

California's Long Challenge with Drought

By Dov Friedman and Tynan
DeBold

View, week by week, the growing impacts that four years of inordinately dry weather has had on the Golden State's geography and population.

WSJ

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California has been locked in drought for four years. Latest electronic measurements from the state's Department of Water Resources show the mountain snow water equivalent at a record low of 5%. As the snow is needed to help replenish reservoirs, state and federal officials have sharply curtailed supplies to farmers and other users.

Meanwhile, cities and water agencies have instituted strict conservation measures while today Gov. Jerry Brown ordered statewide mandatory cuts for the first time ever.

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Week of:

Dec. 27, 2011

Drought Intensity

None

Abnormally Dry

Moderate Drought

Severe Drought

Extreme Drought

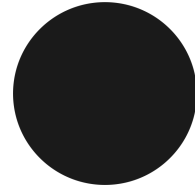
Exceptional Drought



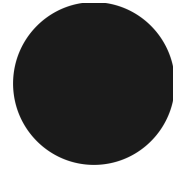
Affected Population

Sources: National Drought Mitigation Center; U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

20,850,980



16,345,331



57,648



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