



SSWD
South Sutter Water District

South Sutter Water District
2464 Pacific Avenue
Trowbridge, CA 95659

(530) 656-2242
sswd@southsutterwd.com



SPRING 2023

South Sutter Water District Water Operations Newsletter



2023 IRRIGATION SEASON OVERVIEW

START DATE - Tuesday, April 25th

FIRST WATER DELIVERY - Thursday, April 27th

ALLOCATION - 2.0 AF / ACRE

REMOTE TRACKER

If you are not signed up for our Remote Tracker program and would like to be—Please contact the office at (530) 656-2242

2023 Water Rates

CATEGORY	2023 RATE
PUMPED	\$17.25 / AF
GRAVITY FLOW	\$18.25 / AF
BRD PIPELINE	\$22.25 / AF
STANDBY	\$2.20 / ACRE

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTER-DISTRICT WATER TRANSFER POLICY - Because the 2023 irrigation year was not declared as a dry or critical water year, allocation transfer from parcel to parcel will not be allowed.

ALLOCATION START - Allocation will start on June 1, 2023 or when Camp Far West Reservoir stops spilling. Inflow into Camp Far West is very dependent on snowmelt from the northern part of the watershed and can vary depending on what upstream water diverters are doing. District staff is working closely with Nevada Irrigation District to monitor upstream reservoir levels, snowpack conditions, inflows, and outflows in an effort to project Camp Far West water conditions.

REMOTE TRACKER PROGRAM - 2023 marks the 2nd year of the District's new water accounting system. Remote Tracker allows water tenders to input grower's flows into laptops that relay that information back to office staff in real time. Additionally, growers have the ability to go online and track their water usage throughout the season.

NOTE: 2023 is only the second year of this program and District staff is still working on optimizing the accounting system.

Office staff would appreciate any feedback/suggestions you have—if you notice something is incorrect please contact the office.

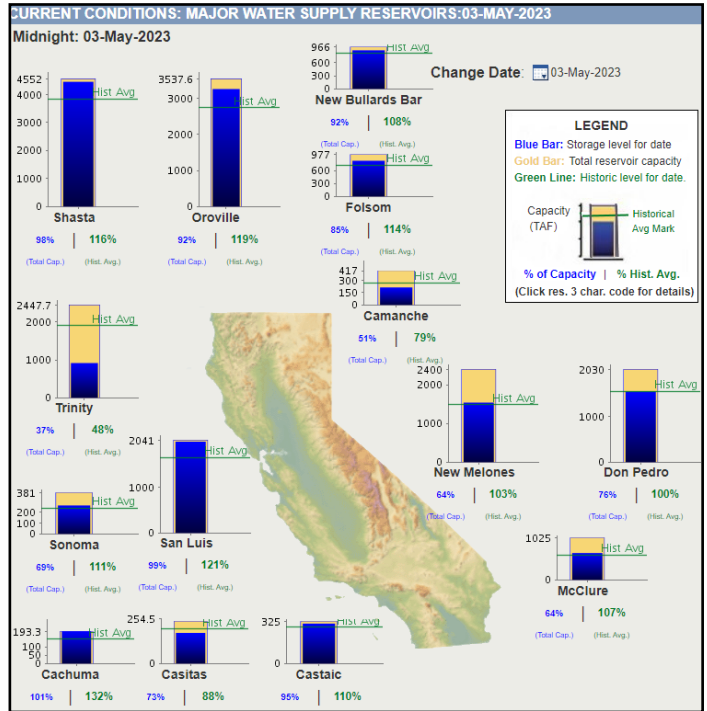
WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

The 2023 water season did not start off as many people were hoping. With drier than average conditions in October and November, it seemed as if California could be in store for another drought year. Having just experienced 3 consecutive drought years, things were not looking good for California water users.

Fortunately, things took a positive turn in December and January as the state saw record rain and snowfall. The rain gauge at Camp Far West Reservoir recorded just over 29" of rain since November 2022.

The snowpack in the Northern Sierra's is 221% of normal for the beginning of May, and is 154% normal for the April 1st average.

These wet hydrological conditions have allowed SSWD to set an allocation of 2.0 AF/Acre for the first time since 2019.

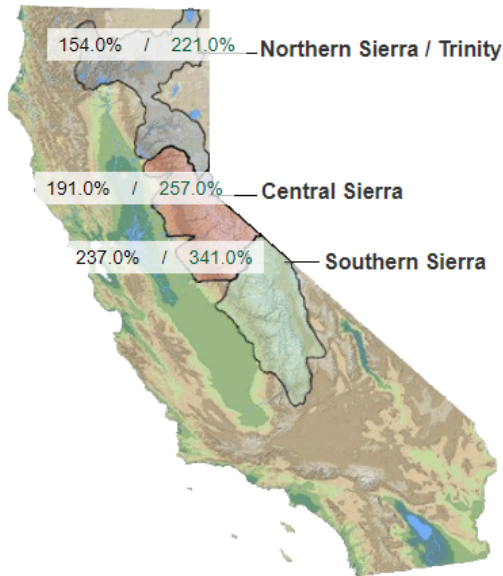


Snow Water Equivalents (inches)

Provided by the California Cooperative Snow Surveys

Data For: 03-May-2023

% Apr 1 Avg. / % Normal for this Date



Change Date: 03-May-2023

NORTH

Data For: 03-May-2023

Number of Stations Reporting 45
Average snow water equivalent 44.5"
Percent of April 1 Average 154%
Percent of normal for this date 221%

CENTRAL

Data For: 03-May-2023

Number of Stations Reporting 78
Average snow water equivalent 48.4"
Percent of April 1 Average 191%
Percent of normal for this date 257%

SOUTH

Data For: 03-May-2023

Number of Stations Reporting 42
Average snow water equivalent 47.5"
Percent of April 1 Average 237%
Percent of normal for this date 341%

STATEWIDE SUMMARY

Data For: 03-May-2023

Number of Stations Reporting 165
Average snow water equivalent 47.1"
Percent of April 1 Average 189%
Percent of normal for this date 263%

<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/snowapp/sweq.action>

DISTRICT STAFF

CHANGES/UPDATES

Hayden Cornwell assumed the role of General Manager in July of 2022, after serving 2 years as the Assistant General Manager.

A big thank you to **Brad Arnold** for serving as the General Manager at SSWD for 27 years (1995-2022). Brad has stepped down and has taken on the role of Special Projects Manager while also advising Hayden on the GM position to help ensure a seamless transition.

Sabrina Rexroad got hired as an Administrative Assistant in July of 2022. She is also the head of the Remote Tracker Program and is a tremendous asset in the effort to modernize our water accounting and billing systems.

Jonathan Gordon started as a water tender for the District in May of 2014. He was promoted to Operations Manager in July of 2022 and has successfully led his team through a difficult offseason where continuous rain provided very limited windows for maintenance and 2023 irrigation season preparations.

Daniel Townsend was hired to become the System D water tender in March of 2023. He is receiving training from Jonathan and the other water tenders and is excited for his new role. If you see him out in the field, please welcome him to his new area.



Hayden Cornwell - General Manager

Rosemary Wilhite - Office Manager

Sabrina Rexroad - Administrative Assistant

Jonathan Gordon - Operations Manager

Britt Watson - Damtender

Brad Arnold - Special Projects Manager

Tim Barnes - Maintenance

Robin Peterson - Maintenance

Brian Barker - System A Water Tender

Brenden O'Hagan - System B Water Tender

Levi Bledsoe - System C Water Tender

Daniel Townsend - System D Water Tender

Mark Patche - Floating Water Tender

A WORD FROM THE GM

It has been an exciting first year as the new General Manager. Going from severe drought conditions to flood conditions in a matter of weeks provided a short and rapidly changing offseason. Out in the field—jobs were getting planned one day, only to be cancelled two days later due to the most recent storm. In the office, we have been systematically reworking the Remote Tracker Program from top to bottom after our pilot year last season— in an effort to ensure we are providing accurate data to our water users. 2023 marks the first year that SSWD will be operating the powerhouse on Camp Far West Reservoir after taking over operational responsibilities from SMUD—the previous operators since 1986.

One of my main focuses in my first year has been modernization—I want to increase our ability as a water district to provide our customers with a consistent and accurate experience with a quality of service they can come to expect. One part of that equation is upgrading our infrastructure and technology. In January of 2023, the District was awarded a USBR Water Smart grant to replace our main radial gate at the Diversion Dam with several Rubicon gates that will not only maintain their own water level, but will tell the office and dam tender—in real time—exactly what flow we are sending down our main canal to our customers. This project is scheduled for Fall of 2023. We have more projects like this planned for the coming years—with several of them to start in the 2023 water season.

I owe a huge thank you to the staff that I have behind me. It is largely due to them that SSWD is able to implement these projects and keep them headed down a path of success. Despite the many challenges we've faced on all fronts over the last 10 months, every team member stayed focused and determined with the end goal of improving the District in mind. It is because of each and every one of them that we have been able to get so much done in a short amount of time.

We are poised to have a good water year, and it is exciting to see all the equipment rolling throughout the District. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Hayden Cornwell

(530) 656-2242 sswd@southsutterwd.com