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CONTACT:

Erin Curtis (714) 349-3434

ECurtis@fionahuttonassoc.com

State Water Contractors Respond to Updated Allocation of State Water Project Supplies for 2024

Allocation doubles from February's 15% to 30%

Sacramento, CA — Today, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced that public water agencies are now expected to receive 30% of contracted water supplies from the State Water Project (SWP) this year — an increase from a 15% allocation in February. This increased allocation reflects snow survey measurements and data up to March 1, and spring runoff forecasts released on March 8.

Statement from Jennifer Pierre, General Manager of the State Water Contractors:

"We are pleased to see an increase in the allocation of SWP supplies for public water agencies and combined additional storage of 780,000 acre-feet at Lake Oroville and San Luis Reservoir. While 30% is certainly better than 15%, SWP agencies continue to pay for 100% of the system's operation and maintenance regardless of how much water they receive.

However, had the Delta Conveyance Project — a critical upgrade to California's water infrastructure relied on by 27 million people, 750,000 acres of farmland and countless businesses — been in place this winter, we could have moved an additional 730,000 acre-feet of water from January 1 to March 14 while keeping endangered species like steelhead safe.

California's climate is rapidly changing, and we must modernize our infrastructure so we can respond quickly to take advantage of unpredictable, flashy storm events and store as much water as possible for the next inevitable dry period. With rain and snow in this weekend's forecast, we hope to see an increase in the April allocation update."

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