



General Manager's Report

By Andrew Fecko

Since writing my last column, there have been several developments related to the dry year we are currently experiencing in California. On May 10, Governor Newsom extended his drought emergency declaration to 39 counties in California, including Placer County. While the declaration doesn't carry with it any required conservation measures, water purveyors in the greater Sacramento region are taking actions to address our greatest water supply and environmental concern: low storage levels at Folsom Reservoir.

Typically, this is the time of year when snowmelt would be making its way to streams, rivers, and reservoirs, building water supplies for summer demands. However, due to dry conditions and a warm spring, this year's near-average snowpack evaporated or soaked into the soil rather than flowing to Folsom Reservoir. Storage levels there are now lower than the drought conditions of 2014 and 2015 for this time of the year.

Conditions at Folsom Reservoir are important to PCWA for a couple of reasons. Not only do some of our wholesale partners divert water from Folsom Reservoir, it is also the primary source of cold water needed for the salmon and steelhead of the lower American River. In our view, a healthy water supply runs through a healthy fishery, and there is a real possibility that warm river conditions this year could lead to the loss of all returning steelhead trout and fall run Chinook salmon.

To do our part, PCWA is initiating several dry year actions. First, we are shifting a portion of our wholesale demands with the cities of Roseville and Lincoln to groundwater. Second, we are utilizing PCWA's western Placer groundwater well infrastructure. Third, we are meeting our Water Forum stewardship commitment, to the lower American River, by releasing extra water from our reservoirs for fishery benefits.

Most importantly for our customers, we are enhancing our water efficiency rebate programs through the remainder of 2021.

Because most water use in Placer County occurs outdoors, PCWA is doubling its lawn replacement rebate from \$500 to \$1000. Rebates for water-efficient sprinklers and other irrigation upgrades are available, as well as indoor appliances. The Agency is also piloting a new pool cover rebate.

PCWA's local supplies are in good shape, thanks in large part to the water-efficiency efforts of our customers. If you are interested in taking advantage of these enhanced water-efficiency rebates, I encourage you to visit pcwa.net or contact Customer Services. These programs are popular among customers and available for a limited time.

Every drop of water we can save through efficient use adds up. In 2020, PCWA customers helped save over 5 million gallons of water by switching to water-efficient appliances in their homes and businesses, and by working together we can do even better in 2021.

PCWA Water Efficiency Rebates for your home, school or business

Landscape Upgrades

- Up to \$1,750 for residential
- Up to \$10,250 for commercial



High-Efficiency Clothes Washers

- Up to \$150



High-Efficiency Toilets

- Up to \$150



Pool Cover

- Up to \$50

Learn more about rebates and apply online at pcwa.net or by calling Customer Services at (530) 823-4850.

Rebate amounts are subject to change and are available on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is depleted.





Looking for fun in your own backyard?
 PCWA's Middle Fork American River Project offers a variety of recreation opportunities. Make sure to check out our new recreation website launching this summer!
middleforkfun.com

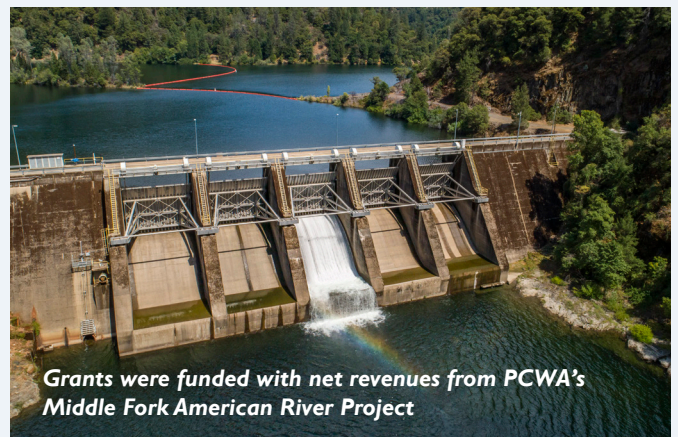


PCWA Awards \$3.6 Million to Seven Placer County Public Water Purveyors

The PCWA Board of Directors awarded 12 grants, totaling over \$3.6 million, to seven public water purveyors in Placer County. The grants, funded through PCWA's Financial Assistance Program, support Placer County special districts with projects that enhance safe and reliable drinking water service, water infrastructure reliability, and water and energy resources stewardship.

The \$3.6 million figure is the most ever granted by PCWA in a single year. This is also the first instance in which the grants were wholly funded with net revenues from PCWA's Middle Fork American River Project ("Middle Fork Project"). Last July, the Middle Fork Project Finance Authority announced a net revenue distribution of \$12 million, split evenly between PCWA and the County of Placer.

"In the eight years since PCWA took over full operational control of the Middle Fork Project, we've experienced a multi-year drought, low energy prices, and a pandemic," said General Manager Andy Fecko. "Despite these challenges, we have optimized our operation, stayed up to date with necessary repairs, and fully funded our \$50 million Middle Fork Project reserves requirement. Because of the sound financial planning of the Middle



Grants were funded with net revenues from PCWA's Middle Fork American River Project

Fork Project Authority Board, this year we have net revenues available to generously fund our Financial Assistance Program and help public water purveyors throughout Placer County meet their water service needs; it is the essence of stewardship."

The 2021 grant recipients are as follows: Christian Valley Community Service District, Foresthill Public Utility District, Midway Heights Community Water District, Northstar Community Service District, Olympic Valley Public Service District, Sierra Lakes Community Water District, and Tahoe City Public Utility District.

Board of Directors

PCWA is an independent public agency governed by an elected Board of Directors. Directors represent each of five districts in Placer County and are elected by voters to four-year terms.

Your PCWA Board of Directors:

- DISTRICT 1: Gray Allen
- DISTRICT 2: Primo Santini
- DISTRICT 3: Mike Lee
(2021 Vice Chairman)
- DISTRICT 4: Robert Dugan
- DISTRICT 5: Joshua Alpine
(2021 Chairman)

Public Meetings

The Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors meets regularly the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2 p.m. at the Placer County Water Agency Business Center, at 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn.

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