



STAFF REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 12, 2015

To: Town Council

From: Town Manager

Subject: Presentation by Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) on the current and near term drought conditions and the latest restrictions.

Date: April 30, 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

Hear Presentation, Public Comment and Review and Direct staff on modifications to the Town's Drought Water Management Plan (Attached)

DISCUSSION:

The Governor of the State of California issued Executive Order B-29-15 on April 1, 2015 requiring a 25% conservation in potable urban water usage. The Executive Order specifies water saving practices and increased enforcement requirements.

At its April 2, 2015, the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors adopted a revised Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the emergency regulations and executive order. In accordance with the emergency regulations and executive order, PCWA must implement Stage 2 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan at a specified conservation level of 25 percent.

At the PCWA April 16, 2015 meeting the PCWA Board declared a water shortage emergency to achieve the mandated reduction of 25% (See Attached PCWA letter dated April 24, 2015).

In some communities, wells are running dry. In others, reservoirs are nearly empty. Some have long-running problems that predate the drought.

As this is an issue that will affect the Town of Loomis, staff has requested and PCWA has accepted an invitation to give an overview of the water situation in Placer County at the May 12, 2015 Town Council meeting and requests the Council review the Town's Drought Water Management Plan and revise as necessary.

CEQA :

The proposed presentation is exempt from CEQA.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There is no financial impact to the Town at this time.

Attachments: PCWA April 24, 2015 Letter

Town of Loomis April 17, 2015 Memo Implementing Executive Order B-29-15

Town of Loomis Drought Water Management Plan adopted March 11, 2014



PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY
SINCE 1957
BUSINESS CENTER PHONE
144 Ferguson Road 530.823.4850
MAIL 800.464.0030
P.O. Box 6570 WWW.PCWA.NET
Auburn, CA 95604

April 24, 2015

A Letter to all PCWA Treated Water Customers

On behalf of the PCWA Board of Directors, I am writing to thank you for reducing your water use over the past year and to request your continued conservation efforts. In comparison to base year 2013, PCWA treated water customers have collectively reduced their water use by 18 percent. This is commendable. However, we are facing our fourth consecutive dry year and our efforts to conserve water must continue.

Because of the seriousness of the drought, on April 1, 2015, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order mandating a 25 percent reduction in water use in comparison to 2013. In response to the Governor's action, on April 16 the Agency Board adopted Resolution 15-10 declaring a water shortage emergency. You can find this resolution on the Agency's website www.pcwa.net. The Board's action is intended to achieve the mandated reduction in water use while ensuring an equitable availability of water supplies for all customers throughout the summer.

Listed below are actions to **reduce your water use by a minimum of 25 percent** when compared against the 2013 base year.

Outdoor Water Use:

- Limit landscape watering to a **maximum of 2 days per week** during the months of April through November. Plant containers, trees, shrubs and vegetable gardens may be watered additional days when using drip irrigation or hand watering.
- Water only between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.
- Discontinue landscape watering during rain/snow or within 48 hours after a ¼-inch or more of rain/snowfall.
- Reduce irrigation times and avoid runoff.
- The installation of new landscaping for existing homes is limited to low water use trees, shrubs and groundcover.
- The installation of new lawn or hydro seed for existing homes is prohibited unless watered using drip or microspray systems.
- Outside irrigation for newly constructed homes and buildings is prohibited unless watered using drip or microspray systems.
- Repair irrigation leaks or faulty sprinklers within 72 hours of occurrence.
- Use a bucket and hose with a shutoff nozzle for vehicle or equipment washing or take them to a commercial establishment that uses recycled water.
- Decorative water features, such as fountains should be drained and kept dry.

(over)

Treated Water Customers

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April 24, 2015

Indoor Water Use:

- Limit showers to 5 minutes or less.
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes.
- Convert to high-efficiency appliances such as toilets, showers and faucets, dishwashers and clothes washers.
- Check plumbing and appliances for leaks and fix them within 48 hours.
- Turn off the faucet when brushing teeth, washing dishes by hand or when shaving.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in wisely using our limited water supply in the most responsible and beneficial manner.

Should you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact us during business hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may contact us by phone at (530) 823-4850 or toll free at (800) 464-0030 or by email at CustomerServices@pcwa.net. You are encouraged to visit our website frequently at www.pcwa.net which is regularly updated with drought information and additional water savings tips.

Sincerely,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Einar Maisch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "M".

Einar Maisch, P.E.
General Manager



TOWN OF LOOMIS

Applicability of Placer County Water Agency's Resolution No. 15-10

Delivery and Consumption of Water During the Declared Drought Emergency

Dated: April 17, 2015

Mandatory: All new home construction shall prohibit landscape irrigation unless watered using drip or microspray systems.

Mandatory: Swimming pools shall be provided with covers that prevent evaporation.

Background

The Governor of the State of California issued Executive Order B-29-15 on April 1, 2015 requiring a 25-percent conservation in potable urban water usage. The Executive Order specifies water saving practices and increased enforcement requirements.

At its April 2, 2015, the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors adopted a revised Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the emergency regulations and executive order. In accordance with the emergency regulations and executive order, PCWA must implement Stage 2 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan at a specified conservation level of 25 percent.

All retail customers of the PCWA treated and canal water systems shall reduce their water use by 25 percent.

For more information, please go to <http://www.pcwa.net/> or call (530) 823-4850.



Town of Loomis Drought Water Management Program

- Reduce Spray Pad hours from last year's 10 am till 9:00 pm (11 hours) to noon to 6 pm (6 hours).
- Reduce time of spray pad running from 3 minutes per trigger to 1 minute per trigger
- Eliminate or reduce washing sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, patios and other exterior paved areas by direct hosing, except as may be necessary to prevent or eliminate materials which are dangerous to the public health and safety.
- Eliminate lawn sprinkling and irrigation which allows water to run off or overspray the lawn area.
- Eliminate sprinkling and irrigation of lawns, ground cover, or other plants between the hours of ten a.m. and six p.m. to reduce evapotranspiration.
- Maintain mulch around trees and plants
- To eliminate runoff, set the irrigation timer to cycle 2-4 start times (no longer than 5 minutes each), 1 to 2 hours apart to allow water to soak into the soil. For example: water 3 times for 5 minutes, instead of 15 minutes all at once.
- Allow the grass to grow slightly taller will reduce water loss by providing more ground shade for the roots and by promoting water retention in the soil.
- Aerate in the spring and fall to loosen soil and reduce runoff.



Drought Report

May 4, 2015

Water Supply Summary from 2014

- Precipitation was 60% of normal
- Snowpack was 10% of normal
- Final allocation of 79% from PG&E
- Second year on record of less than full allocation
- Full supplies from Middle Fork Project
- Implemented emergency projects



Middle Fork Project Watershed
With Lake Tahoe in Background
January 2014

Level of Drought Conservation in 2014

Water System	Year Total	August
Combined	-28.35%	-26.38%
Treated Only	-18.14%	-24.23%
Canal Only	-34.68%	-27.58%

CONSERVE

Water served upon request.

Do your part to Be Water Smart!
 Visit "Best Ways to Save"
 at www.pcwa.net.



GREAT WORK DROUGHT CHAMPS SACRAMENTO REGION LEADS STATE IN WATER CONSERVATION



CUSTOMERS CONSERVED 22% OVERALL IN AUGUST
Percent decrease compared to August 2013



3,000
soccer fields

150,000
families for a year

That's enough water to maintain
3,000 soccer fields for a year

Or... to meet the drinking water needs
of 150,000 families for a year

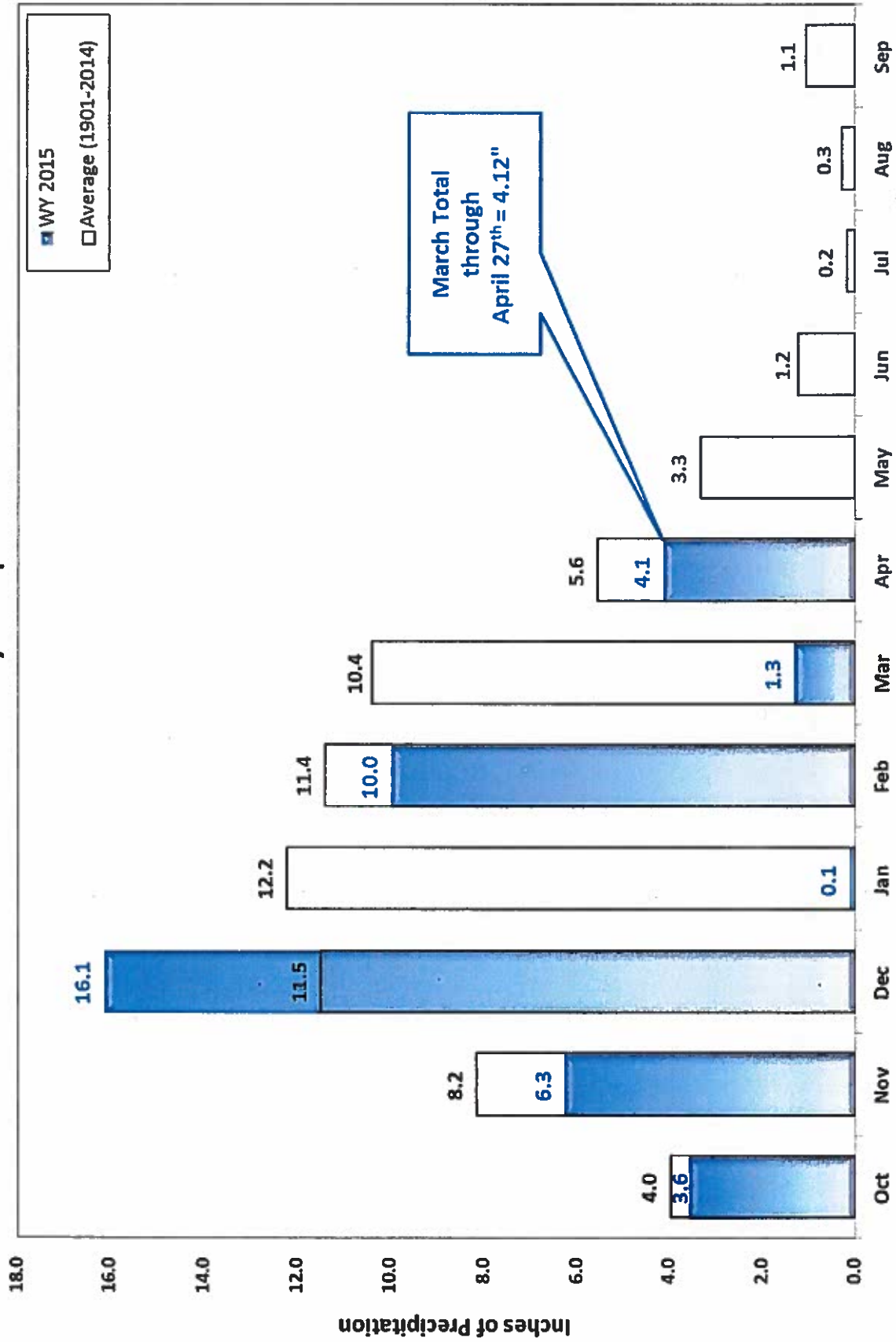
20
BILLION gallons
of water saved
since January

Looking ahead into 2015...

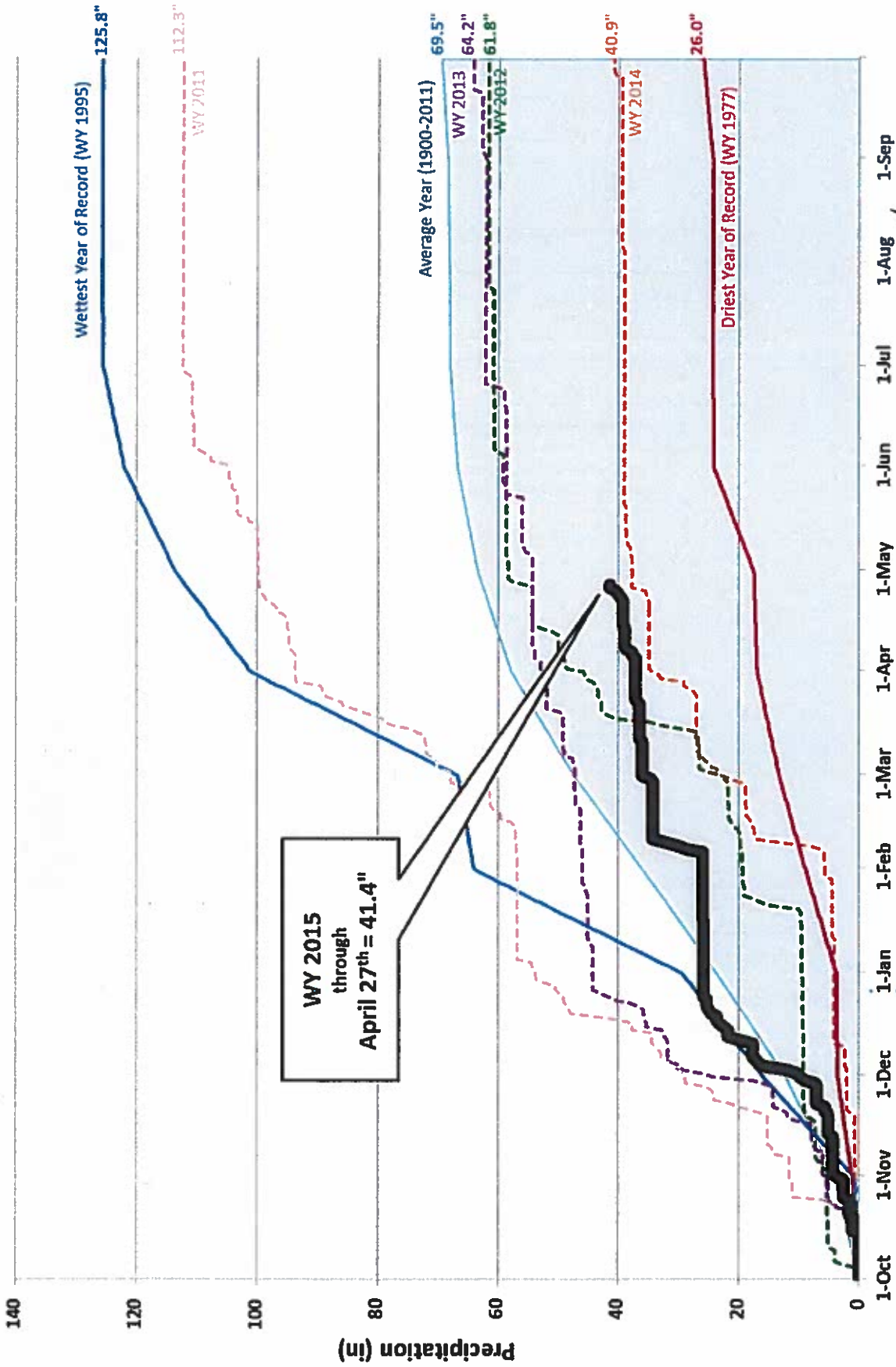
- Hydrology has been very similar to 2014
- Snowpack is negligible
- PG&E allocation is 68%
- Third year on record of less than full allocation
- Need at least the same levels of conservation achieved in 2014
- The State Water Board continues with heightened emergency regulations



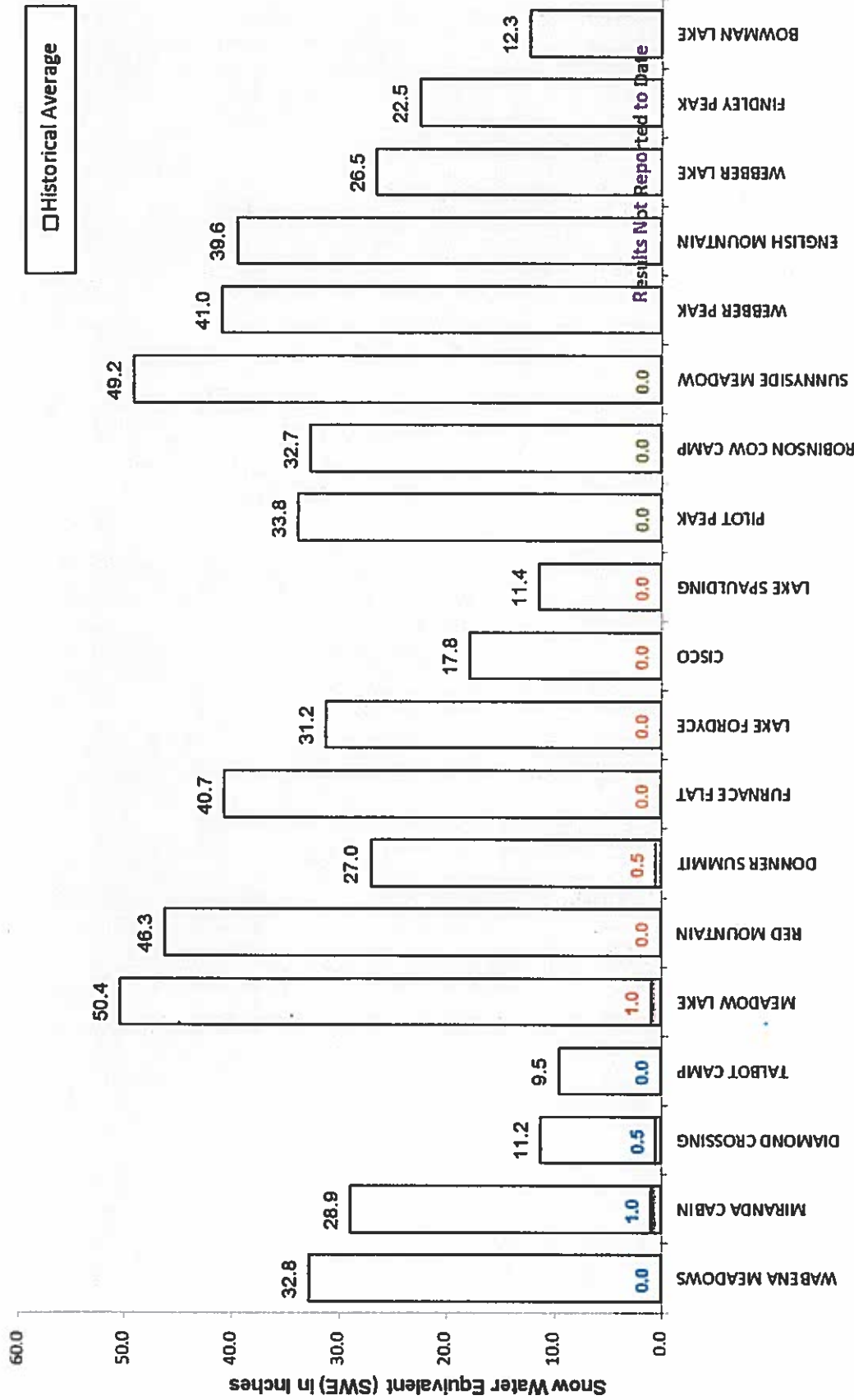
Lake Spaulding WY2015 Monthly Precipitation



Lake Spaulding WY 2015 Cumulative Precipitation



WY 2015 May 1 Snow Survey



American River Watershed

PCWA Snow Courses
2% of Average

Yuba-Bear Watershed

PG&E Snow Courses
0.5% of Average

Yuba Watershed

YCWA Snow Courses
0% of Average

NID Snow Courses
N/A% of Average



Conservation Programs

- Water wise house calls (contact PCWA Customer Services to schedule)
- Rebates: toilets, washers, irrigation, turf replacement (look on PCWA website for details)
- Ag-irrigation efficiency grant program (new)
- Direct outreach with large users: municipalities, parks, and schools
- Currently testing automated meter reading technology for real-time customer data

Placer County Water Agency
Customer Service Department
(530) 823-4850
<http://www.pcwa.net/>



<http://bewatersmart.info/>



<http://saveourwater.com>



