

Stages of Seattle's Water Shortage Contingency Plan
Voluntary Stage Activated on August 11, 2015

Water System Operational Highlights

August 31, 2015 – September 8, 2015

The Message on Our Water Supply

After moving to the voluntary stage of their water shortage response plans on August 11, Everett, Seattle and Tacoma asked customers to reduce their water use by 10 percent to stretch water supplies, for people and fish, to the rainy season.

In the first two weeks following August 11, the region has collectively cut back on its water use by 10 percent, hitting the goal set by the three utilities. The three cities ask customers to please keep up their efforts to reduce water use. The three utilities plan to report how customers are doing every other week; the next round of regional results will be released the week of September 7.

While this weekend's storm brought significant rain to the region, resulting in a modest increase in the amount of water stored in our water supply reservoirs, it is not enough to return our supplies to normal levels. We continue to ask our customers to reduce their water use by following these steps:

- Let your lawn go dormant and limit plant watering to twice a week.
- Water plants before 8 a.m. or after 7 p.m.
- Reduce your showering time.
- Check for and fix leaks, including checking your toilets for silent leaks.
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.

Find more water saving tips at www.savingwater.org.

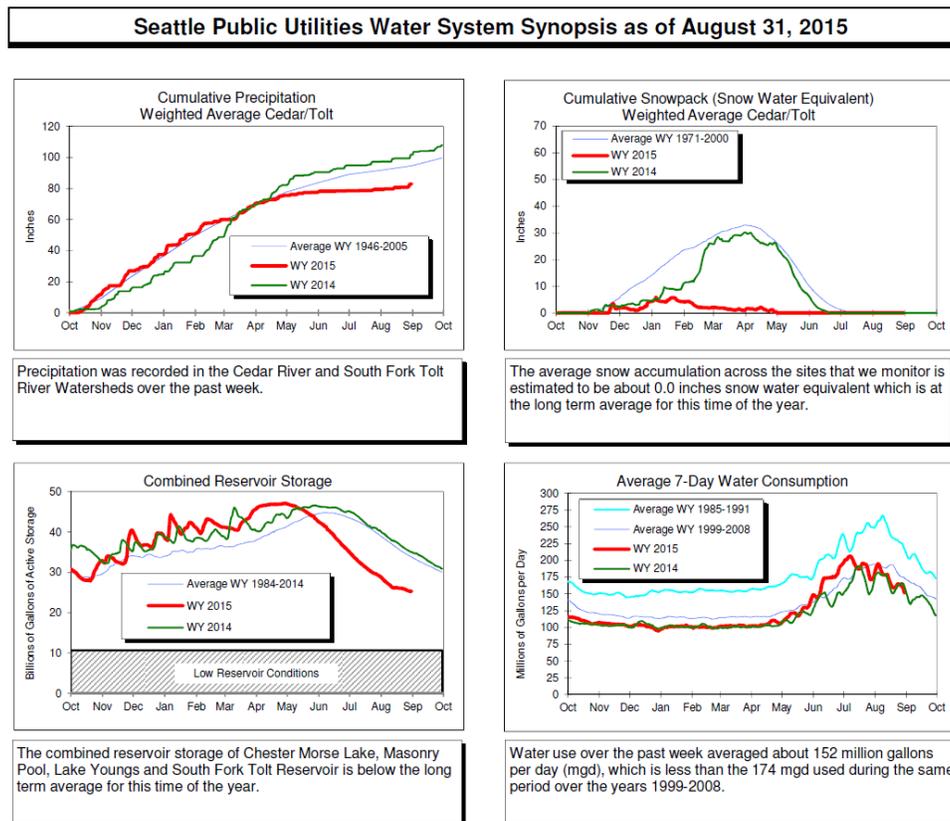
We are making operational changes and activating supplementary water supplies – all in an effort to stretch our water supply as far as possible.

If conditions worsen, we may move to the mandatory phase of water shortage response and require customers to further reduce the amount of water they normally use each day.

Last week, 2.18 inches and 2.32 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River watersheds, respectively.

Chester Morse Lake at the Overflow Dike is at elevation 1548.8 feet, about 0.1 feet lower than last week, and about 1.7 feet below its long term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1512.2 feet, about 0.3 feet higher than last week, and about 30.8 feet below its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1722.5 feet, about 2.6 feet lower than last week, and about 24.2 feet below its long term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed for water supply and fish habitat management objectives for both the Cedar and South Fork Tolt Rivers. Streamflows in both the South Fork Tolt River and Cedar River are being held at guaranteed flows for this time of the year and are providing full protection for incubating salmon and steelhead trout.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 152 mgd. That is less than the 160 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 174 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.



All data is provisional and subject to revision.

Figure 1. Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis Graphs