



Butte County Drought Task Force

April 25, 2011
1:30 – 3:30 PM

Department of Water and Resource Conservation Conference Room
308 Nelson Avenue
Oroville, CA

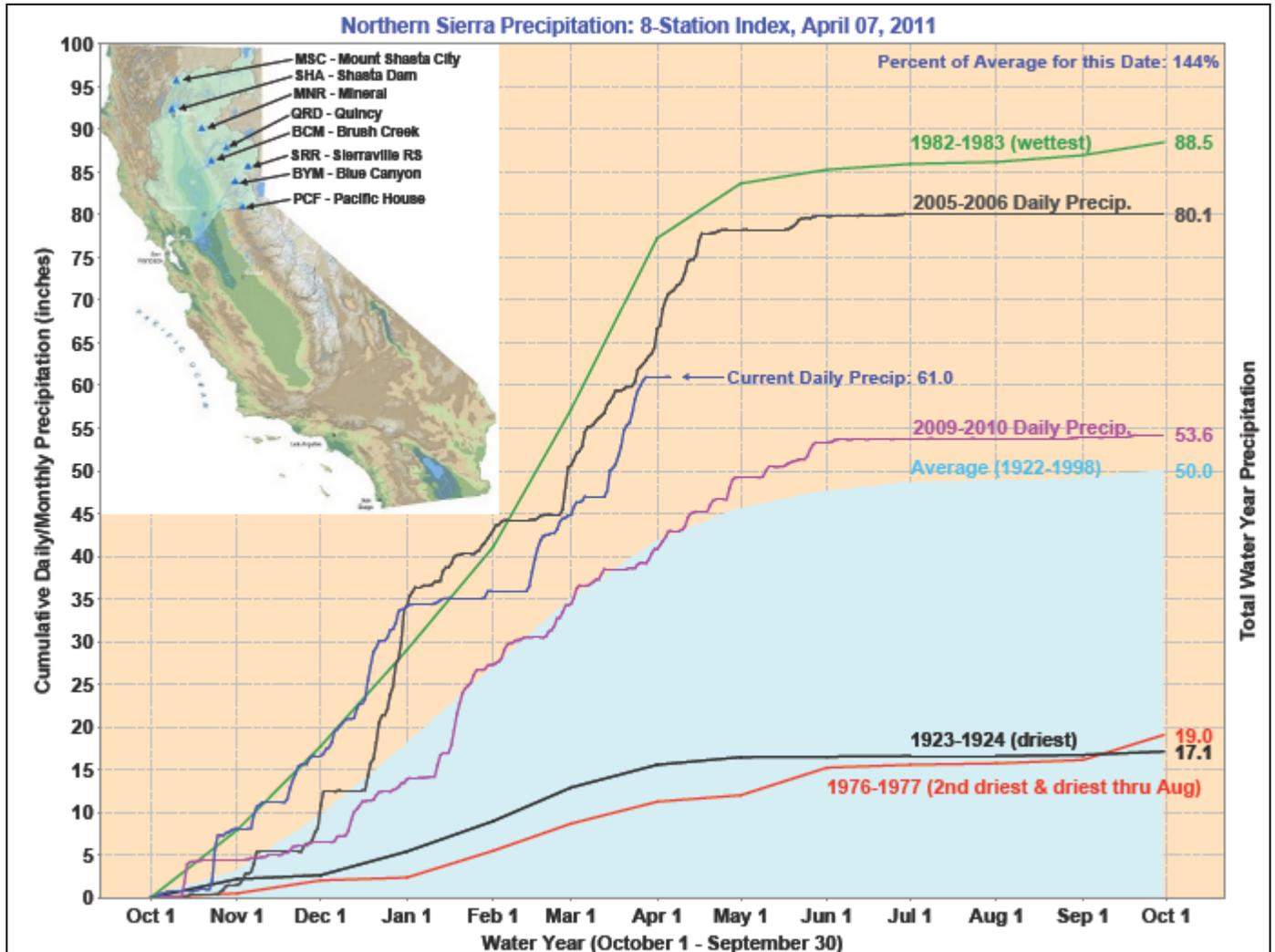
Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Introductions/Meeting Goals – Paul Gosselin
3. *Update on Hydrologic Conditions – Kristen McKillop
 - a. Drought forecasts and climate conditions
 - b. Drought Projections:
 - i. Snow-pack/precipitation
 - ii. Stream flow
 - iii. Reservoir levels
 - iv. Groundwater levels
4. *Governor's Drought Declaration Rescinded
5. Consideration of Potential Next Steps
 - a. Continue biannual distribution of information
 - b. Meet annually
 - c. Review and evaluate the Drought Preparedness and Mitigation Plan
6. Public wishing to address the Drought Task Force on issues not listed on the agenda.
7. Next Meeting

* Materials attached

HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

On March 1, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 42.3 inches, which is about 121 percent of the seasonal average to date and 85 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During February, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 8.3 inches, which is about 104 percent of the monthly average. Last year on February 28, the seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 34.3 inches, or about 99 percent of average for the date.

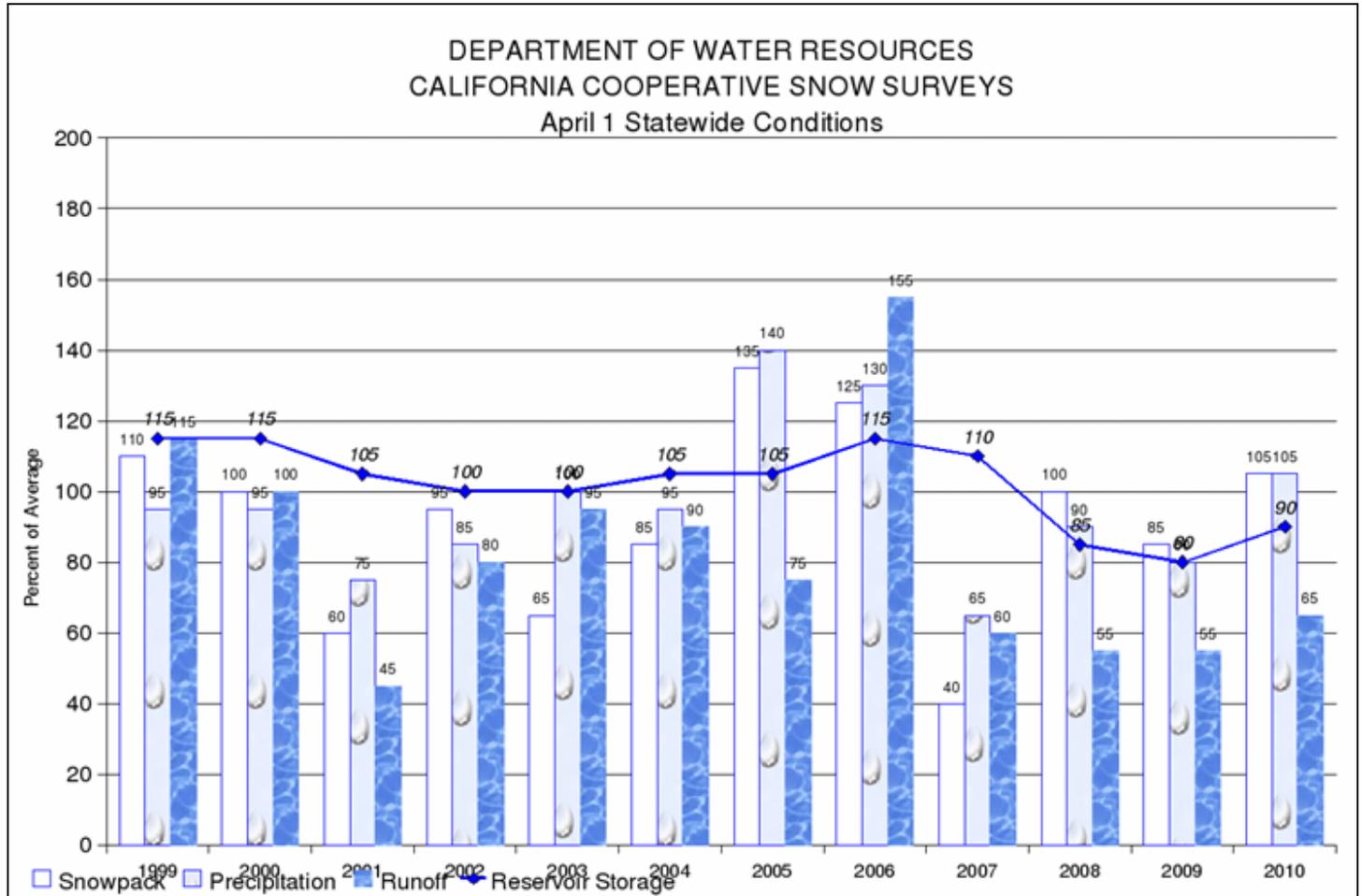


http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/current/PLOT_ESI.pdf

As of March 1, 2011, *statewide hydrologic conditions* were as follows:

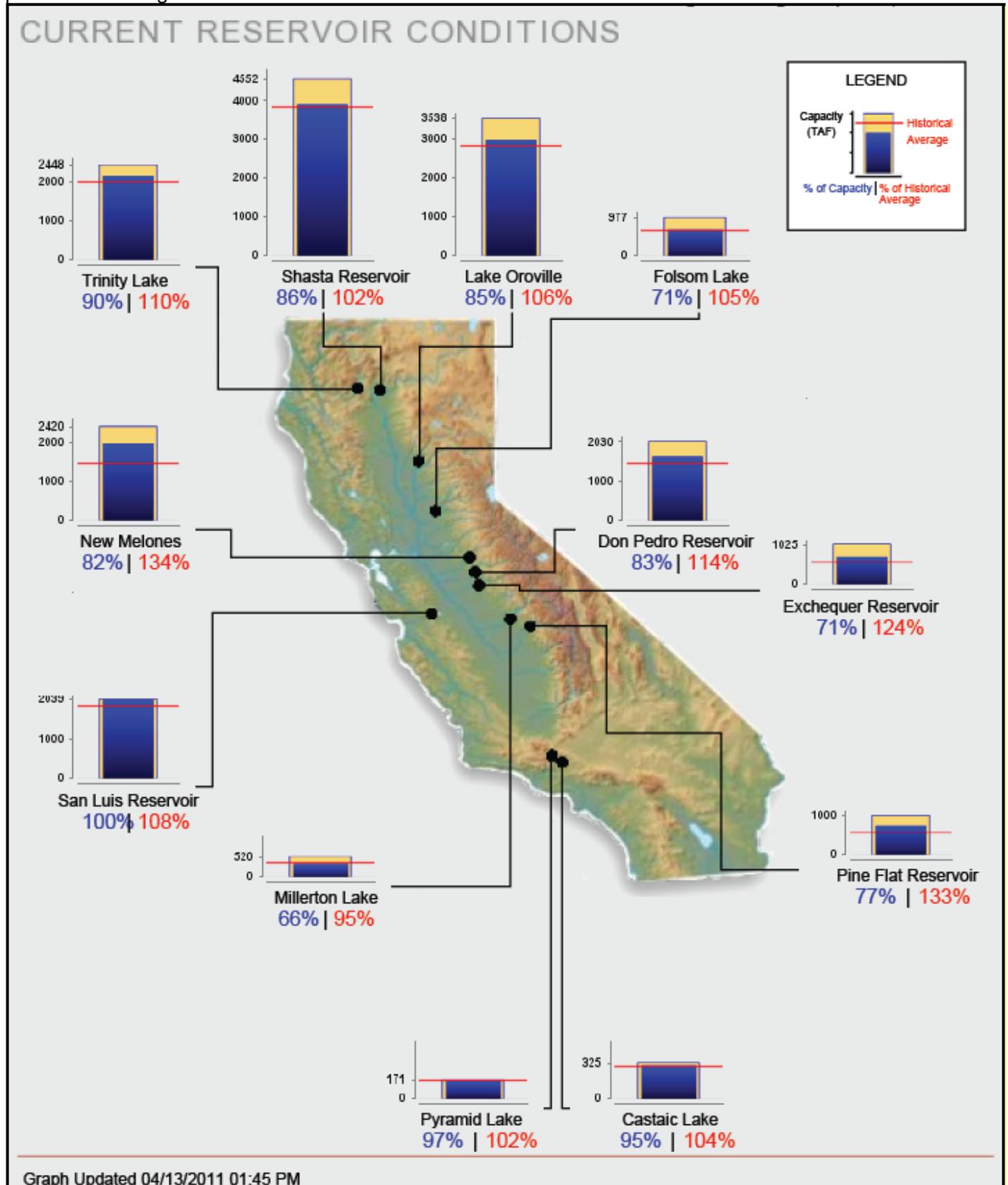
- Precipitation, 125 percent of average to date;
- Runoff, 100 percent of average to date;
- Snow water equivalent, 125 percent of average for the date (110 percent of the April 1 average);
- Reservoir storage, 110 percent of average to date.

PRECIPITATION BY HYDROLOGIC REGION



CURRENT RUNOFF DATA AND RESERVOIR STORAGE LEVELS

Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff observed through February 28, 2011 was about 7.7 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 92 percent of average. For comparison, on February 28, 2010, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through that date was about 5.6 MAF, or about 67 percent of average.



GROUNDWATER ELEVATIONS

DWR Northern District began groundwater elevation measurements in the Sacramento Valley the first full week of April. To date, an incomplete data sets indicates that the southwest and southeast portions of the county saw increased elevations, however not all measurements have been recorded for the mid and north portions of the county. Results will be posted for review by month's end at <http://www.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary/groundwater/hydrographs/index.cfm>.

CURRENT DROUGHT STATUS

GOVERNOR BROWN ENDS STATE'S DROUGHT STATUS, URGES CALIFORNIANS TO CONTINUE TO CONSERVE

3-30-2011

SACRAMENTO – Following significant increases in statewide rainfall and mountain snowpack this season, Governor Jerry Brown today proclaimed an end to the state's drought, but urged Californians to keep conserving water as we move into the spring and summer months.

"While this season's storms have lifted us out of the drought, it's critical that Californians continue to watch their water use," Brown said. "Drought or no drought, demand for water in California always outstrips supply. Continued conservation is key."

Today's announcement follows the fourth snow survey of the season, conducted by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), which found that water content in California's mountain snowpack is 165 percent of the April 1 full season average.

A majority of the state's major reservoirs are also above normal storage levels. Lake Oroville in Butte County, the State Water Project's principal reservoir, is 104 percent of average for the date (80 percent of its 3.5 million acre-foot capacity). Lake Shasta north of Redding, the federal Central Valley Project's largest reservoir with a capacity of 4.5 million acre-feet, is at 111 percent of average (91 percent of capacity).

DWR estimates it will be able to deliver 70 percent of requested State Water Project (SWP) water this year. The estimate likely will be adjusted upward as hydrologists make adjustments for snowpack and runoff readings.

Given the heavy water inflow from the series of storms that have swept across California, the state's flood managers are monitoring high river flows and making flood control releases from reservoirs to maintain storage space.

Governor Brown's Proclamation officially rescinds Executive Order S-06-08, issued on June 4, 2008 and ends the States of Emergency called on June 12, 2008, and on February 27, 2009.

For additional information on California's water supply, please visit the Department of Water Resources website at: www.water.ca.gov.

The Governor's proclamation, signed today, is copied below:

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS on June 4, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger issued Executive Order S-06-08, which proclaimed a statewide drought, and ordered executive branch entities to take immediate action to address the water shortage; and,

WHEREAS on June 12, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger proclaimed a State of Emergency for nine Central Valley counties because the drought had caused conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property; and,

WHEREAS on February 27, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger proclaimed a State of Emergency for the entire state as the severe drought conditions continued and the impacts were well beyond the Central Valley; and,

WHEREAS the Department of Water Resources today conducted the fourth snow survey of the season and found that water content in California's mountain snowpack is 165 percent of the season average; and,

WHEREAS a majority of California's major reservoirs are above normal storage levels; and,

WHEREAS Lake Oroville, the State Water Project's principal reservoir, is 104 percent of average, and Lake Shasta, the federal Central Valley Project's largest reservoir, is at 111 percent of average; and,

WHEREAS the Department of Water Resources estimates it will be able to deliver 70 percent of the requested State Water Project water this year, and this estimate is likely to be adjusted upward after additional snowpack and runoff readings; and,

WHEREAS I am advised by the appropriate agencies of the State of California that current conditions warrant the termination of Executive Order S-06-08 and ending the States of Emergency called on June 12, 2008, and on February 27, 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes of the State of California, do hereby PROCLAIM THE DROUGHT TO BE AT AN END.

I FURTHER DIRECT that state and public agencies cease all further activities in reliance on Executive Order S-06-08 and the States of Emergency called on June 12, 2008, and February 27, 2009, and that Executive Order S-06-08 and the drought State of Emergency proclamations are terminated.

IT IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED that all Californians continue to minimize water usage and engage in water conservation efforts.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 30th day of March 2011.

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor of California