



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

September 14, 2021

Earlier this summer, Governor Newsom issued a [Drought Proclamation](#) calling on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent compared to 2020 water use.

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.

On August 20, 2021, the State of California issued orders for San Francisco to curtail its water diversions in the Tuolumne River watershed including diversions into Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. San Francisco has already taken the first steps towards compliance in filing the required certificates of compliance on September 2nd. SFPUC is reviewing these orders, which include an exemption provision to protect human health and safety.

BAWSCA continues to coordinate with San Francisco to understand the impacts of the curtailment orders on the San Francisco (Hetchy Hetchy) Regional Water System (System) and its ability to deliver water supply. BAWSCA represents the 26 water suppliers that purchase water on a wholesale basis from the 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.

Residents can reduce water use during the summer months by cutting routine irrigation time and reducing frequency of irrigation days, addressing irrigation problems like overspray, and fixing leaks.

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, and low-flow fixture replacement rebates, to name a few.

Visit 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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