



STAFF REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2014

To: Town Council

From: Town Manager

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

Date: February 3, 2014

RECOMMENDATION:

No action by the Town Council is requested. This item is Receive and File.

DISCUSSION:

California has now experienced two back-to-back dry winters (2011-12 and 2012-13). This calendar year 2013 was the driest on record in more than a century of record keeping. Federal officials have designated portions of 11 drought-ridden western and central states as primary natural disaster areas, highlighting the financial strain the lack of rain is likely to bring to farmers in those regions. As California's drought deepens, 17 communities across the state are in danger of running out of water within 60 to 120 days, state officials said last week.

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

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) will hold a public hearing on February 6th to consider declaring a water shortage emergency in western Placer County. The agency is expected to authorize actions to supplement water supplies where possible and at the same time to implement a plan to dramatically curtail water use by all PCWA irrigation and treated water customers served by its Western Water System.

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 February 11, 2014 Town Council meeting.

CEQA :

The proposed presentation is exempt from CEQA.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

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