

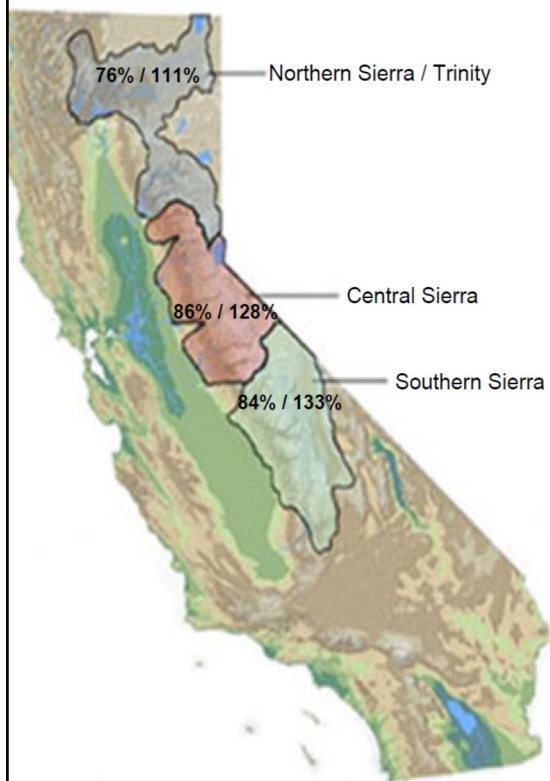
# THE BUBBLER

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company Newsletter

## Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors

% of April 1 Average / % of Normal for This Date



NORTH	
Data as of February 5, 2019	
Number of Stations Reporting	32
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	21.7
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	76
Percent of normal for this date (%)	111

CENTRAL	
Data as of February 5, 2019	
Number of Stations Reporting	45
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	26.1
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	86
Percent of normal for this date (%)	128

SOUTH	
Data as of February 5, 2019	
Number of Stations Reporting	30
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	21.4
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	84
Percent of normal for this date (%)	133

STATE	
Data as of February 5, 2019	
Number of Stations Reporting	107
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	23.5
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	83
Percent of normal for this date (%)	125

Statewide Average: 83% / 125%

Data as of February 5, 2019

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## General Manager's Report

Dear Shareholders,

January was fairly quiet as far as storms go, but it looks like February is coming on with a bang. Very cold temperatures, 18 degrees and colder in some places means frozen pipes. It happens every year, so don't you be one of the homeowners who arrive at the cabin to find water pouring out of an upstairs window, or no water because the pipes are frozen.

If you shut the main shutoff valve, and drain the house, and put a little environmentally friendly anti freeze in the toilet tank, you should have no worries. Don't count on your heater to keep the cabin warm.

### January Usage

The water usage in January was slightly higher than last year. I think more people came up to enjoy Winter.

Here are the numbers.

January

2013 4,265,000 gallons

2014 3,305,000

2015 3,329,000

2016 3,495,000

2017 4,223,000

2018 2,956,000

2019 3,417,000

We saved 20% of water usage compared to 2013, which is the State Drought comparison year.

### USDA Infrastructure Improvement Project

Not much work was done on our project because of the weather. Some service connection retro work was started in late January. This work involves replacing the old hardware in the the box with new brass fittings, and we will be adding a new pressure regulator in a separate round box. This box and regulator will be maintained by the homeowner.

Notification will be given to homeowners in the area that is being worked on, so please give us your email address and any other contact information.

You need to run the water at your cabin for a few minutes after the work is done.

Dave

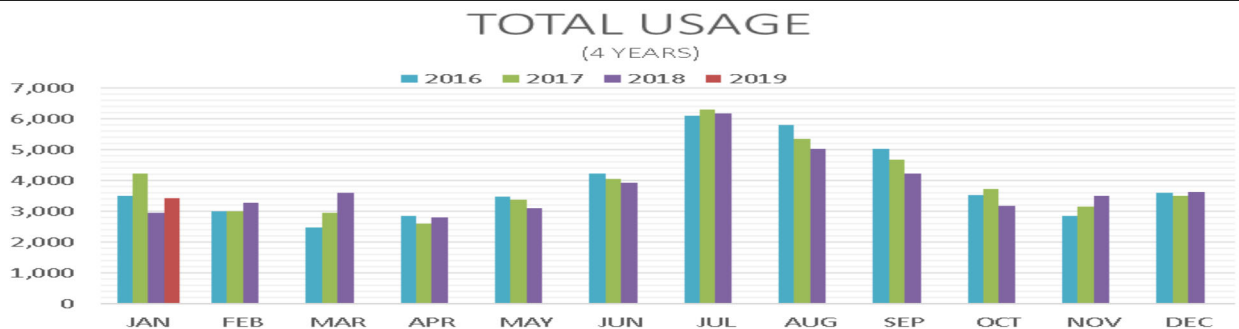
David Hicks

General Manager

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Co.

P.O.Box 6015, Arnold, CA 95223

## USAGE CHART FOR JANUARY 2019



# LRPC Report

## Meter Usage Study

Over the past month, the LRPC compiled water meter usage study data collected through year-end 2018. The current BLSMWC allotment included within the annual metered rate is 350 cubic feet per (CF) month. Study data shows overall average monthly usage decreased slightly from 308 CF in 2017 to 288 CF in 2018. As one would expect, average usage during the warm/dry summer months at 400 CF/month is almost double the cooler/wet months at only 222 CF/month. Over three-fourths of the readings for both years were below the 350 CF per month allotment, reflecting the continuing attention to conservation by a majority of our shareholders. On the flip side, there continues to be approximately 10% of the readings at or above 2X the monthly allotment. We encourage shareholders to review the usage data noted on their bill. Pay attention to the amounts consumed each month, and if you find that your usage is above the average amounts stated above, please take steps to conserve wherever possible. Visit our website or call the office for recommendations on ways to save. The LRPC will continue to collect usage data throughout 2019 and into 2020 as the remainder of meters are installed. Along with the history already documented, those usage levels and trends will be analyzed and factored into the final rate structure. We appreciate your sustained effort to conserve our precious water.

## Asset Management Plan

A meeting was held with MC Engineering on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> to review progress on the Asset Management Plan. As mentioned previously, Phase 1 efforts are focused on developing the GIS and Inventory Databases. To date, MC Engineering has completed approximately 70% of the GIS Mapping and has started to input the attribute values for each asset item, beginning with the water mains. They will work with the BLSMWC staff in February on inputting the related assets for the water treatment plant, wells, and remaining parts of the system. The plan is to complete the GIS database development in mid-February and start the Inventory Database, with the goal to complete that task by month-end March. Once Phase 1 is completed, a progress meeting will be held to thoroughly review the GIS Mapping and Inventory Database products as well as the proposed scope in the remaining tasks. The complete Asset Management Plan will be presented to the BOD for approval prior to proceeding forward.

## Work Scope Additions

As mentioned last month, the BLSMWC staff has proposed that several high priority tasks be added to the Construction Project. To evaluate these proposed tasks, MC Engineering has continued to work with Mzingo Construction, Inc. to obtain firm cost quotes and to identify schedule and funding impacts of each additional work task. This information is critical in determining the cost impact and risk of adding, or not adding, each task to the project. Based on the above, each additional task will be individually reviewed by the LRPC and BOD, and only authorized if economically and technically necessary.

## 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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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The atmospheric river is on the path to supply our well inventory. The heavy rains and wet snow are combined contributors that we haven't seen in at least 6 years.

Over the past number of years, we have developed some conservation standards and practices that do well going forward. The Water Company enjoys bragging about the continued decline in the amount of water that you the customer are consuming, and the Water Company would like to continue to do so.

Starting in the latter part of the year, the company begins preaching about the importance of WINTERIZING.

Winterizing is an art form that has some common denominators:

**1. Drain the pipes if you are gone, away for any reason over two days. The number 1 reason that homes are damaged is the**

**internal pipe(s) freeze and split open, then thaw .... Nothing good happens after that**

**2. Drain the exterior faucets, as we forget about them**

**3. If you are absent for an extended period, as in more than 6-7 days, you may choose to drain the hot water heater if the unit is in an unprotected area or cabinet of its own. If you choose to do so, remember to turn the GAS/AND**

**OR BREAKER OFF.**

**4. Drain and store hoses**

**5. Flush toilets and put 50/50**

**antifreeze/water into the holding tank/bowl (real cheap insurance)**

**6. Put a little antifreeze into sink drains, as water sits there and will freeze**

**7. Any exterior water system should be completely drained**

Won't take long to do all this and you just might save yourself some headache and damage.

Thanks for WINTERIZING and saving all of us some heartache.

Now....enjoy the snow, it's beauty and what it provides ....

Bob Maginnis

Board President

Blue Lake Springs Mutual Water Company

**If you choose not to  
find joy in the snow,  
you will have less joy  
in your life but still the  
same amount of  
snow.**

@mindfulfitness