



STATE WATER
CONTRACTORS
FOUNDED 1982

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 8, 2021

CONTACT:

Ian Anderson
(818) 268-6488

IAnderson@fionahuttonassoc.com

Governor Newsom Expands Drought Proclamation to Include Nine New Counties as Drought Conditions Persist Throughout the State

This Second Expansion of the Emergency Drought Proclamation Now Covers 50 out of California's 58 Counties and Calls for a 15% Voluntary Reduction in Water Use

Sacramento, CA – Today, Governor Newsom issued a second expansion of the original [April 21 drought emergency proclamation](#), building on the [May 10 expansion](#) to bring roughly 86% of California into a state of emergency due to the current drought. Today's expansion of the drought emergency proclamation reflects the fact that [85% of the state](#) is facing extreme drought conditions. The announcement comes on the heels of the historic \$3 billion appropriation for a drought relief package included in the state budget passed by the legislature on June 28.

The Governor is calling for a 15% voluntary reduction in water use, underscoring the urgent need for continued investments in California's State Water Project (SWP) – the infrastructure two thirds of the state relies on that allows for the movement of water into storage under wet conditions, to support families, farms, businesses and communities during extended droughts.

“Droughts present an existential threat to California's climate resiliency, food security, ecosystem health and our economy – all of which depend on the consistent and reliable movement of water through the SWP,” **said Jennifer Pierre, General Manager of the State Water Contractors.** “Conservation measures such as the call for a 15% voluntary reduction in water use are important tools for managing our state's limited water supply during droughts, but conservation will only take us so far. If we do not commit to repairing and maintaining the SWP's outdated infrastructure through smart investments like [SB 559](#), we risk diminishing the SWP's ability to help California respond to future droughts.”

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.