



City of Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District scwd² Desalination Program

Monthly Project Update & Latest News– April 2012

5% Water Restrictions from May 1-October 31, 2012 for City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District Customers

The City of Santa Cruz Water Department, as a result of below normal rainfall conditions and the commitment to make operational changes to protect fisheries, has recommended that the Water Commission and City Council declare a **Stage 1 - Water Shortage Alert** aimed at achieving a five percent demand reduction goal for the season. The water response measures will include outdoor water use restrictions and enforcement measures.

“While we did receive some rainfall during March, it wasn’t enough to make up for the previous dry months,” said Bill Kocher, City of Santa Cruz Water Director. “We’ve had a dry winter and although good storage at Loch Lomond will lessen impacts this summer, we need to be prepared for a potentially dry 2013.” The City is scheduled to take action on Staff’s recommendation to implement the State 1 Water Shortage alert on April 24th.

Soquel Creek Water District is also expected to issue a **Stage 1- Water Shortage Alert** for their customers at the Board of Directors April 17 meeting. Under its water shortage contingency plan, the District will similarly ask customers to reduce water use by five percent and will promote conservation while enforcing its water waste ordinance.

“While coastal groundwater levels do not immediately decline with a below normal rainfall this season,” said Laura Brown, Soquel Creek Water District General Manager, “it is important to recognize that the aquifers are only replenished by rainfall, and less recharge can exacerbate groundwater overdraft which in turn increases the vulnerability to seawater intrusion.”

To view the April 2nd article in the Santa Cruz Sentinel on summertime water cutbacks, visit www.scwd2desal.org/In_the_News_04-03-12.php

scwd² Project Receives National Recognition with American Academy of Environmental Engineers Award

Last month the American Academy of Environmental Engineers (AAEE) recognized the education and outreach efforts by scwd² to communicate perspectives on water supply and desalination energy use with the 2012 Environmental Communications Award. Over the last year, scwd² has made a concerted effort to provide the community with up-to-date information on energy needs of the proposed project and we are honored to receive this national award. For more information on AAEE, visit: www.aeee.net

Stop by the scwd² Information Booth at ‘Earth Day Santa Cruz’ on April 21st

scwd² will be hosting an information booth at the upcoming 'Earth Day Santa Cruz' event on Saturday, April 21 from 11AM to 5PM. This is an exciting community event that will be held at San Lorenzo Park, just behind the County Government Building. We will be providing information on the proposed **scwd²** Desalination Project and will be available to answer questions. Please look for us next to the Santa Cruz County's Water Conservation Coalition Booth.

You received this email because your email address has been entered into the email distribution list of individuals who are interested in the Integrated Water Plan and **scwd²** Desalination Program. If you do not wish to receive emailed updates, you may unsubscribe by emailing melanies@soquelcreekwater.org and typing "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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