





- [Home](#)
- [About ACWA](#)
- [Member Services](#)
- [News](#)
- [Advocacy](#)
- [Water Information](#)
- [ACWA Spotlight](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [My ACWA](#)

- [Water News](#)
- [News Releases](#)
- [ACWA eNews](#)
- [Washington Report](#)
- [Voices on Water](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)

[Share / Save](#)

News

- [▶ Water News](#)
- [▶ News Releases](#)
- [▶ ACWA eNews](#)
- [▶ Washington Report](#)
- [▶ Voices on Water](#)
- [▶ Photo Gallery](#)

Relevant Content

You might also be interested in these...

- [More Water Temporarily Available for Some CVP Contractors](#)
- [New Poll Shows Water Still a Concern for Californians](#)
- [Water Commission Workshop Speakers Stress Creativity in Water Storage Approach](#)
- [Sacramento Valley Water Users Lose Area-of-Origin Lawsuit](#)
- [Workshops to Examine Statewide Water Storage](#)
- [Folsom Dam Releases Increased to 11,000 CFS](#)
- [Bureau, Exchange Contractors Prepare Environmental Docs to Extend Water Transfer Program](#)
- [Roundtable Report Makes Recommendations for Ag Water Security](#)
- [Reclamation to Close Red Bluff Diversion Dam Gates](#)
- [Reclamation Increases Folsom Dam Releases](#)

ACWA eNews

Stay informed with our ACWA Enews!

Email: *

- Subscribe
- Unsubscribe

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Water News](#)

State's Snowpack Among Driest on Record for Date

Submitted by Sarah Langford on Tue, 01/03/2012 - 2:22pm in [Water Supply](#)

[Challenges](#) [Water News](#)

California's mountain snowpack is one of the driest on record for the date, according to a survey conducted today by the Department of Water Resources.



The state's snowpack water content is just 19% of the Jan. 3 statewide average. The [manual survey](#) was conducted off Highway 50 near Lake Tahoe.

Thanks to good reservoir storage from 2011 and several months of winter ahead, however, state officials remain cautiously optimistic about this year's water supply. Officials have estimated that the State Water Project will be able to deliver 60% of the slightly more than 4 million acre-feet of water requested by public water agencies. That number is likely to change as winter progresses.

Today's survey is the first of five that DWR and cooperating agencies will conduct around the first of the month from January to May. The manual surveys supplement and check the accuracy of real-time electronic readings from sensors up and down the state.

The 60% delivery estimate is largely based on the known quantify of carryover reservoir storage. Lake Oroville in Butte County, the SWP's principal storage reservoir with a capacity of 3.5 million acre-feet, is still 72% full thanks to last winter's heavy storms. That is 114% of average for the date. Lake Shasta north of Redding, the federal Central Valley Project's (CVP) largest reservoir with a capacity of 4.5 million acre-feet, is 68% full (106% of average).

California's snowpack provides approximately one-third of the water for the state's households, farms and industries.

See DWR's full [press release](#).

Latest Water News



Op-Ed: Voters Agree Major Infrastructure Investments Are Needed



Governor Brown Proposes 2012-'13 Budget



More Water Temporarily Available for Some CVP Contractors



Dry Winter Has Fire Officials on Alert

[MORE WATER NEWS >>](#)