

# THE BUBBLER

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company Newsletter

March, 2016

## CALIFORNIANS SAVE 1.1 MILLION ACRE-FEET OF WATER, URGED TO STAY FOCUSED ON CONSERVATION

### January Conservation Data

- For June through January, the cumulative statewide reduction was 24.8 percent, compared to the same months in 2013. That equates to more than 1.1 million acre-feet of water saved, putting the state 96 percent of the way to meeting the 1.2 million acre-feet savings goal to be achieved by the end of February.
- Statewide water savings for January was 17.1 percent (62,644 acre-feet or 20.4 billion gallons), a decrease from December 2015's 18.4 percent savings. Due to the lower monthly savings, January saw the lowest level of water supplier compliance to date with 58 percent of suppliers meeting their conservation standards.
- Statewide average water use for January was the lowest on record at 61 residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD), down from 67 gallons per person per day in December 2015.

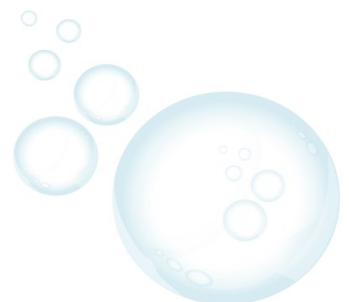
### January Conservation Summary

January marks the eighth month that the state's 400-plus urban water suppliers must be in compliance with the emergency conservation standards. This fact sheet summarizes the results for January and illustrates the progress made since June 2015 when urban water suppliers were first required to submit monthly conservation reports. The current report is posted here. The percentage of water saved collectively by the state's large urban water suppliers decreased from 18.4 percent in December 2015 to 17.1 percent in January, as compared to the same months in 2013, which serves as the baseline for determining water savings. As expected, monthly water savings have declined in the cooler winter months when outdoor water use is lower. After four straight months of monthly water savings below 25 percent, the cumulative savings effort dipped below the Governor's 25 percent conservation mandate for the first time since June 2015 – coming in at 24.8 percent. Despite the dip in the cumulative savings rate, the total amount of water saved remains strong, with more than 1.1 million acre-feet of water saved since June 2015, or 96 percent of the February goal. Despite 2015 being one of the hottest years of record, average statewide water use continued to decline for the sixth month in a row, with 61 residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD) reported in January – the lowest per-person rate since water-use recording began in June 2014.



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March 2016

## Call for Candidates of BLSMWC

BLSMWC is looking for shareholders in good standing to fill 2 vacancies in the Board of Directors.

Directors George Paul and Steve Alberts, after completion of their current term, are not seeking re-election. Look for information regarding this, and our June 2016 Annual Shareholders Meeting in the packet you will receive in the mail towards the latter part of March.

If you are interested in filling either of these vacancies, submit in writing to:

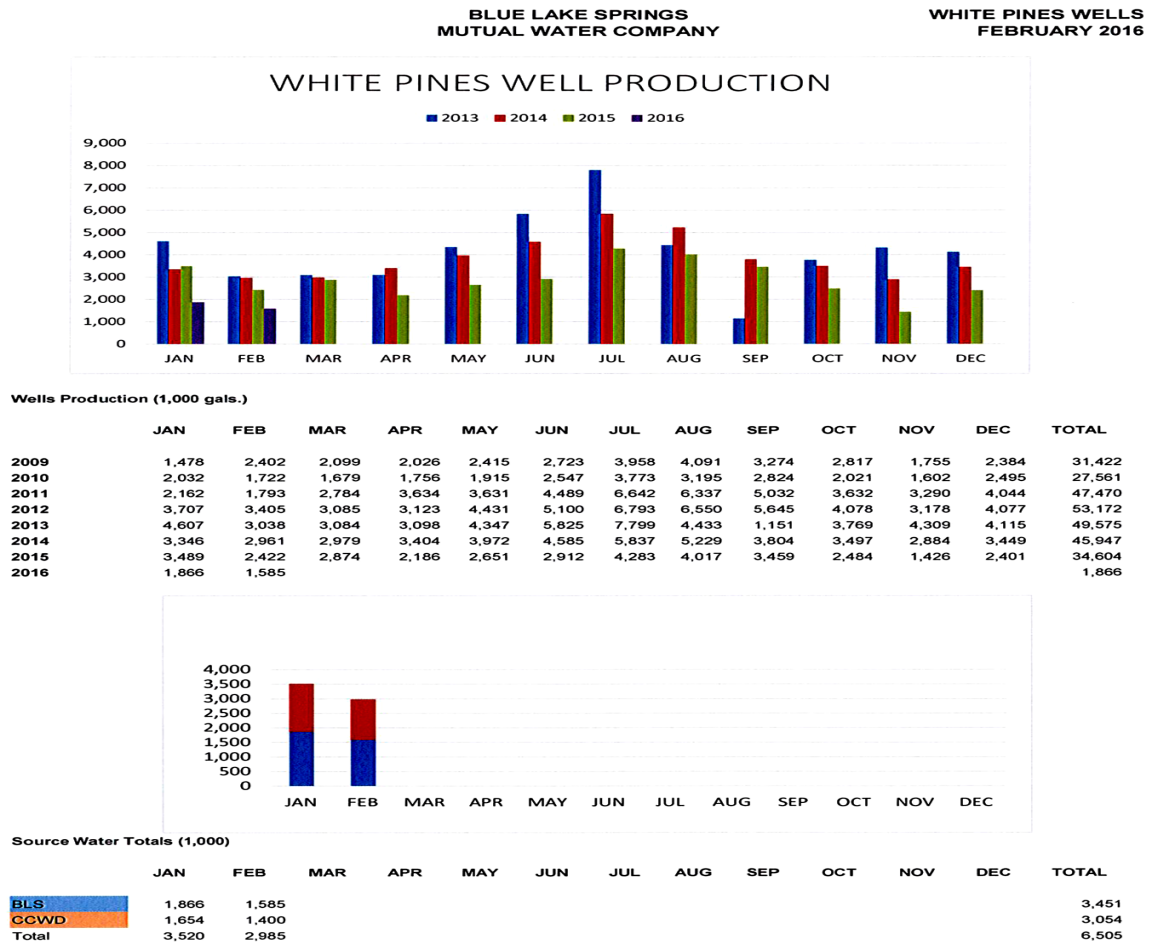
**Director Paul Penney**

**PO Box 3524**

**Arnold, CA 95223**



## White Pines Well Production Chart For February 2016



2016

# General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders

I hope everyone is enjoying the rain and snow we have been getting this season.

Let me give you the numbers for February.

## Water usage

February

2016 = 2,993,000 gallons

2015 = 2,480,000 gallons

2014 = 2,974,000 gallons

2013 = 3,157,000 gallons

As you can see, the usage was higher this year than 2015 and 2014, and only slightly lower than 2013.

This is probably due to more people coming up to their cabins to take advantage of the snow that finally fell this year, and the perception that because of recent storms, the Drought is over.

In truth, we are going to need several more years of good precipitation to pull us out of the Drought.

## Drought

We will remain in stage 2 of our Drought Action Plan, and ask for a 20% reduction in water use, until we see what the Dept. of Water Resources mandates for 2016 water reduction.

## Well 4

Our new well is in the final stage of construction. Some testing is being done on the equipment this week, and water samples will be taken next week. If everything goes right we should be pumping well 4 into our system by the end of March.

We expect 50 gallons per minute production out of this well, but we won't know for sure until after we run the well for a few months.

That's all for now.

Dave Hicks

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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. If you would like to submit an article or suggest ideas for improvement, please contact Pam Bowman  
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# President's Message

As the saying goes – March has come in like a lion. I read that water users in California have increased their daily usage. I would assume that is connected to the rainfall. Everyone is encouraged to continue the good habits engineered and learned over the past 2-3 years and continue to CONSERVE. What is the worst than can occur if we continue to conserve....have too much water?

The Board in February covered a couple of items I think you'd be interested in. We have entered into a contract with a firm that we have been working with to engage a long term, low interest loan, with the US Department of Agriculture. This is a competitive venture. As we have mentioned before, there are still some extensive infrastructure improvements (completion of the replacement piping from the original rear yard method out to the street utility right-of-way as well as some improvements to the water treatment plant) that are needed .

The completion of Well Site #4 is near....finally. Once connected, the average gallon per minute flow will be a bonus to the current well production. Our current wells are strong and have recovered nicely thanks to the recent rain and snow.

As you know, we opened a contract with the Calaveras County Water District in November 2015 and the partnership is functioning well.

The Water Company will be using the next six to eight months to compile a profile of residential water usage. We have engaged 60 volunteers, both part-time and full-time to report to BLSMWC when they are in their homes and the number of people present. The Water Company will be recording meter readings on the water consumption on those 60 units. Our goal will be to develop a user pattern. Using the results, we will be in a better position to be able to structure a user rate based upon consumption rather than the flat rate we currently employ.

Generally Water Company billing rates are a combination of a monthly flat rate, often called a base or meter rate and a use or consumption rate calculated in cubic feet. The use/consumption rate is then set in increasing amounts, based again on the number of cubic feet of water used over a fixed period of time, usually a month or two. [One cubic foot of water = 7.48gal]

If a household of two uses 180 gallons per day (gpd) in an average month, this would equate to 5,400 gallons per month (gpm) or 722 cubic feet (cf). Currently for the metered accounts, our Company's entry use rate is based upon 700cf for two months. If the 700cf threshold is exceeded, the rate payer is charged according to the amount used, over that base amount.

The "60 Survey" mentioned earlier will be most helpful in précising average daily use, which will in turn assist our Water Company's development of a billing structure. I would ask your patience as the transition is made to a metered system and the appropriate menu for actual use is developed. The goal is to connect cost fairness with actual use. We will get there.

Please take a bow for the conservation effort and encourage all who will listen to continue to do so.

Bob Maginnis,  
President