



**Statement from Nicole Sandkulla, Chief Executive Officer, Calling for a Voluntary 15 Percent Water Use Reduction Given Ongoing Drought Conditions**

July 14, 2021

On July 8, 2021, Governor Newsom expanded his [Drought Proclamation](#) to include San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, along with seven additional counties, and called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent. There are now a total of 50 counties under a targeted State of Emergency due to drought, including the entirety of BAWSCA's service area. As California enters its second dry year and conditions within the state shift, more counties may be added to the proclamation.

In support of the Governor's Proclamation, BAWSCA, its member agencies, and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), are asking all customers for a voluntary 15 percent water use reduction. Water customers are asked to use water wisely and to remain vigilant, especially during the coming months of hot weather when water use is normally at its peak. The efficient management of outdoor water use is a particularly effective means to conserve water.

BAWSCA represents the 26 water suppliers that purchase water on a wholesale basis from the San Francisco (Hetch Hetchy) Regional Water System (System) to meet the water supply needs of 1.8 million residents and over 40,000 businesses in Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. SFPUC, which operates the Hetch Hetchy System is also asking all water customers to voluntarily reduce their water use.

Ways residents can reduce water use during the summer include routinely cutting irrigation time and reducing frequency of irrigation days, fixing leaks, and addressing irrigation problems like overspray.

BAWSCA offers a wide range of programs, rebates, and water conservation tips to help water customers reduce outdoor and indoor water use including turf replacement incentives, water efficient landscaping classes, low-flow fixture replacement rebates, and much more!

Please visit [www.BAWSCA.org](http://www.BAWSCA.org) for more information regarding conservation programs, drought information, and water supply conditions. Visit <https://sfpuc.org/learning/conserves-water> for more information regarding SFPUC's programs and resources.

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