

MAY-JUNE 2018

# Helix Highlights



## Water Supply Conditions

April 1 marks the official end of California’s wet season, when water resources managers add up the millions of gallons of water available in the state’s snow, rivers and reservoirs and calculate how much water we have for the year ahead.

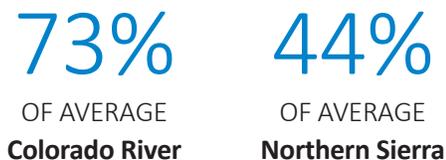
California has an adequate water supply for 2018, even though it snowed very little this winter, and the snowpack on April 1 in the northern Sierra and the upper Colorado River basin was far below average. What’s pulling us through 2018 is a vast supply of water from 2017 stored in reservoirs throughout the state.

Most of California’s major reservoirs were at or above average on April 1, with the exception of Lake Oroville, which the State of California is keeping 60 percent full until construction on the dam’s spillway is completed. Lake Mead, on the Colorado River, was 41 percent full on April 1, but has been at this level for years due to continuous drought conditions in the basin.

Helix customers should note that Lake Cuyamaca was not replenished at all this winter because of low precipitation levels and dry soil soaking up any runoff. Our regional water supply, however, is in good shape. The San Diego County Water Authority’s water resources specialist Alexi Snell told the San Diego Union Tribune, “We have sufficient supplies through 2018 and into the foreseeable future, regardless of weather conditions.”



### April 1 Snowpack Levels



### April 1 Reservoir Levels



## Get eBills

Instead of a paper bill, we’ll text you, or send an email, reminding you to view your water bill online. Sign up and we’ll enter you in our monthly drawing for a dozen Uncle Biff’s Killer Cookies delivered to you at work or at home.

Go to [hwd.com/cookies](http://hwd.com/cookies)



## Save \$4 per Nozzle

If you have turf, rotating nozzles are the best way to water -- they use 10 percent less water than spray nozzles. Helix customers get double the rebate -- \$4 back on each nozzle when you buy 30 or more. And we show you how to install them at [hwd.com/diy](http://hwd.com/diy).

Go to [socalwatersmart.com](http://socalwatersmart.com)

# Water Supply Conditions

The Board of Directors of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California voted on April 10 to fund the construction of two tunnels under the Delta.

Most of the major rivers that flow down the western slopes of the Sierra in northern California flow into the Sacramento River and the San Joaquin River, and the confluence of these two rivers --a labyrinth of canals, island farms and habitat east of San Francisco -- is called the Delta.

Water pumped from the Delta supplies 25 million Californians and over three million acres of agriculture, but the Delta's ecosystem is failing and water exports are vulnerable to environmental regulations, levee failures, sea level rise and earthquakes.

The proposed solution, called the California WaterFix, will divert water from the Sacramento River into two 40-foot diameter, 35-mile long tunnels that will transport the water under the Delta to the California Aqueduct for delivery to farms and Southern California cities.

The State of California's plan was to spread the \$16.7 billion project cost among urban and agricultural water users. When agriculture declined, Metropolitan offered to cover 65 percent of the cost of the two tunnel project, or 47 percent of the cost of a one tunnel project. On April 10, Metropolitan's board approved \$10.8 billion in funding for the two tunnel project.

Metropolitan estimates it will take 19 years to complete the project, but legal and funding challenges may extend that timeframe.

JULY-AUGUST 2018

## Meetings, classes & events

### Is this a good project for San Diego County?

The San Diego County Water Authority, City of Los Angeles and City of Santa Monica voted against the two tunnel solution. The three agencies are concerned that the project may not improve water supply reliability and that the cost of the project could be higher than Metropolitan's initial estimates.

[Learn More @ hwd.com/cawaterfix](http://hwd.com/cawaterfix)

**Get eBills**  
Go to [hwd.com/cookies](http://hwd.com/cookies)



### July

Lake Jennings is open all month, so come on out and make some summer memories.

July / Catfish Re-Opener (Date TBD)

[Explore the events and reserve a campsite at lakejennings.org](http://lakejennings.org)



Jul 7 / Free, Docent-Led Garden Tour

Jul 22 / Dogs & Donuts

Aug 4 / Free, Docent-Led Garden Tour

[Explore the event calendar at thegarden.org](http://thegarden.org)