

# Mendocino City Community Services District

Post Office Box 1029

Mendocino, California 95460

Office Phone (707) 937-5790 Fax (707) 937-3837

E-mail: [mccsd@mcn.org](mailto:mccsd@mcn.org) Website: [mccsd.com](http://mccsd.com)

January 7, 2022

## **Out of Stage 4 Into Stage 2 Water Shortage**

Dear Valued MCCSD Customers and Property Owners,

MCCSD is pleased to report we are recovering from this historic drought. To date we have recorded 20.38" inches of rain fall for the rain year, about 32% above average. Many wells have recovered and the water table appears high. However, we need to remain water conscious, and store water now for use in the dry season. If you had to buy water last year, you should consider adding additional storage now.

MCCSD has a Water Shortage Contingency Plan in place to assist in extending the available water in the Mendocino Headlands Aquifer we share and to prevent as many wells as possible from going dry. According to the WSCP, rainfall is the primary tool used to determine a water shortage during winter and spring months. In the dryer summer months, depth-to-water measurements are the primary tool used to determine the recommended Water Shortage Stage. Having experienced a Stage 4 water emergency twice during the past two years, we have learned to be cautious in our planning.

Due to higher than expected rainfall total on the December 31, 2021 evaluation date, the Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD) Board of Directors voted to reduce the Stage 4 Water Shortage Emergency Declaration to Stage 2 at a Special meeting Jan. 7, 2022.

The Stage 4 Water Shortage came with a mandatory 40% reduction in water allotments. The Stage 2 Water Shortage includes a return to normal water allotments and a request to voluntarily reduce water usage by 15%. I would ask and remind you all to continue conserving and think about what might be needed later this year.

Please know MCCSD is working hard to protect your water, and to develop some strategic emergency water reserves to help mitigate future droughts, but this takes time and money. MCCSD applied for two grants at the end of 2021 to help our community be more resilient. No funding has been awarded to date. The most effective action you can take at this time is to first: consider increasing your individual water storage capacity; second, continue to conserve; and third, plan as if imported water will not be available. If you have questions, please visit our website or contact the office. Let's all hope the rains continue.

Respectfully,

Ryan Rhoades  
District Superintendent