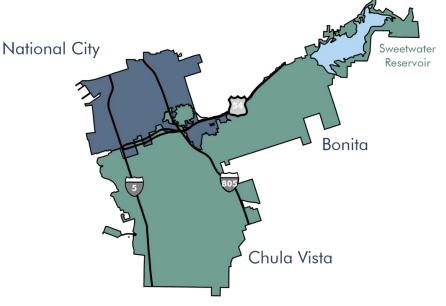


# Drought Preparedness: Water Reliability and Resilience in National City

Jennifer Sabine, Interim General Manager

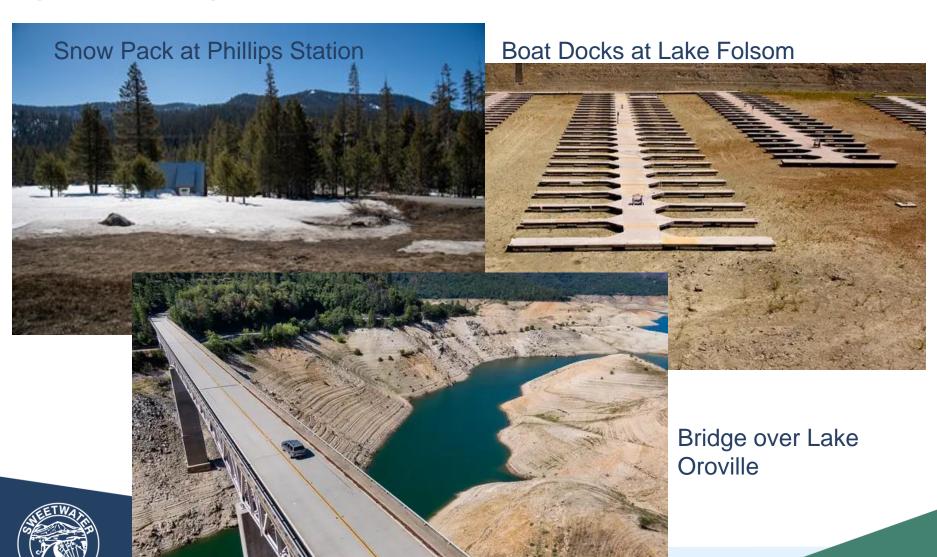
#### **About Us**

- Safe, reliable water since 1977
- 32 square mile service area
- Approx. 200,000 customers
- 2 dams, 2 reservoirs, 20 storage tanks and 17 pump stations
- Surface water treatment, groundwater desalination, freshwater wells and imported water

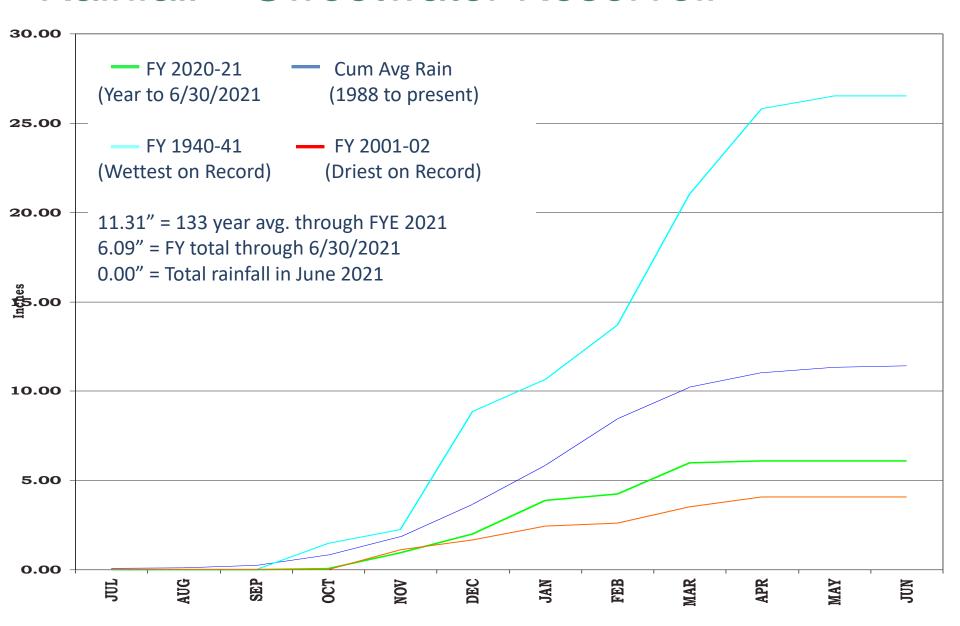




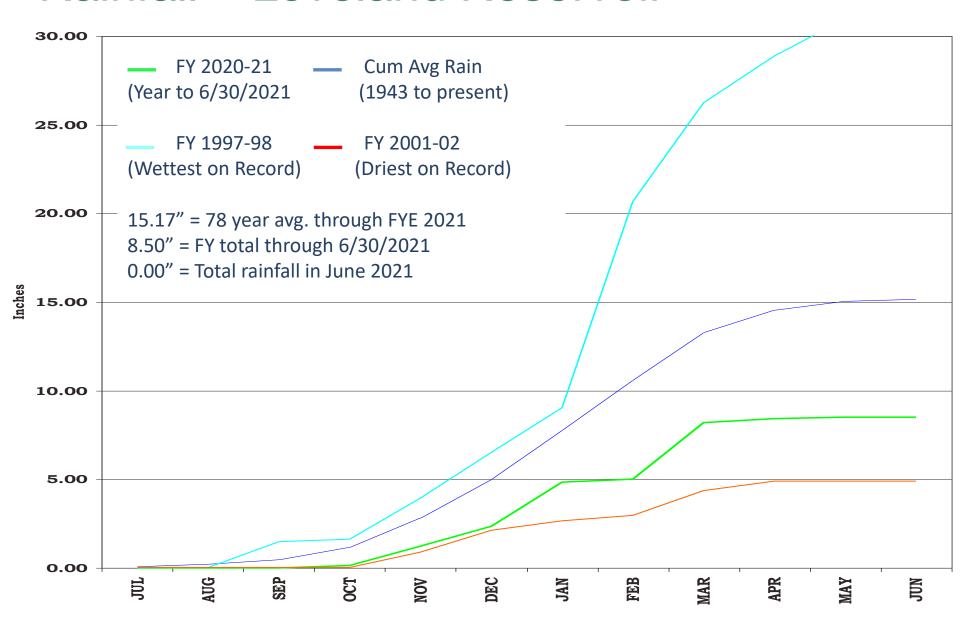
#### **Current Conditions**



#### Rainfall – Sweetwater Reservoir



#### Rainfall – Loveland Reservoir



## Are we in a drought?

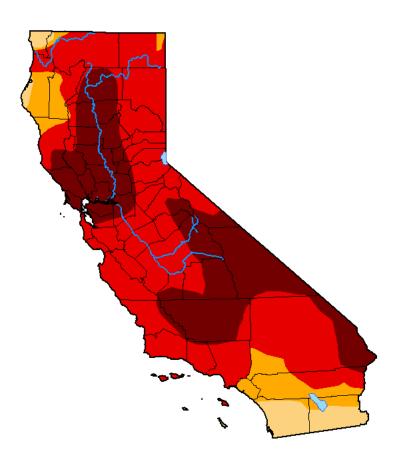




#### San Diego County is in a "moderate drought"

U.S. Drought Monitor

California



#### July 13, 2021

(Released Thursday, Jul. 15, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

		None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
	Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.75	85.73	33.32
	Last Week 07-06-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.73	85.44	33.32
	3 Month's Ago 04-13-2021	0.78	99.22	94.14	76.97	38.68	5.36
	Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
	Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00
	One Year Ago 07-14-2020	40.38	59.62	48.19	21.50	2.45	0.00

#### Intensity:

None D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.

Local conditions may vary. For more information on the

Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

#### Author:

Adam Hartman NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC









droughtmonitor.unl.edu



# Due to careful planning and investment, we are prepared for dry years and drought



Liam Thomas, Daly Academy, Sixth Grade (2018)



#### **Surface Water**

Sweetwater Authority recently transferred approx. 8,300 AF to Sweetwater Reservoir for more local supplies – keeping rates low!





## Groundwater Supplies

Reynolds Desalination Facility



National City Freshwater Wells



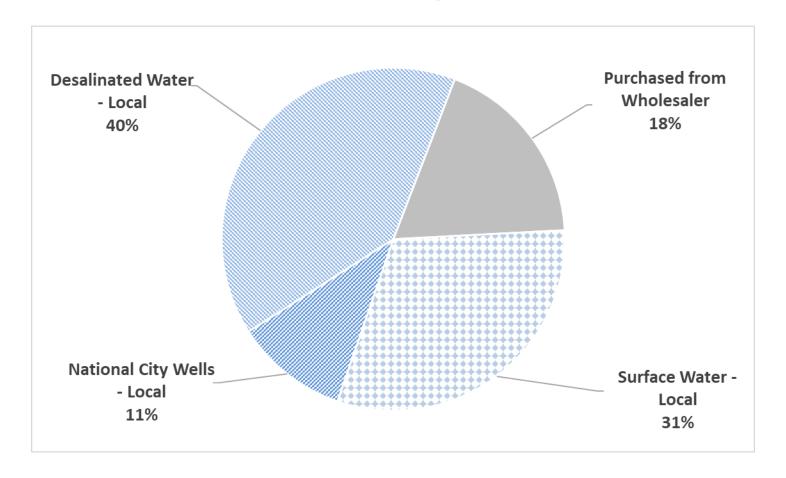


### Water Purchased from County Wholesaler





#### Water Portfolio for FY2021-22





#### Conservation – A California Way of Life

Sweetwater Authority customers are some of the lowest water users (per capita) in the region and in the State

Local Ranking – 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest out of 20 reporting agencies State Ranking - 41<sup>st</sup> lowest out of 374 reporting agencies

Since 2013, Sweetwater Authority customers have reduced water consumption by nearly 15%!



#### Drought Planning (Drought Response Plan)



Drought Level	Percent Reduction in water use	Voluntary/ Mandatory
Level 1 – Drought Watch	10	Voluntary
Level 2 – Drought Alert	20	Mandatory
Level 3 – Drought Alert	30	Mandatory
Level 4 – Drought Critical	40	Mandatory
Level 5 – Drought Emergency	50	Mandatory
Level 6 – Drought Emergency	>50	Mandatory



## Drought Response Plan – State Water Waste Prohibitions

At all times customers are prohibited from:

- Hosing off sidewalks/driveways/hardscape except for public health and safety
- Washing vehicles with hoses not equipped with a shut off nozzle
- Non-recirculating fountains or decorative features
- Watering lawns in a manner that causes runoff
- Watering lawns within 48 hours of precipitation



#### Drought Response Plan – Level 1

#### Customers are encouraged to:

- Use water reasonably and productively at all times
- Repair major water leaks immediately and minor leaks within 24 hours
- Use an automatic shut-off nozzle for watering landscape
- Use drip methods or hand watering for landscaped areas, when possible
- Limit sprinkler operations to the hours of 6:00 P.M. 9:00 A.M. the following morning; and to
- Irrigate no more than 3X/week



#### Resources to Assist – Rebates/Incentives

- Car Wash Rebates (Up to \$10)
- Fix a Leak Credit (Up to \$75)
- Smart Leak Detector (\$100)
- Residential Landscape Turf Replacement (\$3/sq. ft.)
- Irrigation Nozzles and Controllers (varies)
- Rain Barrels (\$35)
- High Efficiency Toilets (\$40) and Clothes Washers (\$85)
- Pressure reducing valves (\$75)
- And more!!

See the Rebates Section of the Authority's website



#### Resources to Assist – WaterSmart Check Up

A free(!) water use audit for homes and businesses. Checkups include:

- leak check at the customer's meter
- leak detection tablets for toilets, and
- review of landscape irrigation controller settings
- suggestions for more water efficient indoor appliances



# Other investments in National City

Flushing Program – All Distribution Lines recently flushed utilizing nodischarge technology

Iron and Manganese Removal Facility at National City Wells (\$4.6 million)







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