

March 2024

Water Tracker



A monthly assessment of trends in water supply and use for Santa Clara County, California

Outlook as of March 1, 2024

On February 21, 2024, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an increase in State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 10% to 15% of contract amount for 2024. On the same day, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced an initial 2024 south-of-delta Central Valley Project (CVP) allocation of 65% of historic Municipal and Industrial (M&I) use and a 15% agricultural allocation. On June 13, 2023, the Board adopted a resolution to support water conservation as a way of life and an ordinance with a set of permanent water waste prohibitions for Santa Clara County.

Weather

- Rainfall in San José:
 - » Month of February, City of San José = 3.82 inches
- Rainfall year total = 10.75 inches or 105% of average to date (rainfall year is July 1 to June 30)
- March 1 Northern Sierra snowpack was 97% of normal for this date

Local Reservoirs

- Total March 1 storage = 61,720 acre-feet

Reservoir Storage	All Ten Valley Water Reservoirs	All Reservoirs Except Anderson
Storage as % of unrestricted capacity	37%	70%
Storage as % of restricted capacity (1)	98%	90%
Storage as % of the 20-year average for March 1	68%	122%

(1) Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order, the capacity of Anderson Reservoir was restricted to the deadpool storage as of October 1, 2020

- No imported water was delivered into Calero Reservoir during February 2024
- Total estimated releases to streams (local and imported water) during February were 30,500 acre-feet (based on preliminary hydrologic data)

Treated Water

- Below average demands of 3,286 acre-feet were delivered in February
- This total is 65% of the five-year average for the month of February
- Year-to-date deliveries are 6,924 acre-feet or 66% of the five-year average

Groundwater

- Groundwater levels in most of the regional monitoring wells are higher than last month due to recent rainfall and seasonal recovery. Most water levels are higher relative to February 2023 and the prior five-year average for February. The end of 2024 groundwater storage is projected to be in Stage 1 (Normal) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas Subbasin
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	
February 2024 managed recharge estimate	5,500	1,200	1,100
YTD managed recharge estimate	11,600	2,100	2,400
YTD managed recharge as % of five-year average	129%	106%	88%
January 2024 pumping estimate	4,900	800	1,600
January 2024 pumping as % of five-year average	123%	113%	102%
Current index well groundwater levels compared to February 2023	3 Feet Higher	7 Feet Lower	7 Feet Higher

All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2024 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-date.

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Imported Water

- In February (through February 28th), the SWP operated Banks pumping plant with an average daily export of 5,122 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 143,405 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month
- In February (through February 28th), the CVP operated Jones pumping plant with an average daily export of 7,910 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 221,493 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month
- Multiple fish protection thresholds were triggered at the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta export facilities. The most limiting export restriction will remain in effect for both the SWP and CVP through March 31st

WY 2024 Imported Water Allocations	Allocation	Allocation (acre-feet)	Details
SWP	15%	15,000	Allocation increased on 2/21/24
CVP	15% Ag 65% M&I	Approximately 88,000	Initial Allocation
State-wide Reservoir Storage	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Average for Date (as of 2/29/24)
Shasta Reservoir	83%	3,760,723	115%
Oroville Reservoir	84%	2,962,120	133%
San Luis Reservoir	68%	1,394,673	85%
Semitropic Groundwater Bank	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Date of Data
	82%	286,084	1/31/24
Estimated SFPUC Deliveries	January 2024 (acre-feet)	2024 Total to Date (acre-feet)	Five-Year Annual Average (acre-feet)
	2,829	2,829	47,000

Conserved Water

- Saved 80,078 acre-feet in FY22 through Valley Water's long-term conservation program (baseline year is 1992)
- Long-term program goal is to save nearly 100,000 acre-feet by 2030 and 110,000 acre-feet by 2040
- On June 13, 2023, the Board adopted a resolution to support water conservation as a way of life in Santa Clara County and an ordinance with a set of permanent water waste prohibitions

Recycled Water

- Estimated February 2024 production = 822 acre-feet
- Estimated year-to-date through February = 1,513 acre-feet or 98% of the five-year average
- Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center produced an estimated 1.5 billion gallons (4,493 acre-feet) of purified water in 2023. Since the beginning of 2024, about 540 acre-feet of purified water has been produced. The purified water is blended with existing tertiary recycled water for South Bay Water Recycling Program customers

CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, email info@valleywater.org or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <https://deliver.com/2yukx>.



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