

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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District Remains in Stage IV Water Shortage Conditions Board Keeps Current Actions in Place

At its July 12th Regular Board Meeting, District Board of Directors heard a presentation from their consulting geo-hydrologist, Dr. Brad Newton, regarding Nipomo groundwater levels and reviewed the District's Water Shortage Response and Management Plan (WSRMP). After public comment and discussion, the Board concluded the District will remain in Stage IV in accordance with its WSRMP, directed staff to continue enforcing current actions and not impose additional Stage IV actions. Given the Board's decision, the District is still not accepting new applications for service.

The Water Shortage Response and Management Plan is based on five escalating stages of drought. In Stages III through V, there are targeted reductions in water use designed to protect long-term groundwater supplies. Stage IV represents Severe Water Shortage Conditions and sets a goal of reducing District's groundwater pumping by 50%.

Though the central coast received an above-average amount of rain over the recent winter, Nipomo's groundwater supply did not improve to a level sufficient to lift it out of Stage IV of the Water Shortage Response and Management Plan.

General Manager Mario Iglesias stated, "The drought continues to affect our community. With last winter's above-average rainfall, much of the State has declared an end to the drought. However, the Nipomo Mesa groundwater basin is slow to respond to rain-water runoff, leaving water levels in a severe condition."

The District thanks customers for their conservation efforts. Their efforts along with supplemental water from the City of Santa Maria allowed the District to see a 51% reduction in groundwater pumping from July 2016 to June 2017. The District is working with neighboring water agencies to encourage all residents to continue helping protect Nipomo's water supply by using water wisely.

For more information about Nipomo's water supply, conservation programs and other water related issues, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, info@ncsd.ca.gov, or visit www.ncsd.ca.gov.

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Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is: Provide our customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.