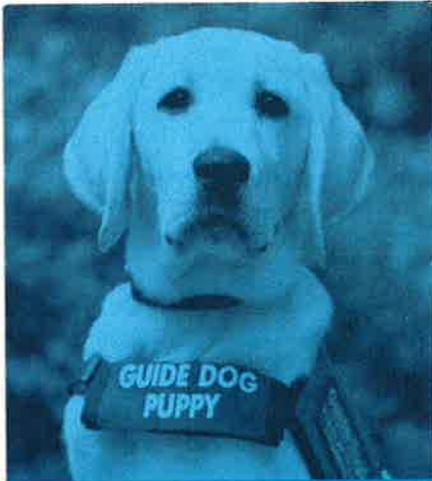
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FOR OVER 100 YEARS...LIFE. POWERED BY EDISON.

March 18, 2014
Regular Meeting
Public Comment
Leigh Gaasch

Update and Info. on
Guide Dogs for the
Blind



RAISE A PUPPY, CHANGE A LIFE!

Guide Dogs for the Blind is the leading guide dog school serving the U.S. and Canada. Our mission can only be accomplished with the help of our valued volunteers who usher our puppies down the path to becoming a guide dog. We provide a community of support to allow you to give back while being paid in unconditional love. It is a job that is both warm and fuzzy! Become a volunteer puppy raiser today.



Guide Dogs for the Blind

Learn more at
www.guidedogs.com/puppy
ipuppy@guidedogs.com
(800) 295-4050





Date: 3-18-2014
Contact:
Guide Dog Puppy Raiser: Leigh Coasch
Phone: 760-934-7639
E-mail: gd10jm@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOG GRADUATES AS GUIDE DOG

Local resident Leigh Coasch contributed time and love in raising a puppy for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and was proud to see the dog graduate as a guide in a formal ceremony at the Guide Dog campus in (San Rafael, Calif., or Boring, Ore.), on Saturday, March 8, 2014.

Shown in the attached photo is puppy raiser Leigh Coasch who presented Guide Dog "Falana", a yellow lab breed, to graduating student: Wendy.

Puppy raiser Leigh Coasch is a member of the local Guide Dog Puppy Raising Club 1 led by Betsy Thomson. The club has 19 members who volunteer in a variety of jobs.

↳ Eastern Sierra Guide Puppies

Guide Dogs for the Blind uses yellow and black Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers and Lab/Golden Crosses as guides. The puppies are born at the Guide Dog kennels and placed in the homes of volunteer puppy raisers when they are about two months old. The puppy raisers socialize the pups by house-breaking them, teaching them to be good canine citizens and introducing them to new experiences.

The pups are returned to Guide Dogs for formal guidework training when they are 14 to 18 months old. Following the completion of training, the dogs are matched with blind students enrolled at the school. The new person-dog team completes an intensive in-residence course culminating with a graduation ceremony at which the raiser formally presents the dog to the dog's new partner who is blind.

Guide Dogs for the Blind has been creating life-long partnerships in the community by providing skilled dogs and training in their use free of charge since 1942. They receive no government funding but depend entirely on private donations. If you know someone who could benefit from a Guide Dog, please let them know about this program. To get involved, contact Guide Dogs for the Blind at 800 295-4050; or visit www.guidedogs.com.



Guide Dogs for the Blind

Graduation Program

San Rafael, California

Saturday, March 8, 2014, 1:30pm

CLASS 782

**OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME.....Vanessa Lyens
Class Supervisor**



Guide Dogs for the Blind sincerely thanks Natural Balance Pet Foods® for sponsoring the nutritional needs of our adult program dogs. GDB is proud to partner with Natural Balance to provide our dogs The Food for a Lifetime™ and together, Guide Dogs for the Blind and Natural Balance wish a lifetime of success for our graduates and their new Guide Dog partners.

Guide Dogs for the Blind gratefully acknowledges the following generous contributor who has sponsored the Guide Dog team graduating today:

Guide Dog Lifelong Team Promoter:

Cristina Wheeler and Gilbert - sponsored by Beverly Morrison of Alexandria, Virginia

Guide Dog Team Sponsor:

Richard (Rick) Olson and Pretzel - sponsored by the Dr. Scholl Foundation of Northbrook, Illinois

A special message honoring the raisers of career change dogs:
Guide Dogs for the Blind would like to honor our raisers who devoted time, love and attention to the wonderful dogs that did not become guide dogs for one reason or another. We appreciate the contribution of these career change dogs to the success of our mission.

PRESENTATION OF BREEDING STOCK.....Jessica Drew

Cynthia Money, custodian of *Mitzvah* a male Yellow Labrador Retriever,
raised by:

Tamara and Caroline Rogers of Monument, Colorado

Steve Weissberg, custodian of *Siefkin* a male Golden Retriever, raised by:

Sandi Alsworth of Mesa, Arizona

Class Supervisor: Vanessa Lyens

**Class Instructional Team: Jessica Drew, Lucy Waite,
Stephanie Walsh and Danielle Alvarado**

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATING CLASS 782.....Jessica Drew

CLOSING.....Vanessa Lyens

Thank you for attending graduation!

To find out how you can contribute to our mission,
please contact us at: Guide Dogs for the Blind
(800) 295-4050 www.guidedogs.com

Class 782

Ms. Carrie Borofka and Latte

of Salinas, California received Latte, a female Black Labrador Retriever
raised by:

April and Monica Powell of Shafter, California

Mr. James Bryant and Yogi

of Rochester, Illinois received Yogi, a male Black Labrador Retriever
raised by:

**Stephanie and Ryan Turner of Santa Rosa, California
Cathi Hall of San Jose, California**

Class 782 (continued)

Mr. Carlos Franco and Miguel

of Castroville, California received Miguel, a male Black Labrador Retriever raised by:

Ellen Kirk of Long Beach, California

Mr. Nadir Mehta and Yamaha

of Edmund, Oklahoma received Yamaha, a male Black Labrador Retriever raised by:

MaKyla Donato of Bangor, California

Ms. Wendy Munderville and Falana

of Lagrange, Georgia received Falana, a female Yellow Labrador Retriever raised by:

Leigh Gaasch of Mammoth Lakes, California

Mr. Richard Olson and Pretzel

of South Holland, Illinois received Pretzel, a female Yellow Labrador Retriever raised by:

Cindy and Al Sevilla of Lafayette, California
Bruce and Brigitte McKenzie of Berkeley, California

Ms. Shaiipaula Thomas and Guinevere

of Houston, Texas received Guinevere, a female Golden Retriever raised by:

Lana Haynes of Grants Pass, Oregon
Jim and Denise Olson of Grants Pass, Oregon
Bonnie Anderson of Albany, Oregon
Penny Steele of Lebanon, Oregon
breeder custodian, Kathleen Duich of Mill Valley, California

Ms. Cristina Wheeler and Gilbert

of Washington, District of Columbia received Gilbert, a male Black Labrador Retriever raised by:

Melissa Plummer of Loomis, California
David and Susan Perrone of Auburn, California



Guide Dogs for the Blind

“Taxes Got You Down?”

Every April 15th, we look back at the previous year, and wonder how we could have reduced our tax payments. **Now** is a great time to plan to reduce your tax obligation AND benefit Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The obvious solution to reducing your tax burden is to secure a charitable tax deduction through a gift to Guide Dogs for the Blind. GDB is a not-for-profit organization and your donation, of any amount to Guide Dogs will qualify you for a charitable tax deduction.

Another solution is to donate an appreciated asset such as stock, bonds, mutual fund shares, real estate or a life insurance policy to Guide Dogs. When you donate an appreciated asset you are eligible for a DOUBLE TAX BENEFIT. If you've owned the asset for at least 12 months you can deduct it from your taxable income at its current value. AND you can also avoid having to pay a capital gains tax on the increased (appreciated) value that would have been due if you sold the asset yourself.

Finally, you can donate your appreciated asset as a gift to Guide Dogs for the Blind to be used right now, or you can use it to fund a Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Trust, which will not only entitle you to an immediate tax deduction, but also provide you with a income payments for life, AND result in a deferred gift to Guide Dogs.

Please consult your tax advisor if you're considering a gift of an appreciated asset. For confidential, professional advice on lessening your tax payments through charitable giving, contact the friendly staff at Guide Dogs for the Blind.

This year take a few moments do smart tax planning, and at the same time support the mission and services of Guide Dogs for the Blind!

For more information, please call the Planned Giving Department at 415-499-4073