

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**MAY 22, 2007 - Board Meeting**

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INFORMATION CALENDAR**WATER SUPPLY UPDATE****SUMMARY:**

Statewide, the 2006-07 water year (October 1 through September 30) has been disappointing due to lower than average precipitation. Statewide precipitation levels are at 65% of normal, while the South Coast Hydrologic region is at 30%. The Colorado River Hydrologic region is the lowest in the state at 15% of normal. The National Drought Mitigation Center places almost the entire state in at least a moderately dry condition and Southern California is considered extremely dry. All of the major river systems in the state are about 55% of normal runoff through the end of April. That means most water supply agencies in the State will be using storage water to meet their demands this year. The one bright spot is that current surface reservoir storage is at 105% of normal.

Colorado River & Colorado River Aqueduct

The inflow of the Colorado River to Lake Powell is expected to be 4 million acre-feet (AF) which is about 50% of normal. Water supplies to the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) through the Colorado River Aqueduct are expected to be 691,000 acre-feet (AF) this year. That includes 550,000 AF of basic apportionment from the U.S Bureau of Reclamation, 72,000 AF from the Imperial Irrigation District and the San Diego County Water Authority Transfer program, and 62,000 AF from the Palo Verde Irrigation District Land Fallow program.

State Water Project

MWD's estimate of State Water Project (SWP) supplies is 1.47 million AF. This includes the base allocation from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) of 1.15 million AF plus additional supplies such as carryover storage from 2006 and other sources through agreements and transfers.

MWD Service Area Demands and Actions

Total MWD supplies from the two aqueducts will be 2.16 million AF. MWD staff has determined a range for demand from a low of 2.19 million AF to a high of 2.76 million AF. Current trends show the region will use about 2.46 million AF, which is just about average for the year. In order to meet the high demand scenario, MWD will have pull water from their resources portfolio by initiating actions through the Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) Plan. Since the range between high and low scenarios is about 600,000 AF, MWD has already initiated the first action which is to interrupt the replenishment program as of May 1. This should produce 225,000 AF. If needed, MWD will begin withdrawals from the Central Valley banking program of about 115,000 AF, withdrawals from in-basin groundwater program of about 30,000

AF, and withdrawals from surface storage of about 230,000 AF. Those sources will allow MWD to meet all potential demands from the member agencies this year.

Effects on Central Basin Service Area

Clearly, dry conditions in the region puts greater demand on both groundwater and imported water sources. For the Central Basin, about two-thirds of the water served to customers is groundwater (approximately 130,000 AFY). The remaining one-third is imported water that is purchased from MWD by Central Basin as a supplementary supply (approximately 61,000 AFY). Over the last five years, imported water purchases have ranged between a low of 57,300 AF and a high of 65,400 AF. Additional water demands are met through Central Basin's Recycled Water Program (about 5,000 AFY).

Because of MWD's investment in a diversified portfolio of water supply sources and banking programs, it is highly unlikely that the Central Basin service will suffer any cutback in imported supplies. Indeed, MWD's stated policy is that they will meet all imported water demands from the member agencies, 100% of the time through 2025. Since Central Basin has an annual Tier I limit of 72,360 AFY, it is very unlikely that the Central Basin will even go into Tier II purchases.

In conclusion, because of drier conditions, the Central Basin service area will very likely see increases in water demand, but there should be no need for mandatory reductions at this time.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

None.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was not reviewed by Water Resources Committee on May 7, 2007 due to information not being available at the time of distribution.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.