

NEWS CLIPS

Published January 16, 2015



Resource Conservation and Public Outreach

Organized by date

Agency releases 15% of requested water

December storms helped boost supply

By Fenit Nirappil Associated Press
Ventura County Star 1/16/2015



In this photo taken Thursday, Oct. 30, 2014, houseboats sit in the drought lowered waters of Oroville lake, near Oroville, Calif. storms in early December boosted water supplies enough to provide southern California cities and farms 15 percent of their requested water, announced Associated Press file

SACRAMENTO — Recent storms will allow California to provide more water to local agencies and farms even as drought conditions stretch into a fourth year, officials announced Thursday.

State officials said storms in early December boosted supplies in the state's vast reservoir system enough to give Southern California cities and farms 15 percent of their requested water. That will be the second lowest distribution on record after the State Water Project filled only 5 percent of need last year.

"We've gone from really, really, really bad to really, really bad," said Mark Cowin, director of the Department of Water Resources. "We must prepare for the worst."

The state system provides water to 25 million people and 750,000 acres of farmland. Farmers have turned to groundwater wells, while governments have been tapping into water kept in reserves.

Worsening conditions spell trouble for their backup plans.

After the December rainfall, January has brought little precipitation in what's normally the wettest month of the season. A separate federal forecast released Thursday shows

The Las Virgenes - Triunfo IPA invites you to attend a free tour

Protecting the Malibu Creek Watershed

Join us for a free guided bus tour of key locations in the Malibu Creek watershed; learn its unique characteristics and the vital role played by wastewater treatment practices that protect public health and the environment. You will visit several interesting sites, including the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility, the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility and the Solar Power Generation Facility.



**Saturday, February 7, 2015
from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

- Pre-registration is a requirement - sign up at www.LVMWD.com; walk-ins cannot be accepted.
- Complimentary breakfast snacks and a light lunch will be provided.
- Guests must be age 12 or older; children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Inclines and stairs should be expected; comfortable walking shoes are recommended.
- Preference is given to customers of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Triunfo Sanitation District.



03ATZ5F

Tours are offered by the Governing Board of
Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority

<http://www.lvmwd.com/your-water/quarterly-facility-tours>

The Acorn 1/15/2015

Tougher than turf

North Ranch to put in drought-resistant plants

By Wendy Leung
Ventura County Star 1/14/2015



North Ranch Country Club General Manager Graham Leibowitz points to areas that will be part of its turf-removal naturalization project. Nonplayable areas around the club's three golf courses will be landscaped with native plants and oak trees as part of the water conservation effort. PHOTOS BY JOE LUMAYA/SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Golf courses are characterized by acre upon acre of lush, manicured grass, but the North Ranch Country Club soon will be known for having a lot less.

The 27-hole golf course in Thousand Oaks is tearing out 37 acres of thirsty turf and replacing it with drought-tolerant plants and native trees. The \$4 million water conservation project will target nonplayable areas along the sides of fairways and the entryway to the 258-acre property.

Leaders of the country club believe that the move will slash water consumption while ensuring the future of the golf course as the state enters another year of severe drought.

"If you're not being proactive in conserving water, you're going to have real issues in the future," said Graham Leibowitz, the club's general manager.

There are 830 member families who play golf or tennis on the grounds of the former cattle ranch. Many are starting to take notice of the landscaping work that began late last year.

Little flags now mark where colorful native shrubs will be planted. Wood stakes mark the sites for 400 California oak and sycamore trees that will arrive by April.

“You can be water-wise and have something that’s aesthetically much prettier than turf,” Graham said. “People are already evaluating, ‘Do I really need grass in my front yard? Can I have an estate home without grass?’”



If you’re not being proactive in conserving water, you’re going to have real issues in the future.”

TOP: Wooden stakes mark areas where new trees will be planted. There are 830 member families who play golf or tennis on the grounds of the former cattle ranch.

Graham Leibowitz,

North Ranch Country Club general manager

California is trying to reduce water usage by 20 percent by 2020, a state goal.

Susan Cordone, conservation coordinator for the California Water Service Co., said water-saving measures like the one initiated by the country club help spread the conservation message.

“I personally think it’s extremely helpful whether it’s a country club or residential property. The transformation of turf area back to native flora will set an example, no matter how large or small,” Cordone said.

The country club is part of California Water, a district that covers Westlake Village and portions of Thousand Oaks. Customers are eligible for rebate programs from the Metropolitan Water District, which was a partner in the country club project.

This isn’t the first time the country club is making changes in the name of conservation. The club replaced its irrigation system about seven years ago and installed purple pipes. Most of the country club now uses recycled water.

Once the landscaping makeover is complete, water use on the 37 acres affected will be cut by 90 percent. The country club will save an estimated \$314,000 in its water bill for the

first three years. The savings will change based on the increasing cost of water.

But the climbing price of water is not the sole reason driving the project, Leibowitz said.

“As we look in the future, how do we sustain this? How do we be sustainable and responsible in the new age,” Leibowitz said. “Water is certainly a resource that 20 years ago we took for granted. Now we can’t.”



The driveway leading to North Ranch Country Club (left) has been landscaped with drought-tolerant plants. Leaders of the country club believe that the move will slash water consumption while ensuring the future of the golf course as the state enters another year of severe drought. Flags (right) mark areas where new native plants will be placed.

PHOTOS BY JOE LUMAYA/SPECIAL TO THE STAR

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Malibu approves sewage treatment plant

By MARTHA GROVES

LA TIMES 1/14/2015

Malibu approves the first phase of the project to provide sewage treatment for nearly 50 property owners

Taking a long-anticipated step to reduce coastal pollution, the Malibu City Council has voted to approve construction of a wastewater treatment plant in the Civic Center area.

The project's roughly \$40-million first phase, which is expected to be operating by June 2017, would provide sewage treatment for nearly 50 property owners, including the city itself. Others include the Los Angeles County public library and fire station, the Malibu Colony Plaza shopping center and the Malibu Country Mart.

"We commend the City Council for taking this important step to improve the water quality in Malibu Lagoon and the Malibu groundwater basin," said Samuel Unger, executive director of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Water quality officials have long criticized Malibu for what they perceived to be its slow pace of addressing water pollution in Malibu Creek, Malibu Lagoon and Surfrider Beach. In 2009, the water board approved a prohibition on septic systems in the city's core.

Most commercial and residential properties in Malibu use septic systems. The agency said pollutants leaching from aging, overtaxed systems caused much of the ongoing water quality problems.

City Manager Jim Thorsen said Malibu would seek a low-interest state loan, to be guaranteed by the affected property owners, and form an assessment district to cover the costs of building and operating the plant. If the district is approved, property owners would be assessed amounts ranging from \$4,000 a year to as much as \$500,000 a year.

The membrane bioreactor plant would be located just north of Pacific Coast Highway along Civic Center Way, according to a map on the [city's website](#). The plant would initially be capable of treating about 190,000 gallons a day to a level that would allow the water to be reused in Legacy Park, the city's highly praised stormwater treatment zone, and elsewhere.

The second phase, which would begin to incorporate some residential properties, would bring the level to 360,000 gallons. The regional water board has said that phase must be online by late 2022. A third phase would raise the total to 500,000 gallons a day in 2025.

Dozens of people spoke for and against the project at the council meeting Monday night. Many residents have expressed concern that installing sewers would unleash a wave of development. The five council members voted unanimously to approve the environmental impact report just before 11 p.m.

"It was the outcome we hoped for," said Sarah Sikich, vice president of Heal the Bay, an environmental advocacy group.

The project is expected to get other necessary approvals and permits in coming months from the regional water board and the California Coastal Commission.

"This is a landmark step," Sikich said, "to move from local permitting to state permitting and from concept to implementation."

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Supreme Court keeps in place protections for California's delta smelt



The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta near the town of Rio Vista. The Supreme Court on Monday kept in place environmental orders that protect the endangered delta smelt there. (Luis Sinco / Los Angeles Times)

By DAVID G. SAVAGE
LA TIMES 1/13/2015

Supreme Court lets stand orders protecting the tiny delta smelt in California
California water agencies lose bid to reverse limits on pumping river water to south

The Supreme Court on Monday kept in place environmental orders in California that protect the endangered delta smelt and limit the pumping of river water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The justices turned down appeals from several water agencies, including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and from Central Valley farmers.

In their appeal, the water agencies questioned whether limits on pumping water to the southern part of the state were required under the Endangered Species Act and said the restrictions were particularly harmful to consumers, farmers and other water users during the drought.

The court's action is a victory for environmentalists. It has the effect of upholding a decision of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

In a 2-1 decision, 9th Circuit judges said federal wildlife officials had a duty to take "reasonable and prudent" measures to protect the 3-inch-long delta smelt, regardless of the cost to the economy.

The Supreme Court upheld this view of the Endangered Species Act in the 1970s case of the endangered snail darter, and the justices have shown no interest in revisiting the issue.

In addition to protecting the tiny smelt, the 9th Circuit has also upheld limits on pumping to protect several species of salmon which migrate through the San Francisco Bay and the delta.

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Central Valley farmers decry justices' decision

Nation's top court clears delta for smelt

By Scott Smith Associated Press
Ventura County Star 1/13/2015



The U.S. supreme court's refusal to consider an appeal by central Valley farmers and water districts over water pumped from the delta lets stand a plan to safeguard the delta smelt. Associated press file

FRESNO — A tiny, threatened fish unique to California received protection Monday when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider an appeal by Central Valley farmers and water districts that want more water pumped from the delta where the fish live.

The decision lets stand a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plan to safeguard the 3-inch-long Delta smelt, a species listed as threatened in 1993 under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The plan restricts the amount of water that can be pumped out of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and sent south to Central Valley farmers and water districts.

The smelt only lives in the delta — the largest estuary on the West Coast that supplies much of California with drinking water and irrigates millions of acres of farmland.

Farmers contend that under the smelt regulations, vast amounts of water from the Sierra Nevada snowpack are sent through the delta and into the ocean, exacerbating hardships endured by the growers in the three-year drought.

Farmers say their economic interests have been ignored while officials protect the fish. Roadside signs throughout the Central Valley decry the lack of leadership while warning of a second Dust Bowl.

“I’d like to see a little more common sense put into it,” said Jim Jasper, an almond farmer who appealed to the high court. “Agriculture has been overlooked.”

Because of the drought and restrictions to protect smelt, Jasper said he had to cut down one-fifth of his almond trees last year. The 70-year-old farmer who runs Stewart & Jasper Orchards in Newman anticipates taking out some of his citrus crops if the drought persists.

Meanwhile, Katherine Poole, an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, welcomed the Supreme Court decision on Monday.

The smelt’s decline signals the poor health of the massive estuary, she said, adding that a thriving delta benefits farmers and the millions of people who rely on it for drinking water.

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State keeps close eye on fracking

But two key parts of law still unfinished

By Timm Herdt
Ventura County Star 1/13/2015

SACRAMENTO — Final regulations are in place to establish what will become the most comprehensive state oversight of hydraulic fracturing in the nation, but two key parts of California's landmark 2013 law remain unfinished.

The regulations were certified by the Office of Administrative Law on New Year's Eve, beating the law's Jan. 1 deadline by hours.

But an independent scientific study on the safety of the oil-drilling practice and an environmental impact report that will identify issues that well operators must address before receiving a permit are still being developed.

The draft EIR and the first volume of a threepart scientific study are expected to be released thismonth, possibly by the end of thisweek.

Hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," involves injecting intowells amixture of water andchemicals under high pressure to create cracks in rock to stimulate the flow of oil embedded in them.

Critics of fracking, who cite New York's decision last month to ban the practice indefinitely, assert that California's approach is backward because it provides for a regulatory scheme without first answering fundamental safety questions.

"We shouldwait for the science and safety information to come out," said Jackie Pomeroy, spokeswoman for the advocacy group CA Frack Facts. "California has essentially reversed the regulatory process."

Sen. Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills, theauthor of SB 4, said that when the law was passed in 2013, "the ideal was this would all be completed by the end of 2014."

Still, Pavley believes that implementation of the law is progressingwell.

She notes that under emergency fracking regulations that have been in place since Jan. 1, 2014, and will remain in place until thepermanent regulations take effect July 1, well operators are now fully disclosing the chemicals they are injecting into wells to stimulate oil production.

"That was a landmark breakthrough," she said. "It was something you could not get

done before.”

In addition Pavley points to a wealth of information on fracking activities now available on the state Department of Conservation’s website.

“The website has been quite good. Even the opponents find real value in that information,” she said. “We’re in a better place than we were a year and a half ago, by far.”

Pomeroy agrees that progress has been made. “Given that the status quo was essentially no regulation, the SB 4 regulations are a step forward,” she said.

Jason Marshall, chief deputy director of the Department of Conservation, said the policies implemented so far, particularly in the area of transparency, have been “a huge advancement and a very, very welcome change.”

Among the information now available is a searchable well-finder application that members of the public and local government agencies can use to determine where fracking is taking place.

“It’s the difference between night and daylight,” Marshall said. “The bill kicked the department into the 21st century in terms of data management.”

When the permanent regulations take effect this summer, he said, the biggest change from the current emergency regulations is that each proposed well stimulation will be deemed a project under the California Environmental Quality Act and thus could be subject to an independent environmental analysis.

Under the emergency regulations, well operators have been required to notify the state agency when fracking or other well-stimulation activities are going to take place and also self-certify that they have met certain standards.

Marshall said the new regulatory scheme does not appear to have limited the industry’s ability to use fracking when operators deem it necessary, noting that slightly more than 600 fracking projects were reported in 2014, about the same as the previous year.

Nearly all the projects, he said, were in western Kern County. Records show that only four fracking projects were recorded in Ventura County last year.

Marshall also noted that there was not a single instance in 2014 in which a well operator

sought to withhold public information on fracking fluids being used by claiming disclosure would reveal a trade secret.

The continuing activity remains a concern to the most committed foes of fracking, including a group called Californians Against Fracking. On Monday that group launched an eight-city, nine-day tour of the state to call upon Gov. Jerry Brown to take steps to transition all California energy use to renewable sources.

“Our governor and our elected officials need to decide if we’re going to be a real leader on climate change, or if we will continue to allow fracking and other dangerous extraction methods that put our communities and environment at risk,” said David Braun, an organizer of the tour.

The tour will include a stop Wednesday evening from 7-9 p.m. at the Oxnard Heritage Cultural Center, 141 W. Fifth St.

An important component of the 2013 law was the requirement that independent, peer-reviewed scientific study be conducted. The law called for the study to be completed by the end of 2014, but the Natural Resources Agency informed the Legislature in August that it will not be finished before July 1 this year.

The study, being conducted by the California Council on Science & Technology and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, will be released in three volumes. The first — consisting of an overview of how and where well-stimulation activities are taking place in California — is expected to be released this month.

The remaining two volumes will deal with the more substantive issues relating to fracking’s effects on air and water quality and the potential for inducing seismic activity.

One reason for the delay is that the researchers wanted to await completion of a similar study ordered by the federal Bureau of Land Management, also conducted by the Council on Science & Technology. That study was completed in August.

It included several findings that could allay some public concerns about fracking in California. It noted that fracking activities are far less common here than in many other oil-producing states; are fundamentally different from those involving horizontal wells drilled in other regions; use much less water; and do not result in a significant increase in seismic hazards.

In addition the study for the BLM found no evidence of successful use of fracking to extract oil from deep source rocks in the Monterey Formation, and it concluded that earlier federal estimates of the potential for exploiting recoverable reserves in previously

untapped areas of the state “are highly uncertain.” While that question remains, the oil industry continues to use fracking to stimulate production from shallower wells in existing oil fields.

Pavley said she had hoped the state study would be completed earlier, but the requirement for peer review added three months to the process. “An incomplete study is not acceptable, either,” she said.

Although the study’s findings will not be available in time to affect the new regulations, Pavley said changes can be made if warranted, either through additional legislation or through policies that could be adopted by the Water Quality Control Board or the Air Resources Board.

“All options are on the table,” she said. “I’m not afraid to make changes in the plan.”

Letters

Conserving water

Ken Davis, Moorpark

Re: your Jan. 8 editorial, "Storms didn't end the state's severe drought": I will take the drought and water conservation seriously when building permits for new construction, especially large multifamily housing (200-plus units), are stopped.

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Across the State

SAN FRANCISCO

Contaminated land flap may end in deal

A California water district that is the country's largest says it has reached a deal with the federal government in a decades long dispute over thousands of acres of contaminated land.

The San Francisco Chronicle on Sunday reported the agreement involving the California Central Valley's Westlands Water District, which covers 1,000 square miles of some of the country's most lucrative farmland. . The 600 farms in the water district produce \$1 billion in crops annually.

The agreement concerns a bungled, congressionally approved 1960s irrigation project that contaminated at least 100,000 acres of the Central Valley with selenium, salt and boron.

Businesses get fat rebate checks for water-saving turf replacement



Ruben Hernandez works to re-landscape the MillerCoors property. (Gary Friedman, Los Angeles Times)

By MATT STEVENS AND JAVIER PANZAR

LA TIMES 1/12/2014

The majority of the \$85.6 million MWD has allocated for turf replacement rebate is slated for businesses

A tractor rumbled over 2 acres of green turf last month at the MillerCoors brewery, its mechanical rake leaving wide swaths of thirsty grass chomped up in its wake.

The once-lush knoll, by springtime, will feature a pathway of decomposed granite, a bed of river rocks and a sign encouraging water conservation.

For its water-saving efforts, the beer company is scheduled to receive a check for about \$187,000 from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California through the agency's turf replacement rebate program.

There can be a real hesitation to invest, but we understand that water is something we need to protect. You never know the worth of water until you don't have it.- Ed Gharavi, MillerCoors technical services manager

Local and state water officials have lauded the multimillion-dollar program as a water-saving boon for the drought-stricken state. Thousands of Southland residents have applied for financial incentives to tear out and replace turf with drought-friendly foliage, a

move experts say is critical to recalibrating Californians' attitude toward water. Businesses are cashing in, too, in a big way.

Of the \$85.6 million MWD has allocated for turf replacement rebates under the program, about 60% is slated for commercial customers, according to department records and officials. Commercial entities, including expansive golf courses and for-profit businesses with gigantic lots, such as MillerCoors, used around \$51 million. Meanwhile, residential customers received about \$34 million to replace grass.

Unlike some other turf rebate programs across California, MWD's does not limit the size of rebates. At least three golf courses in affluent parts of Southern California are slated to receive more than \$4 million, according to department records compiled for The Times in November.

Experts said the cost of rebates for large, commercial projects is a long-term investment that will help ensure future water reliability. But homeowners who have pinched pennies to replace their lawns with drought-friendly landscaping found the distribution of millions to commercial entities that could otherwise afford the cost of turf replacement irksome.

"I don't think millions of dollars to private commercial property such as golf courses is the best use of those funds," said Liz Crosson, executive director of Los Angeles Waterkeeper, a waterway protection and restoration organization.

MWD spokesman Bob Muir said the successful program has seen an "extraordinary" spike in participation over the last year. He defended the program's payouts as "unprecedented action" in response to "unprecedented challenges."

"We're in a drought. We're a water agency, and we're trying to save water," said Bill McDonnell, MWD water efficiency manager. "The water we save does not know whether it's in your frontyard or in a private golf course. It's water, and it's Metropolitan's job to save water."



Elisa Padilla builds a river-rock planter on the grounds of the MillerCoors brewery in Irwindale. (Gary Friedman, Los Angeles Times)

Officials at the Irwindale brewing plant have pushed to conserve water outdoors in recent years, said Ed Gharavi, MillerCoors technical services manager. Landscapers have removed several acres of turf, saving millions of gallons of water each year, he said.

The company would have probably removed a smaller portion of turf from the grassy knoll without the rebate, Gharavi said. But with removal and replacement costs estimated between \$3 and \$4 a square foot, the \$2 rebate allowed the company to do more.

"There can be a real hesitation to invest, but we understand that water is something we need to protect," Gharavi said. "You never know the worth of water until you don't have it."

Asked whether for-profit companies should receive ratepayer-funded rebates for their projects, Gharavi said: "I don't know that I'd have a response."

At about 94,000 square feet, the turf replacement at the MillerCoors property is small, compared with projects underway at some golf courses.

Brookside Golf Club in Pasadena is removing 870,000 square feet of turf, said David A. Sams, director of golf operations. Costs to replace it, about 70 cents a square foot, are lower than those of most other projects because officials are not buying or adding native plants that golfers "wouldn't want to hit out of," he said. They plan to plant about 200 trees and realign sprinkler heads in where grass used to be.

The project will cost about \$600,000, much less than the \$1.74 million rebate that MWD approved. The golf course will save about \$80,000 a year in water costs but will spend about \$60,000 a year to maintain the new non-irrigated areas, Sams said.

"We're not doing it to save money; we're doing it because it's the right thing," he said. "We were going to do this project regardless of whether we got a rebate."

Brookside will receive a check only for the amount of money the project ultimately costs, not for the entire amount MWD approved for the replacement. The water district created a new rule in July — about two months after the \$2-per-square-foot rebate went into effect — that limits the amount of rebate to the actual cost of the project, instead of giving applicants the entire amount approved based on initial estimates.

Ten entities that applied early have been grandfathered in and will receive the full rebate regardless of a project's actual cost.

The largest of those projects is the Rancho Santa Fe Assn.'s plan to replace 810,000 square feet of turf at its golf course, according to water district records. The project cost about \$1.2 million, course superintendent Tim Barrier said. MWD records show the course will receive a check for \$1.62 million.

Barrier said he was so pleasantly surprised when he learned the water district was offering a \$2 rebate for turf removal that he "almost choked." The course, which serves 500 members in an affluent part of northern San Diego County, would have gradually replaced the turf even without a rebate, he said.

"If there's an agency that wants to help us on this endeavor, then we should take advantage of it," he said. "If we're going to cooperate with an agency that wants to embark on a program like this, we should absolutely not be singled out as somebody that doesn't need the money."

Mark Gold, of UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, praised the rebates — which are as high as \$3.75 per square foot in Los Angeles — as a "strong, bold response" to the drought, adding that payments for a smaller number of large projects reduce administrative costs. The incentive, he said, "gets people to act immediately."

"When people look back at this five years from now, this last six months will be the beginning of the end of our love affair with grass turf," Gold said.

Some other water suppliers that offer turf removal rebate programs limit the size of rebates.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power pays a \$1.75-per-square-foot rebate for only the first 1,500 square feet of a residential project. It pays \$1 each for the first

10,000 square feet of a commercial project, and 50 cents for additional square feet, up to an acre.

East Bay Municipal Water District, which serves more than 1.3 million Californians, caps residential projects at \$2,500. Commercial projects are limited to \$20,000.

The city of San Diego, another large water supplier, supplemented MWD's rebate with up to \$4,800 for residential projects and up to \$60,000 for commercial and multifamily projects — until the funding ran out.

Long Beach resident Loren Scott, 55, spent \$3,700 to kill her front lawn and replace it with drought-tolerant plants. She got a \$3,500 rebate from MWD and the Long Beach Water Department, which caps residential rebates at 1,000 square feet.

Water savings from commercial projects will be larger, but Scott worries what might happen if the money runs out.

"How many residents are going to be left out?" she said. "That is not going to be a fair distribution."

Of the more than 14,000 requests MWD has received for turf removal, about 95% came from residents, according to department records. But the roughly 600 commercial customers' requests account for about 60% of the total projected funding.

McDonnell, MWD's water efficiency manager, said he was surprised that so much of the program's money is bound for commercial projects. He said the program is too new to know exactly how much water will be saved.

Changes, including adding a rebate limit, could be forthcoming, he said.

Turf rebate requests continue rolling in, and so far, customers have requested an additional \$36 million in rebates, though MWD has yet to commit the money. The department won't necessarily spend all of that; some customers don't follow through on turf removal plans, officials said.

Asked how much longer he believes the water district can sustain such high levels of funding, McDonnell said, "That's a good question."

State Senator Fran Pavley, (D-Agoura Hills) right, is chairing the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. In addition to that position, Pavley will sit on a number of other key committees in the 2015-16 legislative session. She will sit on the following committees: Budget and Fiscal Review; Budget Subcommittee #2-Resources, Environmental Protection; Energy and Transportation; Energy, Utilities and Communications; Environmental Quality, Legislative Ethics and Governance and Finance. In 1982, Senator Pavley became the first mayor of the City of Agoura Hills, and served four terms on the city council. In 2000 she was elected to the California State Assembly, where she served three terms. Currently, Senator Pavley represents approximately 931,000 people in the 27th district, which includes parts of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties - Simi Valley, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Agoura Hills, and Westlake Village, Malibu, Topanga Canyon, Calabasas, West Hills and a portion of Santa Clarita.



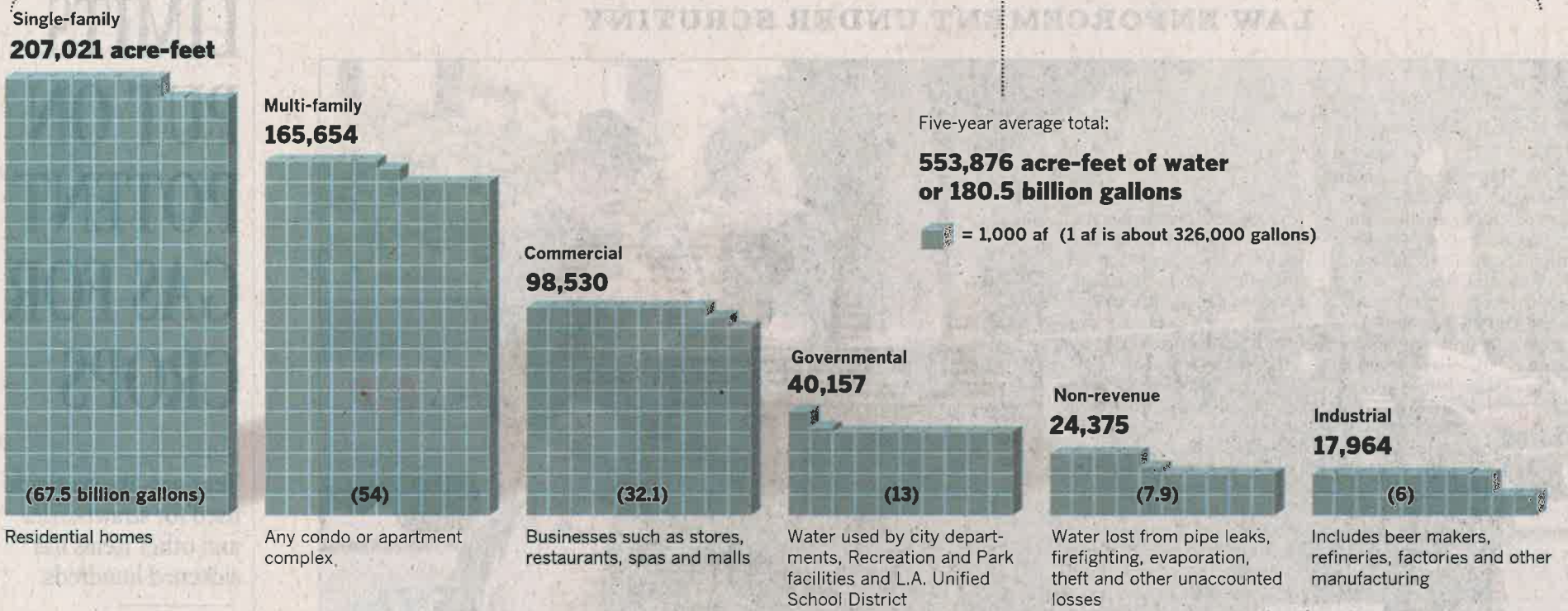
Valley News Group, January 8, 2015, Page 3

CALIFORNIA SNAPSHOT

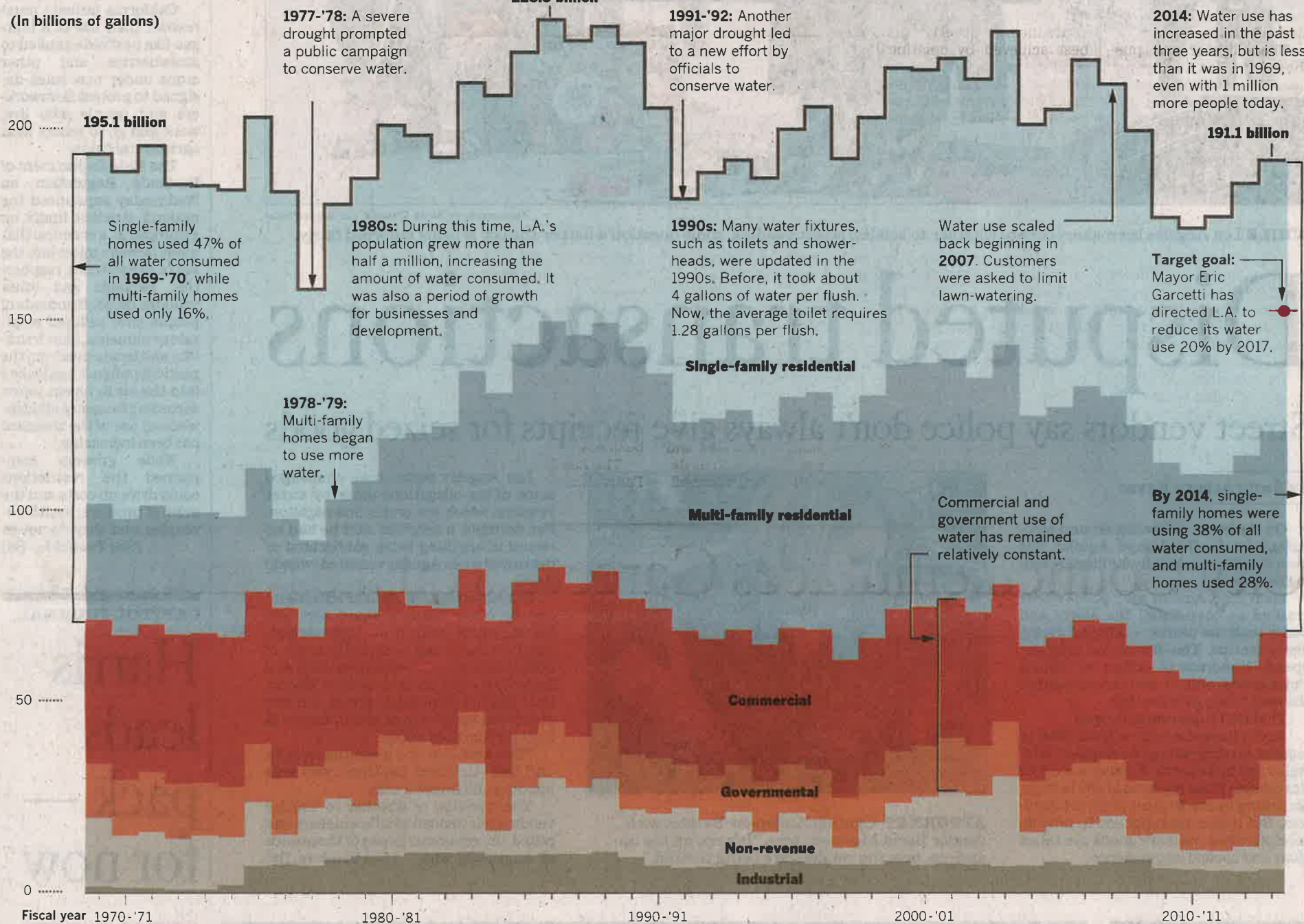
How does Los Angeles use its water?

For all the discussion of how the city, parks and golf courses guzzle water, the lion's share of L.A.'s supply is sucked up by residential customers, according to data from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Residents have consumed more than 57% of DWP water each year since 1969, and leaks such as the one on Sunset Boulevard last summer amounted to only 4% of the water used in L.A. on an average day, officials said. Historic data also show that conservation plans do work — each person was using an average of 189 gallons a day in 1969 for residential and commercial purposes. Today, the average is 131 gallons per person.

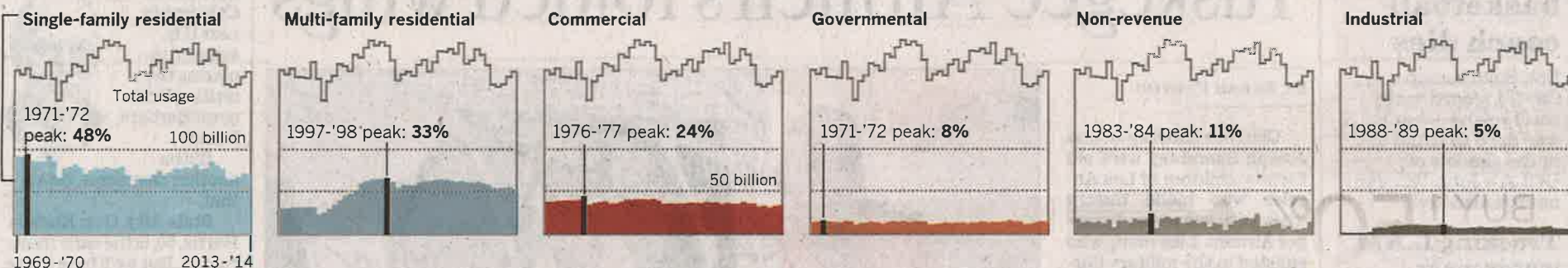
Average water demand between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2014



Water usage since 1969 by customer type



How much water each group used from city's overall total



Sources: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, U.S. Census Bureau, Times reporting. Graphics reporting by ROSANNA XIA

LORENA INIGUEZ ELEBEE Los Angeles Times