

# THE BUBBLER

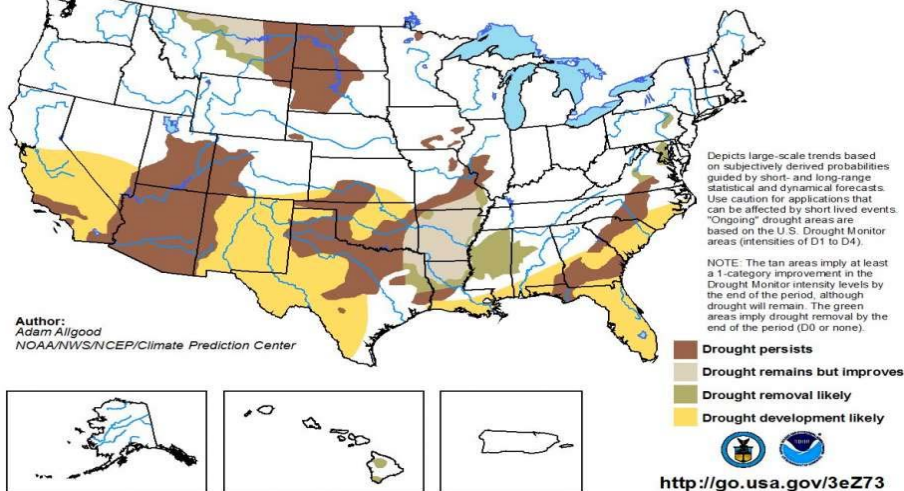
Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company Newsletter

February 2018

## Federal forecast sees drought likely returning to parts of California in 2018

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

Valid for December 21 - March 31, 2018  
Released December 21, 2017



A US Government weather forecaster on Thursday said drought conditions are likely to soon develop in a vast southern swath of California extending from San Diego to the North and East Bay Area.

In the northern half of the state, from San Francisco and the North Bay to the Oregon border, drought is unlikely in coming months.

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC), an agency of the National Weather Service, released this forecast in its [quarterly U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook map](#) for Dec. 21 to March 31, 2018. The drought prediction comes as Southern California has seen hardly a drop of rain since the start of the rainy season on October 1 and the Bay Area has recorded less than half an inch in many spots since Dec. 1. "The wet season has gotten off to a slow start in southern California, although precipitation has been more plentiful to the north, with beneficial snowfall accumulating across the Cascades and the northern and central Sierras," the [report](#) says.

Meteorologists believe the rainy season's dry start and indications that the pattern will continue tilted the map in favor of drought in Southern and Central California. The dry weather has been the result of a high pressure-ridge parked along the West Coast that has acted like an invisible wall blocking moisture-rich Pacific storms. These systems are stable and can stick around for weeks. Daniel Swain, a meteorologist at UCLA, says ocean temperatures in the eastern tropical Pacific are cool indicating the presence of a La Niña pattern and temperatures in the western tropical Pacific (not directly associated with La Niña) are warmer. "These conditions are both favorable for the persistence of North Pacific and West Coast high pressure ridges, which is what we've seen a lot of so far this winter," Swain says.

While La Niña can deliver a wide range of weather scenarios, it is most commonly known for bringing below-average precipitation and above-average temperatures to Southern California and sometimes the Bay Area.

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May your  
pockets be  
**HEAVY**  
and your  
heart  
be light.  
May good  
**luck**  
pursue you each  
morning and night...

February 2018

# General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders,

The month of January has been a disappointment in terms of snow and rainfall, but we still have a couple of months to go.

We are not anticipating adding drought restrictions for 2018, but we will be monitoring our usage, and comply with State Water Resources Control Board guidelines.

**Wells Water Levels**

The water levels in our wells are approaching maximum height. This is measured by feet of water above the pump intake.

Wells 2&3 - January 2017 159 feet above pump intake. 2018 is 162

Well 4 - January 2017 760 feet above pump intake. 2018 is 774

This data means that we will have enough water supply in our wells to supply all of Blue Lake Springs for 2018 if our supply from CCWD was stopped. We have a good agreement with CCWD to purchase half of our supply from them, and I don't see any change coming.

**January Usage**—Water usage in January was down from 2017 by 443,000 gallons. Part of this low usage is probably due to low cabin occupancy. With little snow at Bear Valley, we didn't get the usual number of people up to ski.

**Winterizing**

Even though the weather is unusually warm right now, please don't forget to close your water shut off valve at your cabin and drain your pipes when you leave.

Temperatures can drop fast in January and February, and we don't want any frozen pipes in our cabins.

**Tree Removal**—Calaveras County is going to be doing some tree removal in Blue Lake Springs to protect our county roads from dead hazard trees. Right of access documents are going out to those affected. More tree removal means more chance of damage to owners water service lines , septic tanks, and leach fields. If you are one of those affected, try and mark the location of these areas for the removal contractor.

**Water Pressure**—As always, if you notice low water pressure at your cabin, you can call the Water Company.

We will check it for you.

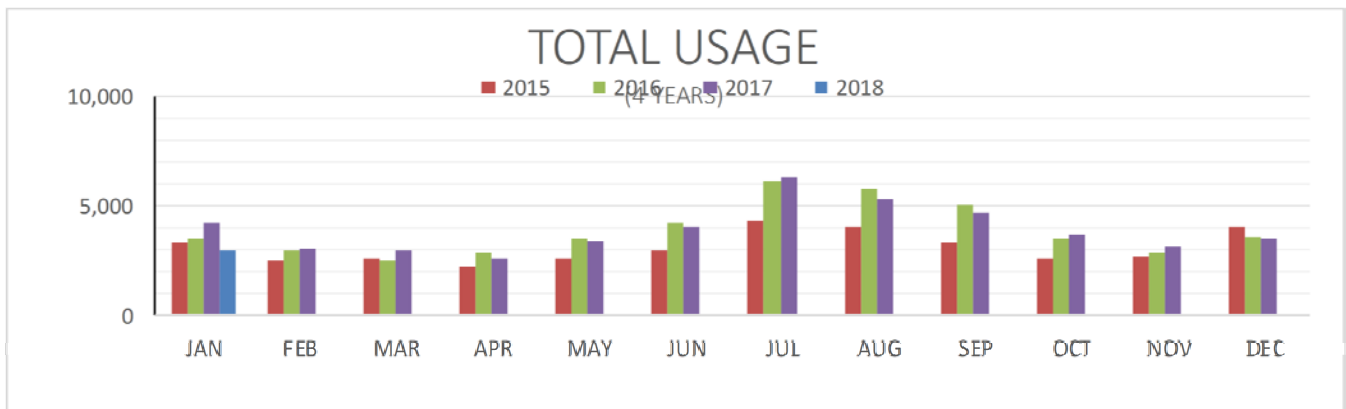
That's all for now.

Dave

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## January Usage Chart



# Presidents Report

Where did the Winter Go ...?

I am sure I am not the only one asking the question but where did winter go?

This is the time of the year we count on an increase in our water inventory that arises out of the seasonal snow fall ... but there has been little snow. What snow we have experienced wasn't very wet.

What then are the expectations for water in the months to come.

Since the inception of the contract with Calaveras County Water District (CCWD)

the measuring device that we use to attempt to measure available water in the Wells indicates that the supply is strong. In fact, it is stronger than in years past.

There are a couple of contributing factors to our water supply: We continue to use less water than in some years past and more importantly the notion of CONSERVATION is still embraced.

There have been some interesting articles recently about California and Water. One was over the debate on: El Nino and La Nina, or is it going to be wet in CA or not.

Another article spoke to the rich fullness of the storage areas in CA and the near overflowing reservoirs. Interesting, but we are a ground water company and are not supplied from a reservoir.

Everyone has two opinions over the water issue but BLS Water continues to believe that keeping a focus on Smart Water Use is the best program available.

The project that started last year that involves some residential access, expansion of hydrants and the install of upgraded water supply lines continues

to move forward. The unusual weather has allowed the program to expand where winter usually would prohibit any work.

Couple of reminders: You can pay your water bill by using your favorite credit card that accumulates miles!! .... AND, there is no conveyance fee. We are forever asking that you send us your email address, as we are forever expanding our email base.

Lastly, if you are concerned where your new water supply line or lateral is to be placed, let us know NOW.

Going to end here as February is a short month and this should be as well.

Happy Everything (Ground Hog, President's Day, Valentine's Day, Marti Gras, Ash Wednesday)

Bob Maginnis

President, BLSMWC

## Have an idea?

The Bubbler is published to keep Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company shareholders informed about issues and upcoming events. The Bubbler is a "monthly" newsletter and comes out following a regular scheduled Board Meeting so that we can keep you up to date on the most current information.

If you would like to submit an article or suggest ideas for improvement, please contact:

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## Long Range Planning Committee Report

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is searching for a candidate to fill a committee member vacancy. Our desire is to find a BLS shareholder in good standing with a background that supports the skills and criteria as described below. The LRPC's Charter is to serve as an advisory committee to the BLS Mutual Water Company Board of Directors. The LRPC provides on-going recommendations to help implement financially acceptable and technically practical water supply and demand management strategies to ensure a long term, dependable, and high quality water supply for the shareholders. The desired skills would include some background and experience in Project Management and Financial Planning. The candidate should be available to meet monthly, have a personal interest to improve BLS community, and willing to share with other team members in responsibility of taking on assignments. If interested, please notify the BLSMWC Office at (209) 795-7025 and a member of the LRPC will follow-up with you to discuss in further detail.

