

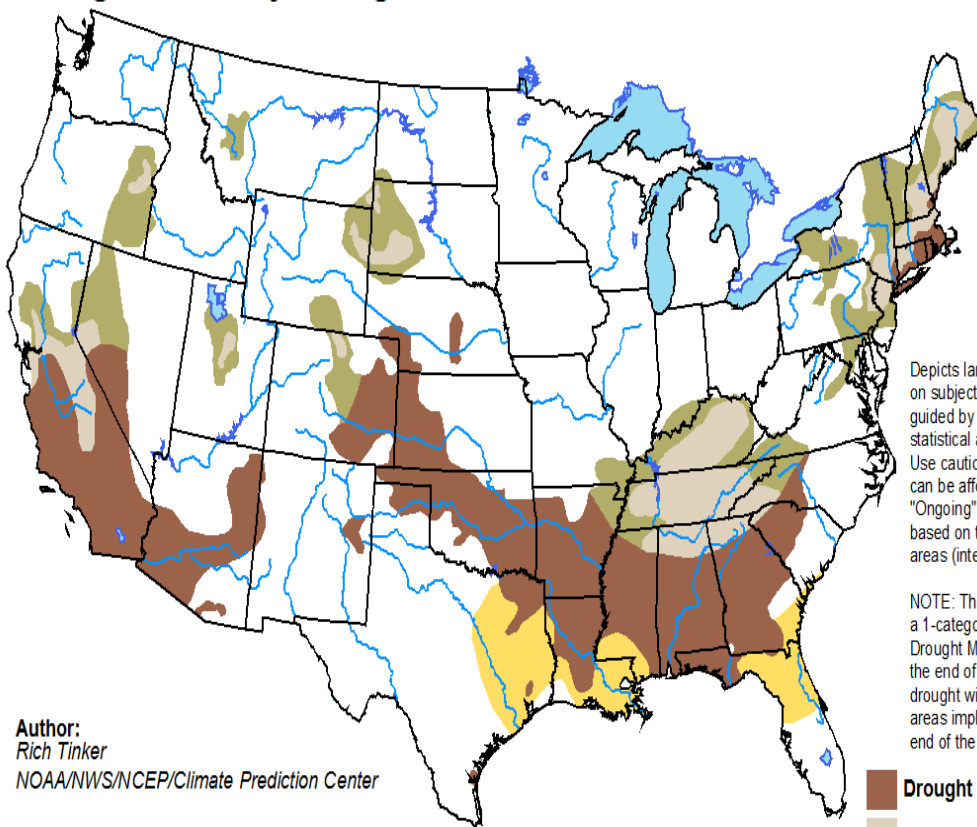
# THE BUBBLER

## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

californiadrought.org

### U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 15 - March 31, 2017  
Released December 15, 2016

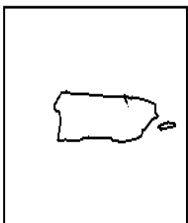
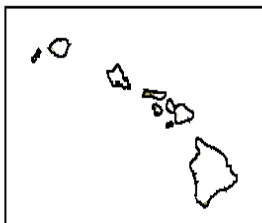
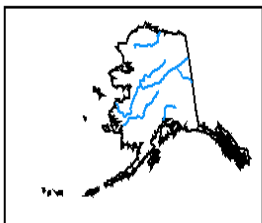


Author:  
Rich Tinker  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

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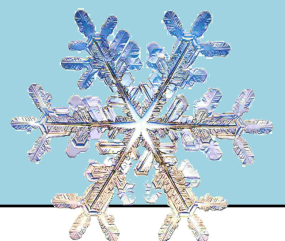
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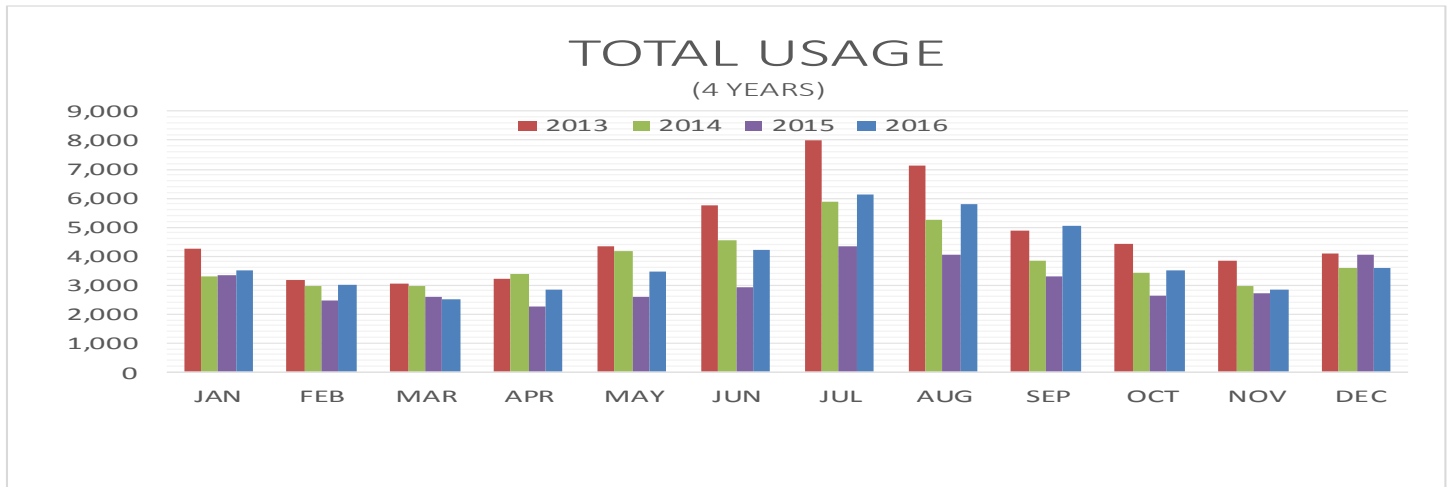
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The January 14, 2017 Meeting of the BLSMWC Board of Directors WAS cancelled

## Water Usage



## Frequently Asked Billing Questions

### Where can I pay my bill?

- ◆ You may mail your check or money order made payable to Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company in the pre-addressed envelope enclosed with your bill. If you prefer to pay in person, please bring your payment to our business office located at: 1011 Blagen Rd. in Arnold.
- ◆ Also for your convenience there is a depository box available 24 hours a day for check payments. The box is located at the front entrance to the business office, adjacent to the BLWMWC sign. Payments deposited here will be collected and processed at the start of the next business day.
- ◆ Payment can also be made by calling our office at (209)795-7025.

### When is my bill due?

- ◆ Your 2017 Shareholder Fees are due on February 15, 2017.
- ◆ Your bill becomes delinquent after this date, and a late penalty will be assessed once this date has passed. This information can be found on your bill. Along with this penalty, 1.5% interest will be charged on all unpaid balances as of March 15, 2017

### How are water charges determined?

- ◆ Shareholders are charged an annual rate in four main categories: Cabin, Cabin with Handheld Hose, Cabin with Metered Water, and Undeveloped Lot. This fixed charge covers the costs of maintenance, repair and improvement of the water system.
- ◆ Water rates are established by resolutions/ordinances adopted by the Board of Directors. Rates are reviewed annually to verify that the rates cover the cost of providing the service.

### Questions regarding your bill?

- ◆ If you have a question about your bill, please call our business office at (209)795- 7025 between 8am and 4pm, Monday through Friday. You can also email us at [info@blsmwc.com](mailto:info@blsmwc.com). We will do our best to answer your questions or refer you to the appropriate person

The Cabin with Metered Water usage charge is based on the number of billing units (ccf/100 Cubic Feet of water or 748 gallons). Shareholders are billed bi-monthly for water usage. The water meters are read on a bi-monthly basis. Shareholders with meters are allotted 700 cf (5,236 gallons) per billing cycle of water that they are not charged for as part of their annual Shareholder fee. Any usage over this allotment is billed at \$1.60 per 100 cf,

Water rates are established by resolutions/ordinances adopted by the Board of Directors. Rates are reviewed annually to verify that the rates cover the cost of providing the service.

**Emergency service personnel are available 24 hours a day by calling our emergency line at (209) 795-7030**

# General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders,

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season.

The recent heavy rains have been a blessing to the ongoing Drought situation, but have also caused problems for the Calaveras County Water District. Runoff from Big Trees Creek exposed a CCWD water pipe, and there was concern that the pipe could break, causing a water outage for the town of Arnold. CCWD crews have since stabilized the pipe, and are working toward a more permanent fix.

I want to assure our homeowners that a recent news article referring to "Arnold Area Water in Jeopardy", would not effect us here in Blue Lake Springs. We do purchase about half of our water from CCWD, but our system can be isolated from theirs, and we can supply 100% of our demand from our wells. We have 2 large tanks with over 1 million gallons in storage for emergencies, and our wells can produce enough water to fill them and also supply our usage demand. Our wholesale Water Purchase Agreement with CCWD has made it possible for our wells to recover from the demand of the drought years to the point that there is sufficient water for our needs. We work closely with Dave Eggerton and his staff at CCWD during storms and other events, and can deliver water back to them if necessary.

**It's always good to keep emergency water at home in case a water outage does occur.**

## Usage 2016

Here is the breakdown by year for water usage in Blue Lake Springs:

2013 56,114,000 gallons. - Comparison year for State Drought Report  
 2014 46,258,000 gallons. 18% water savings - Stage 2 of Drought Action Plan  
 2015 37,293,000 gallons. 34% water savings - Stage 3 of Drought Action Plan  
 2016 46,464,000 gallons. 17% water savings - Stage 2 of Drought Action Plan

As you can see, we held pretty steady with 2014 usage, which shows a very good conservation effort.

In spite of excellent precipitation recently, I intend on remaining in Stage 2 of our Drought Action Plan.

The Governor may revise the State Drought requirements later in the year, after the precipitation totals are in for the season, and we can take a look at revising our Drought Plan then.

I thank everyone for conserving.

## Ground Water

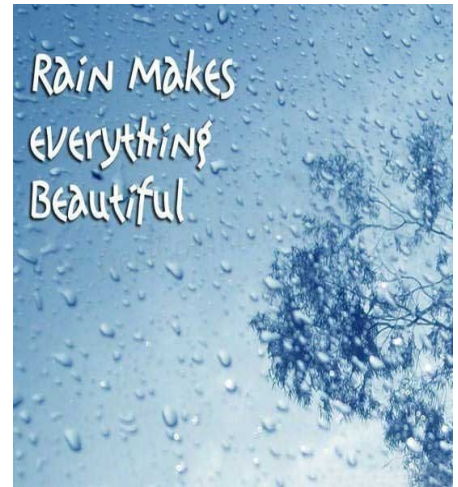
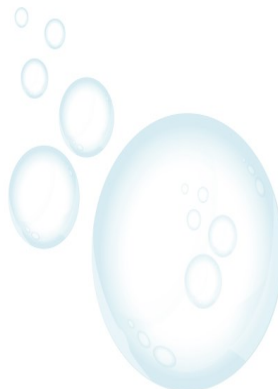
With so much rain lately, the ground has become saturated, and water is coming out of the ground in places. This used to be a common occurrence in winter, but we haven't seen this in quite a few years.

If you see water gushing out near your home, and think it might be a broken pipe, please call the water company, and we can check it to determine if it is a leak, or a spring.

That's all for now.

Dave

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## Have an idea?

The Bubbler is published to keep Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company shareholders informed about issues and upcoming events.

To better inform you of current issues and events, we publish the Bubbler following a Board or Special meeting, therefore the publish dates can vary. If you have information that you would like to share in our publication, contact Pam Bowman:

[pbowman@blsmwc.com](mailto:pbowman@blsmwc.com)

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## President's Message

### Shareholders:

Below is an excerpt from the San Francisco Chronicle dated January 17, 2017. This should answer all of the questions re: "IS THE DROUGHT OVER".

# California's tough water regulations likely to remain in place

By [Kurtis Alexander](#), San Francisco Chronicle

Updated 6:02 pm, Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Water agencies have asked the state to drop the measures in light of the recent weather, but regulators say it's too early to let up on conservation. The proposal, which will be taken up by the water board Wednesday, calls for re-evaluating the emergency regulations this spring.

Over the past month, California's water situation has taken a big turn for the better.

Precipitation in the northern Sierra, where water is most vital for filling California reservoirs, on Tuesday measured 204 percent of average for this time of year. The snowpack, which fills reservoirs when the winter rains stop, was at 154 percent of the norm.

The rain and snow have helped many suppliers rebound from water shortages, prompting calls to let the state's emergency regulations expire.

"The important words to consider here are emergency and credibility," [Tim Quinn](#), the executive director of the [Association of California Water Agencies](#), told [The Chronicle](#) in an email. "The public can readily see that conditions have changed dramatically. Continuing the message that we are in a drought emergency strains our credibility."

State rules enacted last year require California's 400 largest urban water suppliers to have enough water to meet a least three years' worth of demand and, if they don't, to impose restrictions on customers to achieve the target.

While the mandate is less demanding than the rationing put in place by Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) during the worst days of the drought, many agencies still don't want the state meddling in their affairs.

Water board officials said extending the emergency measures ensures wise water use, in part by giving the state the power to impose fines.

"It's not just about percentage cutbacks. We don't anticipate the need for many of those," said [Max Gomberg](#), senior environmental scientist. "It's really about continuing some of the other things that are aiding our transition to more efficient water use and drought preparedness."

### Regards:

Bob Maginnis

BLSMWC President

