

Board of Public Utilities  
Water Conservation Committee

2020 Water Shortage  
Contingency Plan Update

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# California Urban Water Management Planning Act

- Who:** Urban water retailers  
(at least 3,000 connections  
or 3,000 acre-feet per year)
- What:** Assess long-term water supply  
adequacy and reliability
- Why:** Ensure water supply reliability.  
Comply with State law.  
Maintain eligibility for grants &  
drought assistance.
- When:** Every five years (July 1, 2021)



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# Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Key Sections

- Water system, facilities, and service area
- Water supply sources
- Water use
  - past, present, and future (including population growth and development)
- Conservation targets and compliance
- Water supply reliability
  - normal year, single dry year, and five-consecutive dry years
  - 20-year horizon (25-yr recommended)
- **Water Shortage Contingency Plan**



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# Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP or Shortage Plan)

- Response plan for mild to severe water shortages
- Ensuring demands do not exceed supplies during shortage conditions
  - Prohibitions and restrictions on end uses
  - Customer water use reduction strategies and assistance
  - Department operational changes
  - Water Shortage Charge for mandatory reduction stages
  - Water Allocations and Excess Use Penalty triggered by more severe shortages



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# Required Elements for Shortage Plans

- Water reliability analysis from UWMP
- (**new**) Drought Risk Assessment from UWMP
- (**new**) Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment procedures
- Shortage stages and (**new**) alignment with State's standard stages
- Shortage response actions and (**new**) anticipated reductions for each action

# Required Elements for Shortage Plans

- (**new**) Seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan
- Communications Plan – (**expanded**) more detailed
- Customer compliance, enforcement, appeal, and exemption procedures
- (**new**) Legal authorities to empower Shortage Plan
- Financial analysis of impacts of water shortages and Shortage Plan implementation

# Required Elements for Shortage Plans

- (**expanded**) Monitoring and reporting procedures for State reporting and customer compliance tracking
- (**new**) Reevaluation and improvement procedures to adjust Shortage Plan as warranted
- (**new**) Discussion of Plan adoption, submittal, and availability to the public

# Santa Rosa's Shortage Plan

- First adopted in 1992.
- Updated
  - 1996, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2010, and 2015.
- 2020 Shortage Plan
  - preparation underway
  - compliance with new requirements
  - due July 1, 2021



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# Santa Rosa's Proposed Shortage Stages and Rates

- Water Shortage Stages 1-8
- Water Shortage Charge (WSC)
- Water Allocations (“rationing”)
- Excess Use Penalty (EUP)



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# Proposed Shortage Stages

CITY	Shortage	STATE	Shortage
Stage 1*	up to 10%	Stage 1*	up to 10%
Stage 2	11-15%	Stage 2	up to 20%
Stage 3	16-20%	Stage 3	up to 30%
Stage 4	21-25%	Stage 4	up to 40%
Stage 5	26-30%	Stage 5	up to 50%
Stage 6	31-40%	Stage 6	over 50%
Stage 7	41-50%		
Stage 8	Over 50%		
* Stage 1 is voluntary			



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# Proposed Water Shortage Charge (WSC)

- Stages 2 through 8
- Applied to all water sold
- Encourages conservation
- No significant change on customer bill
  - for customers who meet target
  - relative to standard rates with normal usage
- Helps recover a portion of revenue shortfall
- Included in current Prop 218 process for standard water rates



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# Proposed Water Shortage Charge

Stage	Shortage	Water Shortage Charge
2	15%	5% of existing rates
3	20%	7.5% of existing rates
4	25%	10% of existing rates
5	30%	15% of existing Uniform Rate
6	40%	25% of existing Uniform Rate
7	50%	35% of existing Uniform Rate
8	>50%	45% of existing Uniform Rate

# Proposed Water Allocations

- Stages 5 through 8
- Specific to each customer classification
- Requires conservation

# Proposed Excess Use Penalty (EUP)

- Stages 5 through 8
- Applied to water use above allocation
- Entirely avoidable by all customers
- Not subject to Prop 218 requirements
- Penalties collected to be used to
  - offset costs due to water shortage emergency, and/or
  - rebuild reserves, and/or
  - establish a rate stabilization fund for post-emergency recovery



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# Proposed Excess Use Penalty

- Entirely avoidable by all customers

Stage	Shortage	EUP for water use that is 101-150% of Allocation	Over 150%
5	30%	10% of water rate with WSC	20%
6	40%	25% of water rate with WSC	50%
7	50%	40% of water rate with WSC	80%
8	>50%	50% of water rate with WSC	100%



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# Next Steps and Proposed Timeline

- Feb** WCC update on UWMP & WSCP  
BPU Study Session on water rates
- Mar** WCC update on UWMP & WSCP  
City Council Study Session on water rates
- Apr** BPU Study Session on UWMP & WSCP
- May** Publish draft UWMP & WSCP (30-day  
public comment before Public Hearing)  
City Council Public Hearing & Adoption of  
water rates (incl. Water Shortage Charge)
- Jun** BPU Recommendation to Council regarding  
Adoption of UWMP & WSCP  
City Council Public Hearing &  
Consideration of UWMP & WSCP
- Jul** UWMP & WSCP submitted to State



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# Questions?



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