

Veles Water Weekly Report

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VelesWater



WATER FUTURES MARKET ANALYSIS

Welcome to ***WATERTALK***

by Joshua Bell

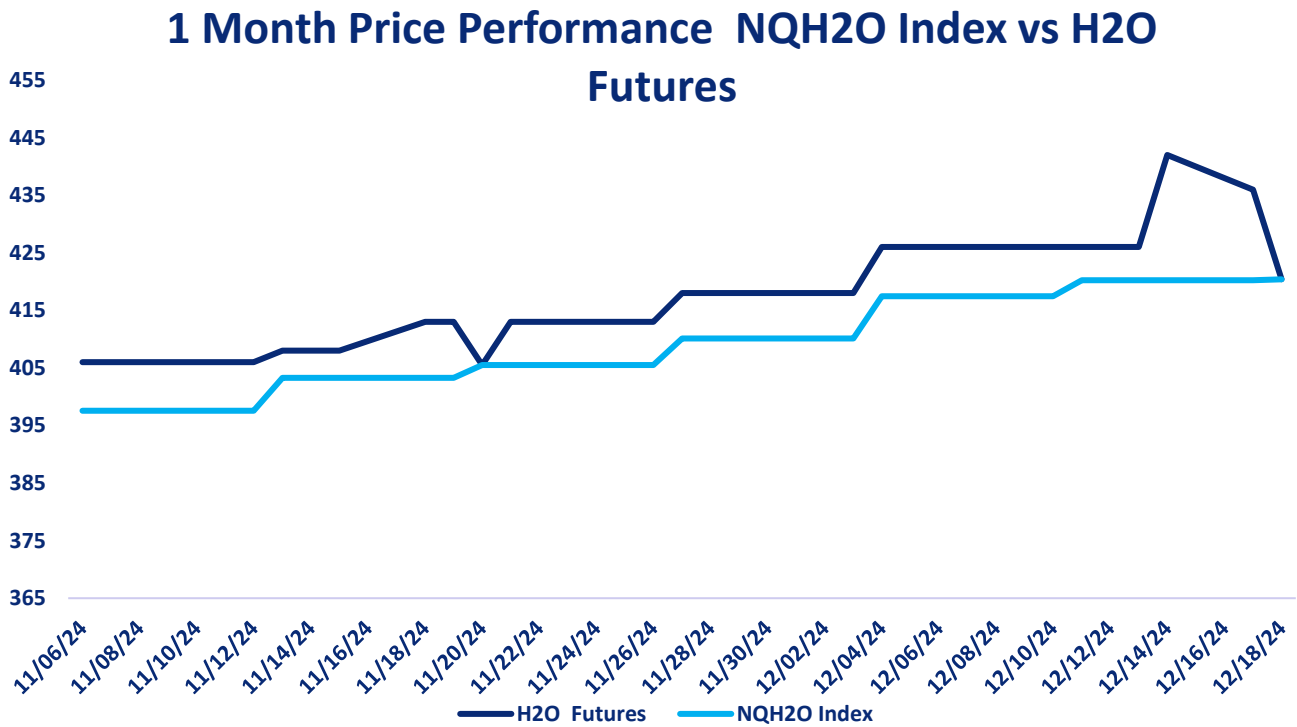
CLICK THE LINK BELOW

“A 2 minute technical analysis video of H2O futures”

<https://vimeo.com/1040672555?share=copy#t=0>



NQH2O INDEX PRICE vs H2O FUTURES PRICE



Price Chart Based upon Daily Close

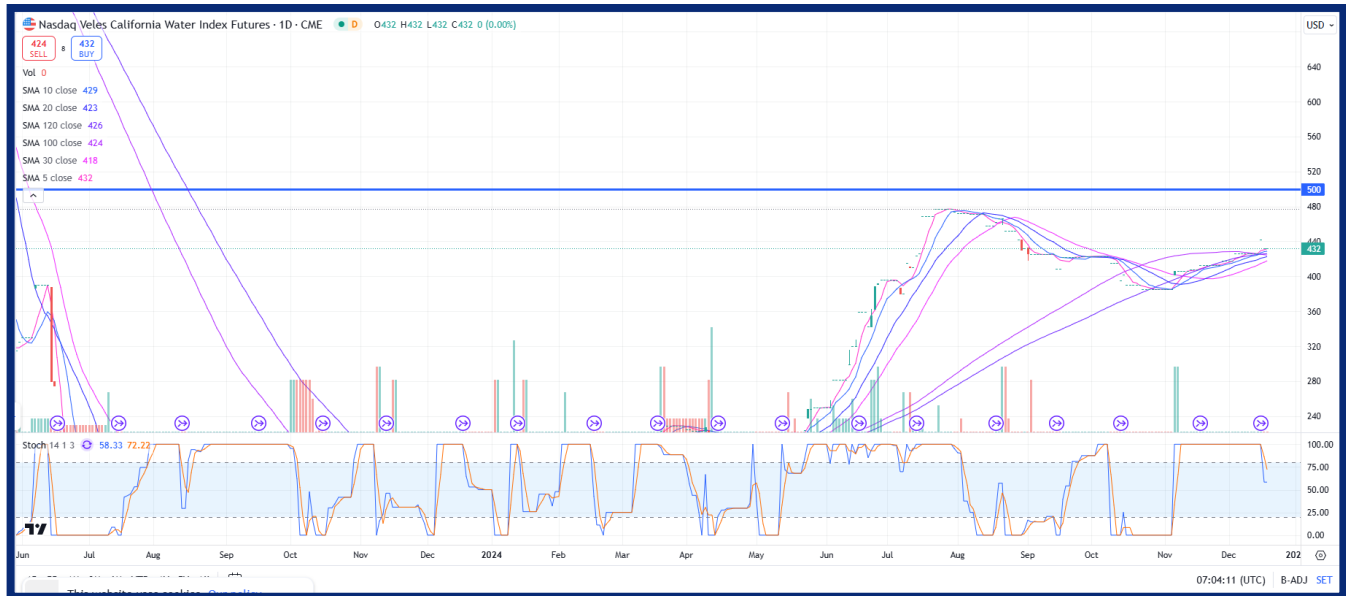
The new NQH2O index level of \$420.40 was published on December 18th up \$0.16 or 0.04% from the previous week. The December contract settled at the new index level and the January contract is considered the front month. The futures prices have closed at a premium of \$5.76 to \$21.76 versus the index over the past week.

Below are the bid offer prices on different expiries being quoted in the market.

Jan 25	424@432
Feb 25	422@448
Mar 25	404@490
June 25	480@510
June 26	550@610



H2O FUTURES TECHNICAL REPORT



Price Action

- **Current Price:** 432
- The price has remained flat in today's trading session, indicating no change in momentum.

Moving Averages (MA) Analysis

- **MA 5 (5-day Moving Average):** 432
 - The current price is sitting exactly on the MA 5, suggesting short-term neutrality.
- **MA 10 (10-day Moving Average):** 429
 - The price is slightly above the MA 10, indicating mild short-term bullish momentum.
- **MA 20 (20-day Moving Average):** 423
 - The price is also above the MA 20, signaling strength in the short-term trend.
- **MA 30 (30-day Moving Average):** 418
 - The price is above the MA 30, confirming medium-term bullish momentum.
- **MA 100 (100-day Moving Average):** 427
 - The price is slightly above the MA 100, signaling an improving long-term trend.



- **MA 120 (120-day Moving Average): 426**
 - The price is also above the MA 120, reinforcing the strengthening long-term outlook.

Support and Resistance

- **Immediate Resistance: 500**
 - This level has been tested multiple times and remains a key resistance point for a potential breakout.
- **Immediate Support: 432 (current price level)**
 - The current price is acting as support. If it drops below this level, the next significant support would be around the MA 100 at 427.

Stochastic Oscillator

- **K%: 58.33, D%: 72.22**
 - The stochastic indicator suggests that the market is in neutral territory, neither overbought nor oversold. This signals a potential continued upward movement if buying interest persists, or sideways consolidation in the short term.

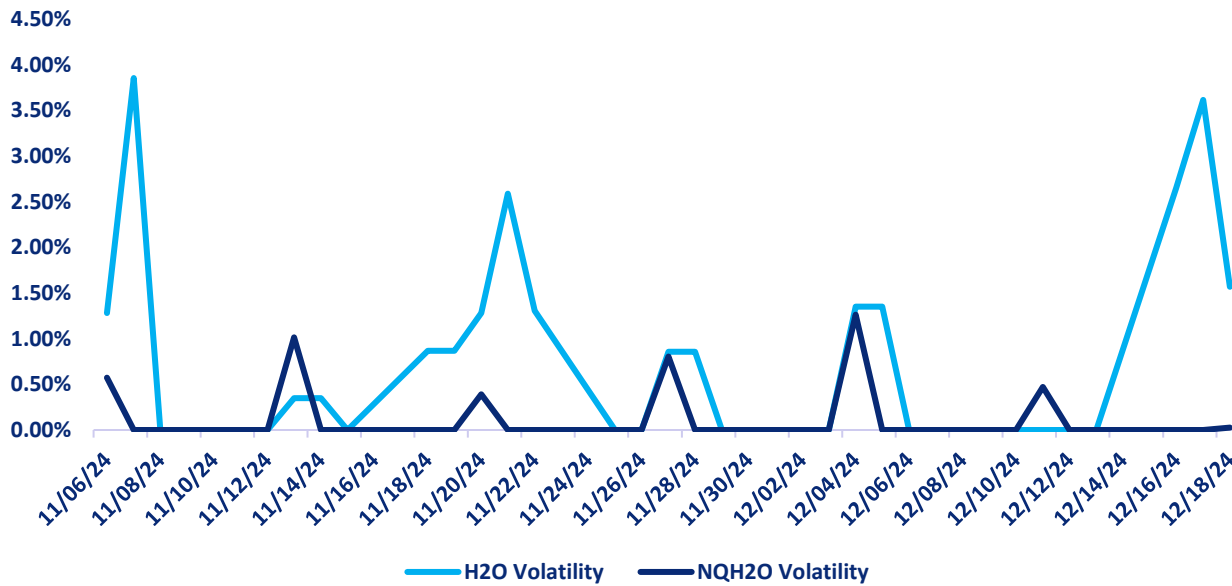
Summary

- The price is currently showing short-term and medium-term bullish momentum, as it is above the MA 10, MA 20, and MA 30.
- The long-term trend is improving, with the price sitting above the MA 100 and MA 120, signalling a strengthening outlook.
- The stochastic indicator signals neutral market conditions, leaving room for further upward movement or consolidation.
- Key levels to watch:
 - Support: 432 and the MA 100 at 427.
 - Resistance: 500, which remains a critical level for a breakout.



H2O FUTURES AND NQH2O INDEX VOLATILITY ANALYSIS

Daily H2O Futures Volatility vs Daily NQH2O Index Volatility



DAILY VOLATILITY

Over the last week the December contract daily future volatility high has been 3.62%.

ASSET	1 YEAR (%)	2 MONTH (%)	1 MONTH (%)	1 WEEK (%)
NQH2O INDEX	29.03%	5.55%	1.76%	0.63%
H2O FUTURES	N/A	8.47%	6.20%	5.97%

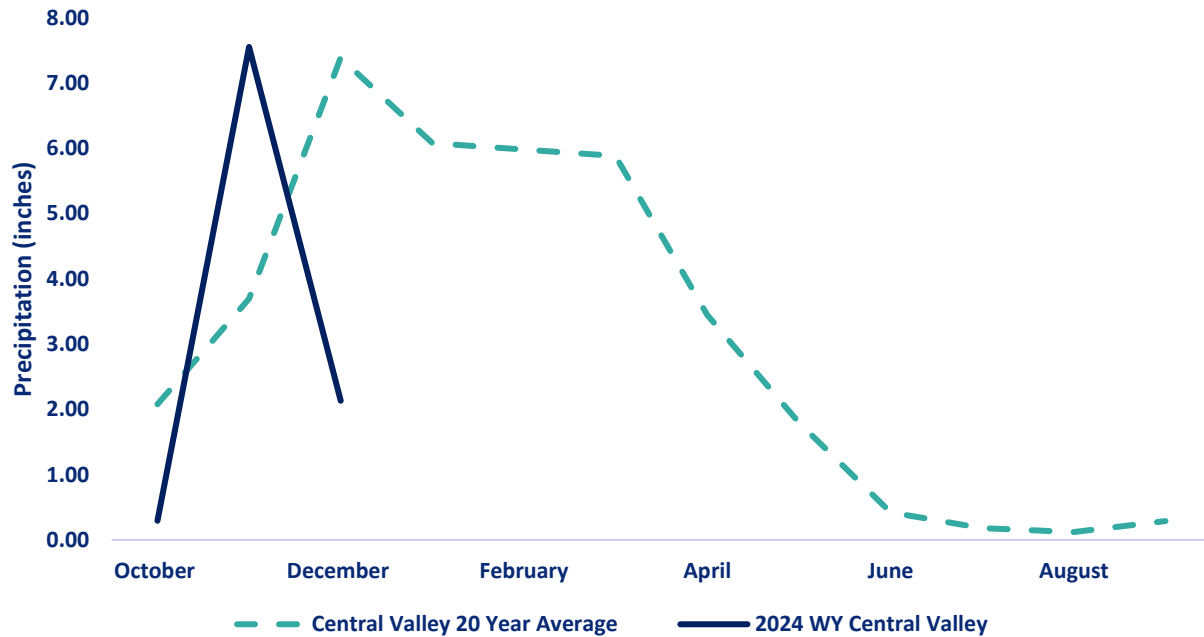
For the week ending on December 18th, the two-month futures volatility is at a premium of 2.92% to the index, up 2.42% from the previous week. The one-month futures volatility is at a premium of 4.44% to the index, up 1.95% The one-week futures volatility is at a premium of 5.34% to the index, volatility.

*Above prices are all **HISTORIC VOLATILITIES**. All readings refer to closing prices as quoted by CME.*



CENTRAL VALLEY PRECIPITATION REPORT

Central Valley Precipitation Index



Central Valley average is calculated using data from 19 weather stations in the Central Valley, California.
Data as of 18/12/2024

STATION	MTD (INCHES)	WEEK ON WEEK CHANGE (INCHES)	% OF 20 YEAR AVERAGE MTD	2025 WYTD VS 2024 WYTD %	2025 WY VS 20 YEAR AVERAGE TO DATE %
SAN JOAQUIN 5 STATION (5SI)	1.4	1.40	20.57	25	62
TULARE 6 STATION (6SI)	0.35	0.35	6.95	19	85
NORTHERN SIERRA 8 STATION (8SI)	4.64	4.64	44.99	42	137
CENTRAL VALLEY AVERAGE	2.13	2.13	28.84	29	95

RESERVOIR STORAGE

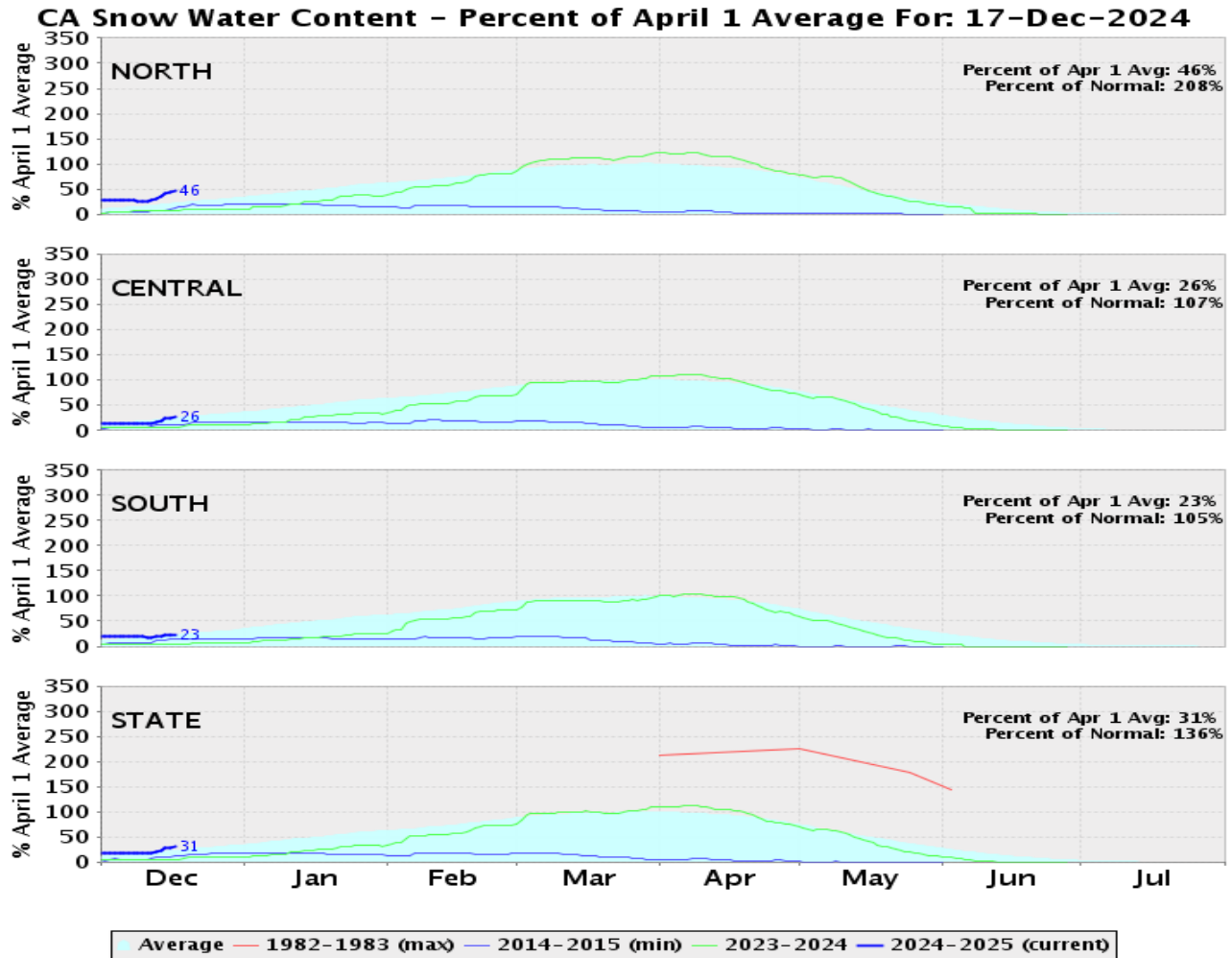
RESERVOIR	STORAGE (AF)	% CAPACITY	LAST YEAR % CAPACITY	*% HISTORICAL AVERAGE
TRINITY LAKE	1,701,474	70	50	118
SHASTA LAKE	2,899,362	64	67	113
LAKE OROVILLE	1,982,599	56	66	110
SAN LUIS RES	1,400,152	69	55	120

*% Historical Average is based on a daily average that is interpolated from historical monthly averages. The monthly averages are computed using monthly data from water year 1991 to 2020. The monthly averages are updated every 5 years using a sliding 30 year period.

[Reference: California Water Data Exchange](#)



SNOWPACK WATER CONTENT



REGION	*SNOWPACK WATER EQUIVALENT (INCHES)	WEEK ON WEEK CHANGE (INCHES)	% OF AVERAGE LAST YEAR	% OF 20 YEAR HISTORICAL AVERAGE	% OF HISTORICAL **APRIL 1ST BENCHMARK
NORTHERN SIERRA	8.3	8.3	38	162	30
CENTRAL SIERRA	4.5	4.5	33	76	16
SOUTHERN SIERRA	4.5	4.5	12	103	20
STATEWIDE	5.6	5.6	30	107	21

*Snow Water Equivalent, or SWE, is a commonly used measurement used by hydrologists and water managers to gauge the amount of liquid water contained within the snowpack. In other words, it is the amount of water that will be released from the snowpack when it melts. SWE has regional variance.

** April 1st is used as the benchmark as it when the snowpack in California is generally deepest. It has been used the benchmark date since 1941 by DWR and can be used to predict spring river flow.



DROUGHT MONITOR

California

[Home](#) / California

Map released: Thurs. December 12, 2024

Data valid: December 10, 2024 at 7 a.m. EST

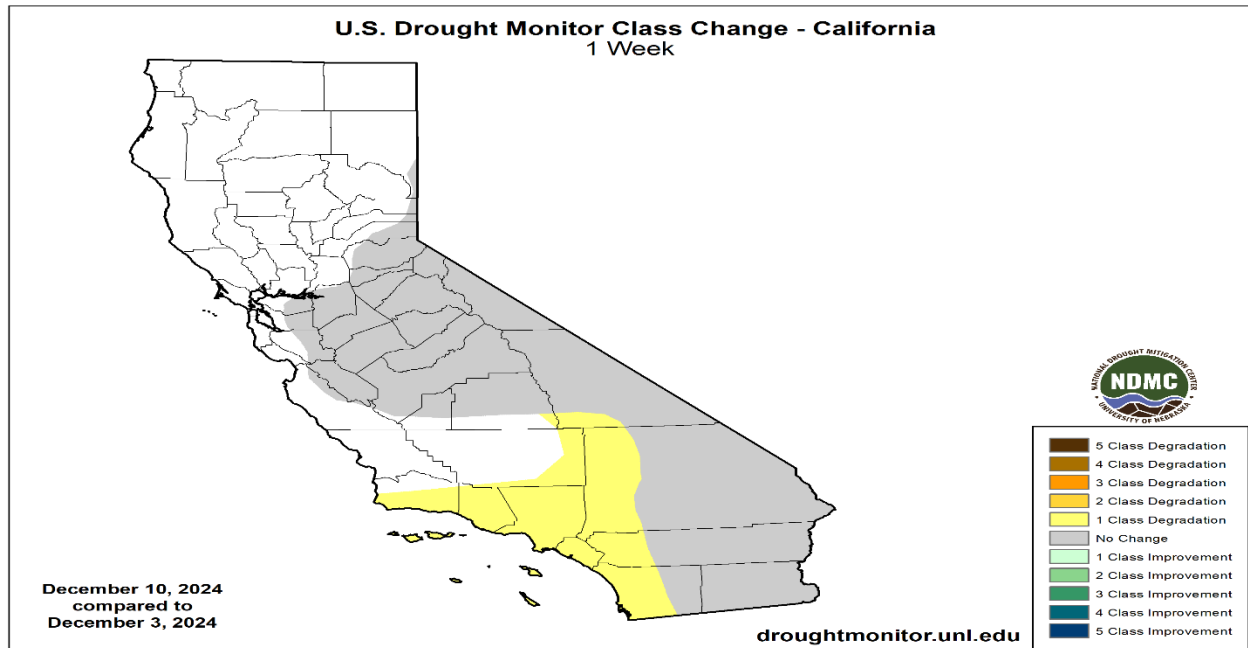
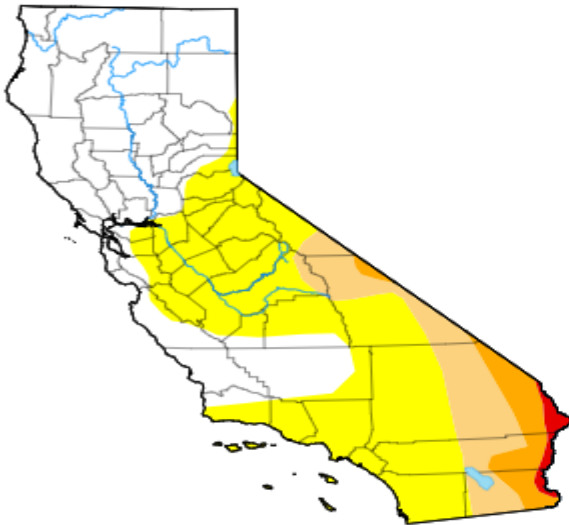
Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
[Curtis Rigganti](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
[Lindsay Johnson](#), National Drought Mitigation Center



Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	DSCI
Current	2024-12-10	43.46	56.54	16.72	5.70	1.03	0.00	80
Last Week to Current	2024-12-03	56.78	43.22	16.72	5.70	1.03	0.00	67
3 Months Ago to Current	2024-09-10	28.59	71.41	10.68	0.08	0.00	0.00	82
Start of Calendar Year to Current	2023-12-26	96.65	3.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3
Start of Water Year to Current	2024-10-01	28.40	71.60	10.67	0.08	0.00	0.00	82
One Year Ago to Current	2023-12-12	96.33	3.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4

The U.S Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Map courtesy of NDMC.



CURRENT SATELLITE IMAGERY

The satellite picture is showing some Pacific storms hitting the Canadian west coast and will affect the Northwestern US. The southwest is clear with the northern mid-west experiencing very cold air coming down from Canada. The eastern coastline has a series of storms exiting it into the Atlantic.

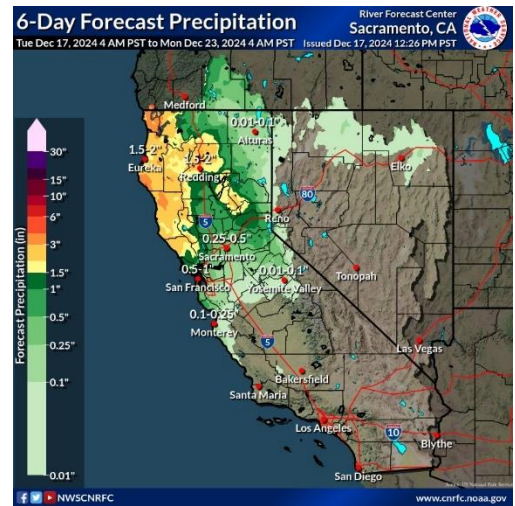


Map Ref: Zoom Earth

10 Day Outlook

Most changes to the afternoon forecast come from decreasing amounts associated with the third wave forecast to impact areas north of the I-80 corridor on Monday due to a later onset of atmospheric river conditions and precipitation. 24-hour totals ending 12Z 23 December have decreased by up to half an inch over the North Coast and Shasta Drainage, but generally decreased across all portions of the northern forecast area.

Outside of Day 6, changes were minimal with slight modifications being made due to guidance from the NBM and WPC. With the adjustments to Day 3, the second of 3 systems on Day 2 now looks to be the heaviest of the 3-day long term window with >1.0 inches across the Coast Range southward to the Russian Basin, up to 1.4 inches over the Shasta Drainage, and >1.0 inches over the Feather Basin in the Northern Sierra. Activity is still forecast to continue after the long term window with the potential for heavier precipitation around the Holidays.



Reference: National Weather Service / California Nevada RFC / Sacramento CA



WESTERN WEATHER DISCUSSION

Primarily dry weather occurred in the West this week, except for western Washington, western Oregon, western Montana and northern Idaho. Most of the West finished this week either within 5 degrees of normal or 5-10 degrees warmer than normal. Central and eastern Montana saw widespread temperatures range from 10-15 degrees above normal. Widespread improvements to drought conditions occurred in western Montana and adjacent Idaho due to lessened short- and long-term precipitation deficits and increased soil moisture. In central Washington, small adjustments (both improvements and degradations) occurred in abnormal dryness and moderate drought areas where streamflow amounts and short- and long-term precipitation deficits changed. Short-term precipitation deficits continued to mount in southern and central Nevada and in southern California, leading to expansion of drought and abnormal dryness areas there.

Reference:

Lindsay Johnson, National Drought Mitigation Center
Richard Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



WATER NEWS

CALIFORNIA WATER NEWS

Kern Subbasin Approves Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan

The Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) have finalized and approved a coordinated Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), endorsed by all 20 GSAs. The adopted plan addresses deficiencies previously identified by the California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board. Originally drafted in May 2024, the final version was revised based on feedback from the State Water Resources Control Board staff and public comments. The plan can be found at <https://kerngsp.com/gsp-documents/>.

“We are very well-coordinated and worked together to address all deficiencies identified by the State, and I am extremely pleased with the collaborative approach that produced this unified plan”

Key components of the plan include a coordination agreement among all 20 GSAs in the Kern County Subbasin, a robust domestic well mitigation program, and extensive improvements in technical areas like water quality and subsidence monitoring. All of these enhancements will ensure the sustainable management of groundwater resources in Kern County and avoid potentially undesirable results from excessive groundwater pumping.

“We are very well-coordinated and worked together to address all deficiencies identified by the State, and I am extremely pleased with the collaborative approach that produced this unified plan,” said Derek Yurosek, chair of the Coordination Committee for Kern County Subbasin.

There has been significant effort put into public outreach and transparency regarding the plan. Efforts included the development of a website as a source for public information, targeted workshops with key stakeholder groups, and informational materials distributed at public events such as the Water Day at the Kern County Fair, water district events, community services district events, and more.

The plan, which is supported by 35 water agencies and community service districts within the Kern County Subbasin, includes the revised sustainable management criteria (SMCs) while reflecting a collaborative approach and a clear path towards achieving long-term sustainability.

“We are proud that the 2024 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan is a unified document developed using the best available science that will guide us towards a sustainable future for all, including our disadvantaged communities. Being a small CSD in a disadvantaged area with a seat at the table, we feel represented and protected. We urge the State Water Resources Control Board to approve this plan and support its



implementation,” added Raul Barraza, Jr., General Manager, Arvin Community Services District.

Original Article: [Business Wire](#)

Opinion-A historic partnership for water security in desert communities

For many sovereign tribal nations who call the desert home, water insecurity is a reality that shapes everyday life. For too long, the needs of tribal communities across the country have been overlooked in critical decisions regarding vital water resources, leaving many with unreliable water access. Tribes in the Pacific Southwest are now in a position to change that.

For the first time in history, Indian tribes have a seat at the table, and together with Cadiz, Inc., are creating what [will be](#) the first major water infrastructure project to be majority owned by tribes for the benefit of tribes, farmworker and other historically underserved communities.

The Mojave Groundwater Bank will utilize a large aquifer with 30-50 million acre-feet of water in storage, located at Cadiz in California’s Mojave Desert, to provide reliable and affordable water to communities that currently lack clean, secure water supplies. The aquifer is naturally recharged by 1,000 years of rain and snowmelt from surrounding high desert mountains. Water currently lost to evaporation will be captured, stored and redistributed to surrounding communities for generations to come.

One of the unique features of the Mojave Groundwater Bank is its [year-round monitoring](#) of sensitive desert ecosystems, including springs and cultural resources that are sacred to tribal communities.

The Mojave Groundwater Bank’s design includes advanced monitoring systems to ensure that healthy groundwater levels are maintained, and any adverse impacts can be avoided before they occur. Tribes interested in assessing the project’s impacts [have full and free access](#) to all monitoring data.

Cadiz’s partnership approach to developing this groundwater bank puts tribal communities at the forefront of water delivery in the region, ensuring that decisions about the region’s water supply will be guided by those with deep connections to the land. Indeed, the reason I joined the effort to develop this important project is *because* Cadiz has chosen to partner with tribes, including the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians and the Lytton Rancheria of California, which [recently announced a proposed investment of up to \\$50 million](#) in the project.

This is a historic opportunity, not only for tribes to secure and protect their water rights and advance tribal sovereignty, but for all communities in the desert that depend on thoughtful, inclusive water management for survival.

Tribal leadership in this project will blend knowledge with innovation, history with foresight, technology with tradition, including repurposing fossil fuel infrastructure



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designed for oil and gas to instead deliver water. Cadiz made the [historic announcement](#) last month that the project will repurpose steel from the Keystone XL pipeline project to convey water in the desert.

Former Tribal Chairman Dave Archambault II of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, [captured the importance of celebrating victories and rewarding courage in the era of climate change](#): “It’s inspiring to see that sometimes hope and history align. The steel from the Keystone pipeline has found a new purpose—now transporting what gives life to everything: water. I commend the Cadiz leadership for their vision of creating a better future for our children.”

Water is life. By managing this project responsibly, tribes will take their place as stewards of their ancestral lands and ensure that the benefits of this great Mojave aquifer flow to all who call this region home.

Original Article: [Desert Sun by David Sickey](#)

Escondido will spend millions of dollars to seal off a creek after a sudden encampment sweep

Escondido has finished moving more than 50 people out of a large creek encampment one day after the city manager [declared an environmental emergency](#) in the waterway. The City Council on Monday unanimously signed off on that decision and a police official said 36 individuals had agreed to accept some form of help from the dozen or so service organizations that showed up this week as officers and clean-up crews sealed off part of Escondido Creek.

Leaders also budgeted \$4 million to install a fence around the area and potentially remove thick foliage that has helped hide tents.

Mayor Dane White praised the sweep as a success while cautioning that growing homelessness in the region nonetheless showed the failure of many other systems. “It’s a failure of the mental health system in the state, the criminal justice system, and in some aspects, our own failures to provide adequate shelter to those who need it,” he said from the dais.

White again promised to expand the number of available shelter beds in the city, particularly for those needing addiction treatment.

City Manager Sean McGlynn said after Monday’s meeting that this was his first such declaration since being hired in 2021. The move was unrelated to Escondido’s camping ban, which passed over the summer as the U.S. Supreme Court [gave](#) municipalities more freedom to clear encampments regardless of whether shelter is available.

Paper notices were distributed early Sunday that warned those living in the camp by Harmony Grove Road that they had 24 hours to leave. By Monday afternoon, police SUVs lined the street. Orange lights flashed from city vehicles. An empty dump truck rumbled



toward the water as a pickup pulled onto the road, its bed filled with bicycle wheels and baskets.

Across the street, a handful of people huddled by shopping carts overflowing with blankets.

Outreach organizations — including Interfaith Community Services, the YMCA and Neighborhood Healthcare — set up in front of the nearby Church of God, and officials said everybody in the camp who agreed to accept shelter got a bed.

The sweep was prompted by recent creek water tests that showed high levels of coliform and enterococci, bacteria that can represent the presence of human waste as well as other contaminants. But people living in the surrounding neighborhood have also complained that the encampment brought thefts and threats.

Last year, there were 24 calls for service in the area, according to Deputy City Manager Christopher McKinney. This year there have been 64.

One man who lives in a nearby home, Chris Bouchard, thanked the council for the sweep and said people from the encampment had repeatedly tried to break into at least one of his vehicles.

The five “yes” votes approving the emergency declaration included Councilmember Consuelo Martinez, a Democrat who’s sometimes [opposed homelessness policies](#) put forward by her more conservative colleagues. Martinez said Monday that she was conflicted about the cleanup but ultimately felt it was necessary.

The \$4 million will be taken from the city’s general fund reserves. It’s not yet clear, however, exactly how much a new fence might cost.

Leaders said the clean-up will likely continue through the week.

Darrick Jackson, a 38-year-old who’d lived in the encampment, watched trucks pull in and out of the creek Monday afternoon. Jackson said he’d been up all night packing, and while he was able to grab his fiancé’s medication and blankets for his dog, a Brazilian terrier named Mala, he hadn’t been able to save their tent.

Jackson wasn’t sure where they’d sleep tonight, partially because he was still waiting for his fiancé to return from an errand.

A man and a woman on bicycles slowed down to greet Mala. Jackson lamented that they all hadn’t done a better job “policing themselves” and felt most of the confrontations with neighbors had been caused by a single individual. “We all know who it was,” Jackson said.

The man on the bike demurred. “It was a lot of people.” Then he asked how Jackson’s fiancé was handling the upheaval.

“She’s gonna be pissed,” Jackson said.

The man was stunned. “She doesn’t know?”

Original Article: [The San Diego Tribune by Blake Nelson](#)



Coming storms could buoy California snowpack after late start

The winter snowpack started accumulating later than usual in California, but a series of early-season storms have pushed totals above average for this time of year.

With multiple storm fronts forecast to sweep through Northern California in the coming days, the northernmost regions of the Sierra Nevada have already seen snowpack levels well above what is typical for this time of year. The range's regions further south, meanwhile, are around or below average, in a pattern that aligns with a developing La Niña.

As of Thursday, the California snowpack was 101% of the Dec. 12 normal, according to data from the statewide cooperative snow surveys. The northern Sierra Nevada and Trinity alps were at 156% of the Dec. 12 normal, while the central (70%) and southern Sierra Nevada (104%) were at or below average.

The disparity between the southern and northern parts of the state could persist as the La Niña weather pattern exerts its influence.

La Niña, characterized by cooler-than-average waters in the equatorial Pacific, typically steers winter storm tracks toward the Pacific Northwest and Northern California. This can lead to colder, wetter and snowier conditions in the northern part of the state, while Californians further south often experience drier winters.

The typical La Niña pattern extends to the rest of North America, with more snow storms dipping southward from the cold, counter-clockwise-spinning polar vortex, resulting in storms that move across the northern U.S. from west to east, sometimes referred to as an "arctic blast."

Original Article: [San Francisco Examiner by Evan Wyloge](#)

Newsom, Trump could align to get Delta tunnel built

The Metropolitan Water District board on Wednesday voted to invest another \$142 million into the planning for the Delta Conveyance Project.

The vote followed an update at Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting by Karen Lange, a partner in the lobbying firm of Shaw Yoder Schmeizer & Lange, which represents Solano County's interests in Sacramento.

Among her comments was the political reality that getting the tunnel project built may be a common-ground issue for Gov. Gavin Newsom's and President-elect Donald Trump's administrations.

"That is seemingly one of the things the federal and state administrations may align ... trying to get this tunnel built," Lange said.

The Metro funds will help with the cost of "environmental planning and pre-construction costs" for the Delta tunnel project in 2026 and 2027.

"After careful consideration, our board took this step because it allows us to gather critical information about the project's benefits and costs that will allow us to evaluate



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whether we will participate in the full construction of the project,” Water District board Chairman Adán Ortega Jr. said in a statement.

“This has been a collaborative process in which we have worked with the state to ensure permitting and certification processes will be completed in 2026 and that we will see project benefits proportionate to our funding level,” Ortega added. “We are also pleased that the state provided safeguards to mitigate spending if circumstances prevent key components of planning from moving forward. The state also committed to identifying new, long-term financing approaches for the project, while also developing ways to improve the near-term reliability of State Water Project infrastructure.”

Lange called it a “pretty big week for the Delta.”

“It's not the final stop on this journey financially, it's just phasing that is part of it,” Lange told the board. “They anticipate voting potentially on the construction costs in a year or two.”

She said her firm did send a letter to the district opposing the funding. Lange also noted that her agency is “definitely keen” to the project's path.

“We're talking (about the project) on the Delta county calls that we have; just trying to track it,” she said.

“Looking into 2025, I think there will be a lot of things that we talk about in the Delta Counties Coalition, trying to protect the Delta as a place and the county's interest in regard to the ... tunnel effort,” Lange said.

Original Article: [Daily Republic by Todd R. Hansen](#)

Reclamation boosts cap for water recycling projects

The Bureau of Reclamation told Western lawmakers it will increase the amount it spends on large-scale water recycling by up to \$10 million per project, a boost meant to help address rising construction costs.

Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton told California Sen. Alex Padilla (D) and nearly 30 other lawmakers who had pressed for the increase that her agency would bump up the per-project cap on federal funding for water recycling to \$40 million, up from its current \$30 million limit.

“Reclamation recognizes that project costs for many water infrastructure projects have increased significantly in recent years,” Touton [wrote in a Dec. 6 letter](#). “Based on a review of project costs, as well the expected availability of funding to support the current number of applicable projects, we agree that a further increase in the project ceiling to \$40 million is appropriate.”

Original Article: [E&E News by Jennifer Yachin](#)



US WATER NEWS

Lower Boise Watershed Council, ag producers step up to improve water quality in Boise River

When the [Lower Boise Watershed Council](#) first set goals for improving water quality in the Lower Boise River in the 2000s, the challenge seemed profoundly daunting for all concerned.

At the time, the Lower Boise River did not meet state or federal water quality standards for temperature, sediment, phosphorous and bacteria. Municipal wastewater treatment plants from Boise, Nampa, Meridian and other cities were all discharging increasing amounts of Class A treated water to the Boise River due to population growth. Agricultural return flows, drains and river-side livestock operations caused the Lower Boise to run chocolate brown below Caldwell and Middleton, carrying heavy loads of sediment and phosphorous into the river.

Water quality standards initially developed through Total Maximum Daily Load baseline plans created by the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in 2003 and 2009 projected it would take 140 years to reach recommended water quality standards just for total phosphorous, for example.

“I didn’t ever think I’d see the light at the end of the tunnel,” said Dan Steenson, an attorney for Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District who has served agricultural interests on the Lower Boise Watershed Council for more than 20 years.

Lower Boise farmers and ranchers were not required to make immediate improvements from a legal and regulatory standpoint, but as an attorney, Steenson knew that the ag producers could be vulnerable to a lawsuit under the Clean Water Act . So in 2009, he rolled up his sleeves to work together with the members of the Lower Boise Watershed Council, the cities, the Canyon Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Idaho Legislature to beef-up funding for ag-based conservation projects in the area.

“My thought was our best defense would be to create a good offense with more funding for the implementation of conservation projects in the Lower Boise River watershed,” Steenson said. “Participation is voluntary for ag groups, but the cities were spending hundreds of millions of dollars to make water quality improvements, and it made sense for us to do what we could to make improvements.

“Today, we can show that ag has stepped up, and there have been significant reductions in sediment and phosphorous levels in the Lower Boise River.”

This is a big picture view of ag best management practice projects implemented in the Lower Boise Watershed. Green pins indicate the use of no-till drills in fields; yellow pins refer to pivot or drip irrigation projects. (Courtesy DEQ 2024 Lower Boise TMDL Implementation Plan)



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USGS data show water quality improvements, less phosphorus since 2009

Indeed, recent U.S. Geological Survey data included in a 2024 report on the Lower Boise River water quality from the Lower Boise Watershed Council and Idaho DEQ show a strong trendline of substantial water quality improvements since 2009.

On the ag side, approximately 60 conservation projects have been implemented on Lower Boise River farms and ranches with more than \$10 million invested to treat 18,600 acres of land, reducing sediment by 25,500 tons per year and total phosphorous loads of 53,770 pounds per year, according to the 2024 Lower Boise River Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plan, authored by the Lower Boise Watershed Council and Idaho DEQ.

Many of those improvements have been made via converting flood-irrigated lands to more efficient pivot irrigation systems and installing livestock best management practices such as riparian fencing or off-stream water troughs. In addition, there's also been a major increase in no-till, direct-seed farming in the lower Boise River area.

Over the last 10 years, the implementation of ag best management practices on farms, including pivots, has reduced total phosphorous levels by 92,896 pounds, a savings of 9,290 pounds per year.

Urbanization is playing a big role, too.

The growth of subdivisions in the Lower Boise area is playing a big factor in reducing sediment and phosphorous loads. Farms converted to subdivisions over the last 10 years have taken about 36,000 acres of land out of production, resulting in a reduction of 216,828 pounds of total phosphorous, according to the Lower Boise DEQ report. Combined, best management practices projects and urbanization have resulted in a total phosphorous reduction of 412,392 pounds per year in the Lower Boise River over the last 10 years.

Now Steenson can see the light at the end of the tunnel. "With continued implementation of our water-quality improvement projects and urbanization, we're seeing that we could reach our total phosphorous goals within a 30 year period," he said. The Lower Boise Watershed Council, combining their efforts with the Canyon Soil and Conservation District to improve water quality on ag lands, operate like a well-oiled machine – the council wins a steady stream funding for conservation projects, the Canyon district has a roster of landowners ready to step up and implement projects. The Canyon district has seasoned conservation professionals on staff to plan and implement projects with the landowners.

"I think they're making really good headway, and I think we all are," said Jeff Barnes, Director of Water Resources for the city of Nampa and secretary of the Lower Boise Watershed Council. "The funding that they have secured for ag conservation projects is super helpful in directly helping farmers and ranchers in basin.

"Everybody's chipping in, and it's going to lead to a healthier river."



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Short- and long-range plans for the Lower Boise Watershed identify the highest-priority areas for treatment by sub-watershed. The U.S. Geological Survey has set up additional water-quality monitoring stations to track progress.

Stan Hays, a soil conservation technician for Canyon Soil and Conservation District, has a strong working knowledge of which state and federal funding programs will work best for producers, having worked with and for farmers, canal companies and the Natural Resources Conservation Services in the past. He stays busy working with landowners to implement a steady stream of new conservation projects.

“It’s been fun for me, I’m really enjoying it,” Hays says. “I really like working with farmers to install soil and water conservation projects at the ground level. We have a good relationship with our ag partners, and they get me new producers all the time who are interested in making improvements on their farms.”

Original Article: [Idaho Capital Sun by Steve Stuebner](#)

Texas regulators report more than 250 new cases of groundwater contamination

Texas agencies reported 252 new cases of groundwater contamination during 2023 in the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee annual report.

The [latest report](#) compiles 2,870 open cases of groundwater contamination, some of which date back decades. Nearly every county in Texas is impacted by the problem. During 2023, Texas regulators notified 34 local authorities — from El Paso to Houston — that newly-identified contamination could impact their public drinking water. An additional 289 property owners were notified that groundwater contamination may impact their private wells.

Groundwater contamination is costly to remediate and can linger for years or indefinitely. Public water utilities test their wells for regulated contaminants and shut off wells when necessary. But the contamination risk is more insidious at private water wells, which are not subject to water quality standards.

Texas relies on groundwater from aquifers for about 55% of its water supply. As the population grows and the climate changes, groundwater will make up an even larger piece of the pie. Texas voters created a \$1 billion fund in 2023 to develop more water resources for the state, including desalination of brackish groundwater.

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“Any groundwater contamination is a cause for concern,” said Adam Foster, the director of the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts. “It needs to be reported properly and addressed.”

Annual report summarizes contamination

The [Texas Groundwater Protection Committee](#) brings together nine state agencies and TAGD, the alliance of groundwater districts. The protection committee coordinates the



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activities of these agencies [under Texas law](#), which requires that “groundwater be kept reasonably free of contaminants that interfere with present and potential uses of groundwater.”

The committee releases an annual report on groundwater contamination confirmed in the previous year. This year’s report, released in October, covers groundwater contamination documented in 2023. The [report](#), and [a map](#) with the location of existing groundwater contamination, is available on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality website.

TCEQ, the state’s environmental regulator, and the Railroad Commission, which regulates oil and gas drilling and other extractive industries, both document cases of groundwater contamination in their jurisdiction for the report.

Eighty percent of the existing contamination cases, or 2,321 cases, fall under the TCEQ. The remaining cases are with the Railroad Commission.

Currently there are 224 public water supply wells that are considered contaminated, according to the report. There are approximately 17,900 public water supply wells in the state.

But the agency indicated that two public water supply wells were added to the list in 2023. The first is the Hart Municipal Water Supply in Castro County in the Panhandle, where benzene and total xylenes were found. TCEQ spokesperson Richard Richter said the source is unknown but the water utility remains in compliance with regulations. The second is the Grayson Business Park in South Houston, where chlorobenzene and vinyl chloride were found.

The single most common groundwater pollution source in Texas is gas stations, which make up a third of all the cases. For that reason gasoline, diesel and other petroleum products such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes are the most common contaminants of groundwater. In some cases the source of contamination is unknown.

Original Article: [The Texas Tribune by Martha Pskowski](#)

Lawsuit against agricultural company for groundwater overuse

The lawsuit is directed against the Saudi Arabia based company Fondomonte Arizona LCC. This company cultivates land in La Paz County on the state border with California. According to InsideClimateNews, Mayes’ lawsuit is based on the expectation that now the state’s legislators will regulate groundwater management in rural Arizona. This region is suffering from a rapid and worrying decline in groundwater levels.

Cultivation in Arizona to feed cattle in Saudi Arabia

Fondomonte Arizona LCC has been the subject of controversy for several years due to its massive cultivation practices. The company cultivates alfalfa on public and private land of the county – without any official limits on water extraction to cover the high



irrigation requirements of this plant. The harvest is used in Saudi Arabia as fodder for cattle herds.

The state of Arizona cancelled some of its land transfers to the company in 2023, but production appears to have continued unabated. According to a hydrological report commissioned by the Attorney General's Office, Fondomonte withdrew around 38.5 million cubic metres of water per year. This amount corresponds to the needs of 90,000 households and accounts for around 80 % of the water extracted from the Ranegras Plain Basin each year. As a result of this overuse, local wells have run dry.

“The people of La Paz County and those living in the Ranegras Plain deserve action, and that is what we are delivering today,” Mayes said during a press conference. “Fondomonte’s unsustainable groundwater pumping has caused devastating consequences for the Ranegras Plain Basin, putting the health and future of the residents of La Paz County at risk. Arizona law is clear on this point. No company has the right to endanger an entire community’s health and safety for its own gain. No company has the right to threaten the health and safety of an entire community for its own profit.”

Water scarcity is caused by climate change and overuse

Fondomonte is just one outstanding example of the overuse of freshwater resources in Arizona. Community members, local leaders, water and environmental experts have long called for a change in the state’s groundwater use rules. However, all attempts to introduce such proposals in the state legislature have so far been blocked by Republicans in key positions.

Under current Arizona law, 80 % of the state has no groundwater monitoring regulations, allowing farms to extract unlimited amounts of water.

Original Article: [GWF Wasser by von Hilde Lyko](#)

Tribal, Arizona officials are racing to push a landmark water bill through Congress. Colorado is one of the states in their way.

Tribal nations, Arizona and over 30 other stakeholders have just days to get a historic water rights settlement through Congress, and they’ll have to get past pushback from Upper Basin states, including Colorado, to do it.

The [Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Act](#) would secure safe, reliable water for thousands of Navajo, Hopi and San Juan Southern Paiute tribal members in northeastern Arizona. It would give the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe a reservation. It would resolve water rights disputes, and potentially set up new funding streams for tribes. If successful, it would conclude about 60 years of work, advocates say.

But some Congressional representatives have balked at the price tag: \$5 billion. State officials have asked for clarity on how water will move across state lines. And Colorado



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River officials in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming have concerns about how the settlement would allow water from their basin to be used farther downstream. Congress is set to be adjourned by Friday, and federal lawmakers want to see a consensus from all seven Colorado River Basin states before voting. If that doesn't happen, advocates would have to restart with a new mix of federal lawmakers next year. "We're at the 1-yard line. ... We've got 30 seconds left in the game," Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren told audience members during a panel Dec. 6 at the Colorado River Water Users Association conference. "We need consensus so that the center can actually hike the ball so that we can win the game."

Getting the landmark settlement to Congress was a huge undertaking, officials say. More than 30 parties have a stake in the settlement, including the federal government, states, tribal nations, cities, ranches and water districts.

If it passes, it would resolve water rights claims to the Colorado River, Little Colorado River and groundwater resources in Arizona for the three tribes. Tribal and nontribal parties have been in Arizona state court to resolve these rights since 1974.

The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe would get a 5,400-acre reservation out of the settlement. It is the only federally recognized tribe without a land base, which has placed a barrier between them and funding for basic services, like housing, water and electricity, tribe Vice President Johnny Lehi Jr. said during a hearing held by the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Sept. 25.

"Generations of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe have come and gone without ever seeing the creation of an exclusive homeland," Lehi said. "The mental and emotional impact of being a landless, homeless tribe is something I wouldn't wish upon anyone."

More than 30 parties were involved in crafting the settlement, including the federal government, Arizona, three tribal nations, cities, ranches and water districts. (Arizona Department of Education, Contributed)

Are decades of waiting coming to an end?

Addressing unresolved tribal water rights is a key issue in the Colorado River Basin.

Tribal nations in the basin have rights to about 26% of the Colorado River's average flow of 12.44 million acre-feet per year between 2000 and 2018. Many of these rights are senior, which means they trump other water users when river flows are low.

But for decades, many tribal nations have not been able to put their water to use. Some need costly infrastructure to deliver it to homes, farms and communities. Others are slogging through long court and settlement processes to quantify their water, an important step before it can be put to use.

About [a dozen nations had unresolved water rights as of 2021](#), including the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.



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Through the settlement act, the Navajo Nation would have quantified rights to about 48,300 acre-feet of Colorado River water in Arizona; the Hopi Tribe, about 8,228 acre-feet; and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, about 350 acre-feet.

One acre-foot roughly equals the annual use of two to three homes. About 30% of the homes on the Navajo Nation reservation, which is about the size of West Virginia, do not have access to safe and reliable drinking water.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, this led to higher death rates for the Nation, in part because people had to gather at water hauling stations to get water, Tom Buschatzke, Arizona's top water negotiator, said during the Colorado River Water Users Association conference in Las Vegas.

"We hope we can still move something through Congress in the few days that are left. But this is about drinking water, safe water for those tribes," he said.

What is the \$5 billion for?

The funds attached to the potential settlement act would fund projects, like pipelines, pumps and storage facilities, to deliver a reliable water supply to tens of thousands of people in Arizona.

At \$5 billion, the federal cost of the settlement [is the largest ever for an Indian water rights settlement](#), although the costs per beneficiary are below average because of the population and land area that could be impacted, according to the Arizona State University Institute for Public Policy.

The Navajo Nation would receive \$2.7 billion; Hopi, \$508.5 million; and Paiute, \$29.8 million. About \$1.7 billion was allocated for joint projects.

The price tag — which is still being negotiated — was a concern for some lawmakers, like Sen. Lisa Murkowski, a Republican from Alaska, during the Senate Indian Affairs Committee hearing in September.

But funding infrastructure is a key part of the plan, advocates say, and the initial funding is not always enough.

"We have seen in every water settlement that I've been involved in, and it's quite a few of them in the state of Arizona, that over time, the money they got from Congress is not enough," Buschatzke said.

In Colorado, the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Indian tribes [have settlements that quantify their water rights](#) in Lake Nighthorse, outside of Durango. But those deals did not include funding to build new delivery infrastructure, and the tribes are still searching for ways to access that water.

Original Article: [Colorado Sun by Shannon Mullane](#)



Atmospheric River Forecast: Rain, Snow To Hit Before Christmas

What's New

Multiple atmospheric rivers taking aim at the Pacific Northwest could unleash a deluge across [several states through Christmas Eve](#), AccuWeather reported.

Why It Matters

[Millions of Americans will travel for the holiday this year](#), with a report from the American Automobile Association (AAA) predicting that more than 119 million Americans have at least 50 miles to travel or more for year-end holidays.

Thanksgiving also brought record-breaking travel this year, with millions of Americans facing hazardous weather on their journey home after the holiday, particularly in the Northeast where lake-effect snow prompted officials in parts of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York to [urge people to delay travel until the worst of the snow had passed](#).

Multiple atmospheric rivers... More **Mario Tama/Getty**

What to Know

Atmospheric rivers are a "long, narrow region in the atmosphere—like rivers in the sky—that transport most of the water vapor outside of the tropics," according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

An atmospheric river is currently bringing excessive moisture to the Pacific Northwest, including as much as 7 inches of rain to parts of Washington, and another is on the way before Christmas.

Though the deluge helped to alleviate much of California's drought in 2023 and 2024, atmospheric rivers can have life-threatening impacts, such as mudslides, extreme flooding and strong winds.

Multiple winter weather-related warnings are currently in place across the Northwest on Monday as one of the storms disrupts travel and is expected to continue doing so through Tuesday morning. Then, another storm is set to hit Friday, with a third, a stronger, storm causing issues Sunday and into early next week.

What People Are Saying

AccuWeather long-range expert Paul Pastelok told *Newsweek*: "Back-to-back" storms continue to hammer the West Coast, with one likely to unleash an atmospheric river early next week.

AccuWeather senior meteorologist Brett Anderson said in a report: "There will be an atmospheric river associated with the storm into Tuesday. The plume of moisture extends all the way from the coastal northwest to just north of Hawaii."

National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Prediction Center in a Monday forecast: "The pattern will remain active across the northwestern U.S., especially the Pacific Northwest, as a strong atmospheric river takes aim across Washington and Oregon for Tuesday."



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NWS winter storm warning for Pendleton, Oregon, regarding the storm hitting on Monday: "Significant snowfall with periods of heavy snowfall rates will combine with low visibility to create very difficult driving conditions."

What's Next

After an ongoing storm system moves out of the Pacific Northwest later this week, another is set to follow this weekend, with a third likely to hit early next week before Christmas.

Original Article: [Newsweek by Anna Skinner](#)

Arizona explores importing billions of gallons of water to grow supply

As the Phoenix area grows, so does the need for more secure water sources and that's why Arizona is exploring options to import billions of gallons of water from out of state. The [Colorado River is a key resource for Arizona's water](#), with nearly 35% of the state relying on the river.

Experts say over the last two decades, the basin has been in a megadrought.

"We're living in sort of a different climate, a drying climate. That's why there's uncertainty about the Colorado River and what our allotment from the Colorado River is going to look like after 2026," said [Chelsea McGuire](#) with the [Water Infrastructure Finance Authority](#).

Arizona halts new construction that rely on groundwater

[With water resources depleting](#), Arizona officials are now looking at other options, including bringing in billions of gallons of water from out of state.

"What's going to need to happen is that we figure out how we allocate a scarce resource to make all of the growth and all of the prosperity that we want to happen. At the same time, that's really hard to do until you bring more water into the conversation," McGuire said.

McGuire said [finding water resources has been a top priority](#) since 2022 when the state Legislature put them in charge of finding new water sources.

"So 75% of our augmentation resources have to be used out of state. That's just the law that governs us. But the logic behind that is that if we're bringing water in from somewhere else, we're actually making the pie bigger," McGuire said.

Just last week, WIFA talked with major water providers, like cities and utilities, that would help import this water from out of state.

"We have a solicitation that's out in the wild. We are asking companies from anywhere and everywhere to come in and give us fully formed teams that can bring an augmentation project from point A to point B," McGuire said.

The state allocated approximately \$430 million for this initiative.

The agency says the goal is to import over 100 billion gallons of water annually.



“There’s surface water from out of state. There’s ocean water. There is reclaimed or recycled water,” McGuire said.

As Arizona continues to search for more water, McGuire said finding outsourced resources will be crucial to keep up with our growing state.

“We need more water from anywhere but Arizona,” she said.

Original Article: [AZ Family by Mickalea Castillo](#)

Colorado has big dreams to use more water from the Colorado River. But will planned reservoirs ever be built?

Nearly two hours east of Grand Junction on a remote dirt road on the Grand Mesa is a nondescript, shallow, sage-brush-covered valley where two creeks meet.

The site, at 8,200 feet in elevation, is home to a wooden corral where ranchers with grazing permits gather their livestock and to the Owens Creek Trailhead where hikers set out for nearby Porter Mountain.

It’s also the spot where the largest domestic water provider on Colorado’s Western Slope plans to someday build a reservoir. The proposed Owens Creek Reservoir is modest in size, at about 7,000 acre-feet. It would help Ute Water Conservancy District satisfy the needs of its 90,000 customers into the future.

“Our job as a water provider is never done,” said Greg Williams, assistant manager at Ute Water. “You can develop one and you move onto your next project and go through that same process.”

In most cases, water in Colorado must be put to beneficial use to keep a right to use it on the books. The cornerstone of Colorado water law is the system of prior appropriation, where the oldest water rights get first use of rivers. And hoarding water rights without using them amounts to speculation, which is illegal. But a Colorado water law feature known as a conditional water right allows water-rights holders to skirt this requirement and hold their place in line. The conditional water rights for the proposed Owens Reservoir date to 1972, although work to build this particular reservoir appears limited to preliminary studies and work on other related components of Ute Water’s system.

Ute Water, along with many other cities, conservancy districts and oil and gas companies across the Western Slope, are hanging on to water rights that are in some cases a half-century old without using them. Conditional water rights allow a would-be water user to reserve their priority date based on when they applied for the right, while they work toward eventually using the water. The result is millions of acre-feet worth of conditional water rights on paper that have been languishing for decades without being developed. Some of these rights are tied to large reservoir projects.

An analysis by Aspen Journalism found that across Colorado’s Western Slope, cities, conservancy districts, fossil fuel companies and private entities hold conditional water



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rights that would store about 2.6 million additional acre-feet from the Colorado River and its tributaries in not-yet-built reservoirs each bigger than 5,000 acre-feet. This is a staggering amount of water storage and more than the entire state of Colorado currently uses from the Colorado River basin, which is about 2.1 million acre-feet a year. Most of this water would be stored in not-yet-built reservoirs, each bigger than 5,000 acre-feet. In some cases, the water would be stored in already-existing reservoirs, using conditional rights that would allow the reservoir to be refilled or enlarged.

Original Article: [Aspen Journalism by Heather Sackett](#)



GLOBAL WATER NEWS

New analysis reveals concerning transformation in massive Australian river: 'Now is the time to act'

A wetland along Australia's second-largest river is drying up, creating problems for the people, animals, and plants that rely on it for survival. Researchers predict beneficial flood events will drop by 85% by 2075 unless action is taken.

What's happening?

As *The Conversation* [reported](#), man-made dams are disrupting the water that flows in the Murrumbidgee River.

New research using computer modeling to study past, present, and future river flows revealed how human activity has changed the river over time. The researchers found that dams and reservoirs have reduced the flow by half over the past 30 years.

The primary reasons for the decline in water are over-extraction and river regulation. In the Murrumbidgee, 26 large dams and reservoirs divert water for irrigation.

Why are river water levels important?

Healthy rivers produce life-giving floods on wetlands that support plant growth and animal habitats. In the Lowbidgee Floodplain, red gum and black box forests, lignum shrublands, glossy ibis, straw-necked ibis, royal spoonbills, and Australian pelicans rely upon the floods for survival, per *The Conversation*.

Rivers also have cultural significance, as Indigenous people depend upon them for their livelihoods and spiritual connections to the land. The Nari Nari people have a strong connection to the Lowbidgee Floodplain, but low water levels limit how they can use it.

What's being done about dwindling river flows?

Fortunately, scientists are studying what can be done about our world's rivers before it's too late to save them.

For example, research has illuminated [why Alaskan rivers are rusting](#) and [how satellite technology can help predict river changes](#).

The recent research on the Murrumbidgee studied data back to 1890. *The Conversation* wrote that "now is the time to act" to protect Australia's rivers by returning water to its natural flow.

The publication also wrote that the Murrumbidgee is a cautionary example of what can happen to other worldwide river systems as populations grow and water demand increases.

"This is especially concerning for many arid and semi-arid regions, where [climate change](#) is increasing temperatures while reducing rainfall," *The Conversation* [wrote](#).

As an individual, you can help protect rivers by making your home [more energy efficient](#) (which reduces pollution associated with warming temperatures), [supporting conservation projects](#), and [participating in community restoration efforts](#) where you



live. Engaging with organizations that [oppose restrictive dams](#) and new dam building is another practical way to promote natural habitats and biodiversity, which supports our food systems, economic prosperity, and more.

Every small action can play a big part in protecting our rivers for future generations to use and enjoy.

Original Article: [The cooldown by Alyssa Ochs](#)

K-water acquires water supply, wastewater treatment facility shares in Vietnam

The Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water) started its full-scale entry into Vietnam's water market on Friday after taking over shares in its water supply and wastewater treatment facilities.

According to K-water, the public enterprise signed a memorandum of agreement with Vietnamese water treatment companies Phu My Vinh and GS Minh Hung-Sikico concerning the acquisition of shares in water supply and wastewater treatment facilities currently operating in industrial complexes near Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

The main points in the MOA include equity acquisition, facilitating technical cooperation to enhance and optimize operations, and facilitating mutual collaboration for collective entry into Vietnam's water market.

Vietnam has recently earned attention as a high-potential market for the water treatment sector due to its rapidly growing economy. As industrial complexes expand due to this economic effect, the demand for industrial water has continued to rise. Ensuring a secure supply of clean water has also been a critical issue for the country, where climate change has led to challenges such as drought and salinization.

Phu My Vinh operates the Hoa Khanh Tay regional water treatment plant in southern Vietnam and GS Minh Hung-Sikico operates the wastewater treatment plant at the Minh Hung-Sikico Industrial Complex in southern Vietnam. According to K-water, both facilities are included in the scope of the agreement.

K-water added that it plans to acquire shares previously owned by local companies as a strategy to reduce initial investment risks and ensure a stable market entry. In the future, the enterprise plans to provide technological assistance, operational assistance and management support on-site, while also focusing on developing business models for the future.

According to K-water, Friday's agreement was strategically pursued through efforts that localized its water management technology to suit Vietnam's needs, such as running water treatment plants with artificial intelligence and using Smart Water Network Management. SWNM is a water supply management technology that can take preemptive action when accidents such as water leaks and abnormal water quality occur.



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K-water added that it held a strong reputation in the country as a leading water industry expert through Official Development Assistance projects related to water supply in Hoa Binh Province in northern Vietnam.

The public enterprise added that the recent MOA holds particular significance as it marks K-water's official entrance into its first overseas wastewater market through proactive administrative efforts with the South Korean Ministry of Environment.

“Vietnam is a market where global water companies are active, and fierce competition is expected among such companies as the water sector is projected to expand rapidly,” said Han Seong-yong, vice president of K-water’s Global Business Division. “Through these MOAs, we will work to establish a foothold, using Korea’s cutting-edge water management technologies to boost the export performance of domestic companies and contribute to the country’s economic advancement.”

Original Article: [The Korean Herald by Lee Lung-joo](#)

Milestone for \$2.8B WA desalination project

The Alkimos Seawater Desalination Plant (ASDP) is one step closer to completion with construction of a 33.5km pipeline now underway.

Once complete, the Alkimos to Wanneroo desalination pipeline project will transfer 50GL of drinking water every year from the new desalination plant at Alkimos to Wanneroo. There, desalinated water will be added into the Integrated Water Supply Scheme (IWSS), supplying drinking water to more than 2.5 million people across Western Australia.

With a 1.6m diameter, this water pipeline is the largest ever constructed by Water Corporation and is sized for current and future stages of the \$2.8 billion ASDP.

The larger-diameter pipe has been designed to improve energy efficiency by reducing pumping requirements, resulting in a 21 per cent decrease in greenhouse gas emissions compared to smaller pipes.

Each 12m section of the 1.6m-wide pipe weighs around 9t and has an expected lifespan of around 120 years.

The Western Australian Government said that the ASDP is expected to create more than 1500 local jobs and inject \$1.1 billion into the state’s economy with \$65 million directed to Aboriginal businesses.

The extra-large steel pipes are being manufactured in Western Australia, following the awarding of a \$58 million contract to Steel Mains in 2022, which also facilitated the expansion of the Kwinana desalination plant.

Construction of the first 6km of the pipeline has commenced in Alkimos, with work on the remaining 27.5km to begin in 2025. The project is expected to be completed late in 2027, ahead of ASDP commencing operation in mid-2028.



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A consortium of Georgiou Group and DM Drainage and Constructions has been named the preferred proponent to design, build and commission the remaining 27.5km of the pipeline. The joint venture will partner with Water Corporation to form the Alkimos Pipeline Alliance, bringing together extensive expertise in large-scale steel water pipeline projects.

Western Australian Premier, Roger Cook, said, “Commencement of works to build the enormous 1.6m-wide Alkimos to Wanneroo desalination pipeline right here in Kwinana is a major milestone for our efforts to deliver Western Australia’s next major water source.

“Together, construction of the desalination plant and pipeline will create more than 1500 local jobs and inject more than \$1.1 billion into the Western Australian economy.

“The \$2.8 billion Alkimos Seawater Desalination Plant is critical to meet the needs of Western Australia’s growing population and set our state up for the long-term.

Western Australian Water Minister, Simone McGurk, said that the start of the Alkimos to Wanneroo desalination pipeline is a major step forward in securing a sustainable water supply for 2.5 million people across Western Australia.

“This water pipeline, the largest ever built by Water Corporation, will deliver over 50 billion litres of clean, safe drinking water each year to homes and businesses through the Integrated Water Supply Scheme,” Ms McGurk said.

“By integrating this new source into our water supply, we are strengthening water security, ensuring that our community can rely on a rainfall independent water supply in the face of a drying climate.”

Original Article: [Utility Magazine by Katie Livingston](#)

Water firms fight for higher bills despite outrage

Water firms are set to take their case to the competition authorities if they don't get their way on plans to raise bills by up to 91 per cent.

In a key week, regulator Ofwat will announce on Thursday how much each utility in England and Wales can charge customers for water and sewerage over the next five years.

Every water firm in England and Wales is under investigation over pollution amid public outrage over huge dividend payouts to overseas shareholders and fat bonuses to bosses. Water firms want to raise bills by an average £144 over the next five years, but Ofwat has provisionally capped the increase at £94.

Four water firms successfully challenged Ofwat's last price ruling in 2019, winning a more generous settlement.

Original Article: [MSN by Patrick Tooher](#)



Thames Water wins court approval to secure ‘critical’ £3bn cash lifeline

Thames Water has won court approval to secure a £3bn cash lifeline from some of its biggest creditors.

The company will need to hold a formal vote to win support from the majority of creditors in January, before its deal is rubber-stamped by the courts in February.

The decision, which covers a complex debt-restructuring effort, was essential to ensure the company has enough money to stave off temporary nationalisation, Thames said.

Lawyers for the water company, which serves 16 million consumers in [London](#) and the Thames Valley area, said the plan was urgent in order to avoid it running out of money by 24 March next year.

“Moreover, the group provides essential infrastructure services for which it is dependent on its suppliers and employees and, as such, it is critical that the group’s liquidity position is clearly stabilised well in advance of that date,” they added.

Lawyers acting for the group of senior creditors – known as the “Class A” group because the majority hold higher-ranked Thames debt – whose deal was approved on Tuesday, said theirs was the only immediately viable option available to the water company.

They faced opposition from a second group of bondholders – known as the “Class B” group, which largely held riskier debt – who said they could offer a different deal, also for £3bn, on better terms.

It now expects to have enough cash to run its operations until October on the basis of the new £3bn agreement, if it meets with formal approval early next year. It is separately seeking raise £3.25bn in new equity to fund investments through to 2030.

MPs, activists and members of the public gathered outside the high court in London, calling for judges to block a financial bailout

[Analysis by the campaign group We Own It](#), who were among those outside the courts, estimated that the bailout, if approved, will cost customers £250 a year each.

“This deal is for £3bn of cash right now that will be charged at a whopping 10% interest ... that’s £250 a year from every household,” said Matthew Topham of We Own It. “We don’t think that households should have to pay to bail out Thames Water,” he said.

A letter from Windrush Against Sewage Pollution had earlier been delivered to the judge hearing Thames’s application by Charlie Maynard, the MP for Witney, calling for the court to hear submissions from the public on the bailout.

It read: “The outcome of this process will affect every household and business in the Thames region ... the nature of the proceedings ... means the court process is effectively out of sight and reach of all but the named participants in a proposed loan being arranged to keep [Thames Water] in business by forcing its billpayers to bail it out for its



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previous and continuing excesses and failures. We ask the court to consider our evidence on behalf of the unrepresented.”

Original Article: [The Guardian by Anna Isaac and Sandra Laville](#)

Only 28% Of Urban Wastewater In India Is Treated: Report

New Delhi: A meagre 28 per cent of the urban wastewater and sewage generated in India undergoes treatment while the rest flows directly into rivers, lakes and land, according to a report by the think tank Centre for Science and Environment.

India's urban water crisis could ease if all the wastewater is treated and reused, the report released here on Monday said.

Rajiv Kumar Mital, Director General of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), said, "Using and disposing of treated water without harnessing its potential means we are losing out on utilising an important resource. The challenge is to scale up and ensure that the work we do in this sector is impactful." Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) Director General Sunita Narain said India faces significant water scarcity challenges due to rapid urbanisation, industrial growth, population expansion and, most importantly, climate change.

"Wastewater reuse can be a key part of the strategy to address these concerns and promote water circularity and sustainability." "In fact, there is an opportunity for turning wastewater into water again and this is what our report's title -- Waste to Worth -- is referring to," Sunita Narain added.

The Jal Shakti Ministry has mandated that cities must recycle and reuse at least 20 per cent of the water they consume. Subrata Chakraborty, senior programme manager, water programme, CSE, said, "This is in line with the belief that promoting a circular economy is essential for achieving a sustainable and climate-resilient future and for managing the ever-growing demand for freshwater."

Original Article: [NDTV](#)

Note the attachment is not an inducement to trade and Ves Water does not give advice on investments.