



## **MANDATORY CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS ARE OVER!**

The State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) adopted a ground-breaking statewide water conservation approach on May 18, 2016. These new regulations replaced the prior Order that was comprised of arbitrary percentage reduction-based standards. The previous standards did not recognize the significant investments made by San Diego County's ratepayers toward creating new, local, long-term, drought-resilient sources of potable water supply. The new regulations lower our mandatory conservation level to zero.

The SWRCB established very conservative rules for calculating water management levels that is a "stress test" on the ability for a region to supply water in the face of three more years of drought. The investments made in San Diego County passed this test with flying colors and we have adequate supply under even the driest conditions for the foreseeable future.

The fact that the SWRCB and Governor Jerry Brown are paying attention to our regional long-term conservation efforts is encouraging. The ability to set conservation goals based on regional supply and demand conditions is logical and appropriate. The new rules include continued common sense conservation measures including prohibiting irrigation runoff into streets, watering street medians, irrigating within 48 hours of rainfall, and washing cars without a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle.

Our profound thanks go out to all of our customers who labored over the last year to meet the standards set by the SWRCB and we look forward to returning to our favorable water supply shortage management practices.

More information on these proposed emergency regulations can be found at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/conservation\\_portal/emergency\\_regulation.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/emergency_regulation.shtml)

For conservation updates, tools and tips go to our website at <http://www.rainbowmwd.com/conservation>

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## **TSAWR ALLOCATIONS ENDED!**

On May 10, 2016 the Metropolitan Water District voted to end the water shortage allocation program that it established last year. Subsequently, on May 26, 2016 the San Diego County Water Authority Board rescinded the 15% mandatory conservation requirement for Transitional Special Agricultural Water Rate (TSAWR) customers effective immediately. TSAWR customers no longer have any mandatory restrictions on use (other than on waste) and there are no penalty rates in effect.

Thanks to all TSAWR customers who took sometimes painful steps to meet the cutbacks – your efforts made a difference. Only time will tell if and when another round of TSAWR allocations returns. The earliest time that could occur would be July 2017, but it is very unlikely at this time. Remember that when the next allocation period returns, the baseline use period will be measured from this point forward, so your future water use will be used to establish your allocations at that time.

## FEATURED SPOTLIGHT

### **Northside Covered Reservoir Rain-Pump Replacement Project**

The Northside Reservoir was built in 1962 and is one of 3 covered reservoirs in our system. At full capacity this reservoir holds 22.8 MG or 70 AF (one AF is equal to 325,851 gallons) of water supplies and is located off Rainbow Hills Road in Fallbrook. It was lined and covered roughly 5 years ago and maintenance consists of monthly inspections of the cover and yearly wash down. Rain water removal pumps are pulled and cleaned twice a year.

These System Operators pictured below are removing a Rain Water Removal Pump for replacement performing the repairs with approximately 15 feet of water underfoot. These pumps remove any standing water on the cover by pumping it to the top of cover to a drain system. This drain system goes around the reservoir and sends the water down a culvert away from the reservoir. All three of the District's covered reservoirs have similar systems.



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