



STATE WATER
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**RESULTS OF FIRST ANNUAL SNOW SURVEY UNDERSCORE NEED FOR FLEXIBLE
WATER SYSTEM**

*Surveyors Find Less Snow in the Sierras Compared to Last Year; Encouraged by
Winter Forecast*

Sacramento, CA – The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted its first snow survey of the new water year today and announced that water content in the state’s Sierra Nevada snowpack is 70 percent of average for this time of year. California experienced its wettest October in three decades, bringing hopes of respite from the five-year drought, but warm November and December storms left snowpack levels lower than originally anticipated. While the state’s water managers remain optimistic about the winter forecast, Californians will need to maximize all available supplies to work towards recovery this winter.

“The anticipation of more big storms to come underscores the need to modernize the Delta water system to allow us to reliably take more than just a little sip in wet moments,” said Terry Erlewine, general manager of the State Water Contractors. “As the majority of California is still experiencing severe drought, our 2017 water supply outlook will be determined by our ability to capture supplies when river flows are high.”

**Jennifer Pierre
General Manager
State Water Contractors**

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The State Water Contractors is a statewide, non-profit association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project. Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 27 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural land. For more information on the State Water Contractors, please visit www.swc.org.