



For Immediate Release

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MWDOC BOARD VOTES TO ACTIVATE DISTRICT'S WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

Fountain Valley, CA (November 3, 2021) – The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Board of Directors today adopted a resolution activating MWDOC's Water Shortage Contingency Plan at Level 2. The Board's action comes as a response to Governor Gavin Newsom's call for a voluntary 15% reduction in water use from 2020 levels.

California is in the second year of the driest two-year period in state history. The severe drought conditions prompted Newsom to proclaim a statewide State of Emergency calling on local and regional water agencies to achieve water conservation by implementing Water Shortage Contingency Plans (WSCP). MWDOC's adoption of its Level 2 WSCP comes as California's drought is coupled with 21 years of drought conditions on the Colorado River Basin, reducing available imported supplies from its two primary sources.

"The unprecedented drought conditions in California and the Colorado River Watershed require decisive action," said MWDOC president Satoru Tamaribuchi. "Activating the Level 2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan ensures coordination between MWDOC, the state, and our member agencies."

Under Level 2 activation, MWDOC will encourage its partners to reduce imported water demand voluntarily by 20%, provide resources to local stakeholders, elevate public awareness about the drought conditions and encourage water use efficiency efforts, and increase cooperation and coordination with all water providers in Orange County.

MWDOC provides water-saving resources to help conserve water in the near term and offers rebates to residents and businesses to use water more efficiently permanently. For more information on what is available, visit www.mwdoc.com/savewater.

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The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is a wholesale water provider and resource planning agency whose efforts focus on sound planning and appropriate investments in water supply development, water use efficiency, public information, legislative advocacy, water education, and emergency preparedness.

MWDOC's service area includes all of Orange County with the exception of Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Fullerton. MWDOC serves Orange County through 27 retail water agencies.