

# City of Calistoga

## Staff Report

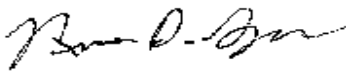
**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Michael Kirn, Director of Public Works/City Engineer  
**DATE:** January 7, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** Verbal Report on Anticipated Critical Dry Water Year for 2014.

---



---

**APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING:**




---

Richard D. Spitler, City Manager

---



---

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**ISSUE:**  
 Verbal Report on Anticipated Critical Dry Water Year for 2014.

**RECOMMENDATION:**  
 Accept the verbal report from staff outlining possible next steps in anticipation of 2014 being a critical dry year.

**DISCUSSION:**  
 On September 13, 2013 the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the Mayor to issue a proclamation urging citizens to commence voluntary water conservation measures. The goal of the Stage I voluntary conservation effort was to reduce water usage by 10% over 2012 usage. Staff will be presenting a verbal summary of the effectiveness of the voluntary conservation.

Due to an unusually dry November and December Governor Brown issued a memorandum to Department of Water Resources staff (see attached) appointing Bill Croyle as the Department Drought Manager with an initial task of forming a Drought Management Team. One of the key components to responding to the anticipated dry conditions will be voluntary water transfers between various water contractors and agencies.

Over the next several weeks and months City staff will be meeting with Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District representatives and other NBA agencies on “next steps” of preparedness. These steps could include identifying available NBA carry-over water and delivery strategies and consideration of moving to Stage II water conservation measures as proscribed by the Municipal Code.

29 As City staff obtains more information additional updates will be presented to the City  
30 Council.

# Memorandum

Date: December 13, 2013

To: All DWR Employees

From: **Department of Water Resources**

Subject: DWR Mobilization for Management and Response to Potential 2014 Drought

With the potential for a third consecutive dry year in 2014 and low reservoir levels throughout the State, DWR must immediately mobilize to plan for and lead the State's response to potential drought and critical water shortages. Our actions are essential to offset potentially devastating impacts to citizen health, well-being and our economy.

The task requires experienced leadership and Department-wide cooperation. Effective immediately, I appoint Bill Croyle as the Department Drought Manager and Jeanine Jones as the Deputy Drought Manager. Bill brings 30 years of experience to the role, including 7 years as the DWR Flood Operations Chief and 23 years with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Jeanine Jones, the Department's Interstate Resources Manager, also has served as our Drought Preparedness Manager. A 30-year DWR veteran, Jeanine has participated in interstate water negotiations, directed DWR's statewide planning program, and worked on climate change adaptation programs. Together, Bill and Jeanine will be responsible for coordinating and collaborating with various DWR programs, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the State Water Resources Control Board.

In accordance with the 2010 Drought Contingency Plan, Bill will employ the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)<sup>i</sup> protocols to mobilize DWR resources to work with federal, State, and local agencies to prepare and respond to water shortages and emergencies. The SEMS organization structure will provide the necessary Department resources through matrix management.

Work will be organized based on the following major activities:

- Statewide Drought Management and Outreach – Plan, organize, lead, and control the overall work; update the Drought Contingency Plan; coordinate with State, federal, and local agencies; establish a clearinghouse for the collection of drought-related information and queries; and disseminate drought and water shortage-related information to the public and internal audiences on a regular basis.

- Drought Information and Technical Activities – Conduct technical work to characterize conditions and assess risks, including assessment of surface and groundwater conditions, identification of regions affected by drought, and assessment of the status of local water systems and inerties.
- Assessment of Drought Management Actions – Prepare plans and reports necessary to implement management actions, such as Situation Status Reports.
- Implementation of Management Actions – Conduct management actions related to water transfers, infrastructure improvements (e.g., wells, surface water conveyance), water trucking and Delta water quality improvement.

Bill will work with the Division and Office Chiefs to enlist the help of key personnel in the development of the Drought Management Team. While I expect resource needs to evolve, the following DWR groups/divisions will likely play a primary role in implementation: Executive, Public Affairs Office, Division of Flood Management Flood Operations Center, Division of Operations and Maintenance Operations Control Office, Division of Integrated Regional Water Management Region Offices, State Water Project Analyses Office, and Bay Delta Office. We expect critical support from other DWR divisions under SEMS.

Voluntary water transfers will be key to our drought response, as they hold the potential to alleviate critical shortages. We are making arrangements to bring additional resources with expertise in water transfers to advise Bill and the Drought Management Team to assure an efficient water transfers approval process.

Please give your full cooperation to Bill Croyle on his new assignment. I ask all Division and Office Chiefs to respect Bill's authority under the new Drought and Critical Water Shortage Emergency SEMS Organization and respond to his requests for resources and information in a timely manner.

/s/

Mark W. Cowin  
Director

---

<sup>i</sup> The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is the cornerstone of California's emergency response system and the fundamental structure for the response phase of emergency management. SEMS is required by the California Emergency Services Act (ESA) for managing multiagency and multijurisdictional responses to emergencies in California. The system unifies all elements of California's emergency management community into a single integrated system and standardizes key elements. SEMS incorporates the use of the Incident Command System (ICS), California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA), the Operational (OA) Area concept and multiagency or inter-agency coordination. State agencies are required to use SEMS and local government entities must use SEMS in order to be eligible for any reimbursement of response-related costs under the state's disaster assistance programs.