



News for Immediate Release

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DWR INCREASES WATER ALLOCATION

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Water Resources today announced it is increasing its allocation for water delivery to the State Water Project Contractors in calendar year 2005 from 40% to 60%.

Dan Flory, Chief of the Department's State Water Project Analysis Office said the increased allocation follows several weeks of above normal rain and snowfall in the Delta and the Feather River Watershed. "The Department may further revise the allocation as hydrologic and water supply conditions develop," said Flory.

A 60% percent allocation amounts to 2,475,412 acre-feet, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP Contractors who serve more than 23 million Californians and about 750,000 acres of irrigated farmland. It is the largest allocation increase for this time of year since the El Nino weather phenomenon of 1998. At this time last year, the allocation was 50%.

In making the decision to accelerate the delivery of SWP water, a major source of water for many Californians, the Department considered a conservative projection of hydrology, State Water Project operational constraints, and 2005 Contractor requests.

SWP Contractors' Table A water for 2005 totals 4.13 million acre-feet, of which all was requested. Table A water is the maximum contractual amount that SWP Contractors can request each year.

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