



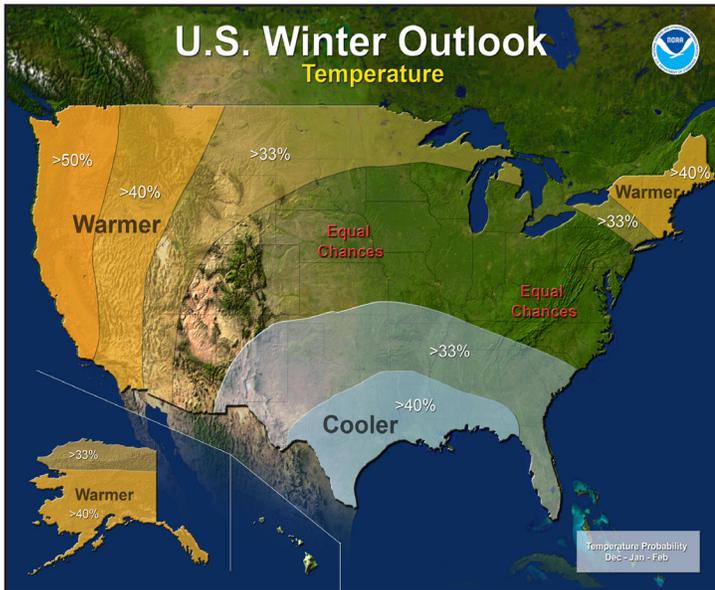
BASS LAKE BULLETIN

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NOAA: ANOTHER WARM WINTER LIKELY, DROUGHT MAY PERSIST

EID Continues Stage Two Drought Restrictions, Irrigation Changes in November

Complete recovery from the drought gripping California and other western states is not likely this winter, according to a recent forecast by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Factors such as the size and moisture content of the Sierra snowpack determine how much water will be released when the snow melts and fills the reservoirs that supply El Dorado County with water through the summer months.

To the casual observer, the process by which we get water from the mountain snowpack is simple: the weather cools as winter approaches, and precipitation changes from raindrops to snowflakes. Snow accumulates in winter, and with warming of spring and early summer it melts, producing streamflow.

In reality, the relationship between the snowpack and the amount of snowmelt runoff is complex. It depends on many factors, primarily moisture content of the soil, ground water contributions, precipitation

patterns, fluctuation in air temperature, use of water by plants, and frequency of storm events. These factors change throughout the year and from year to year. Their relative importance varies depending on location.

The stage is set for the snow-water year even before the first snowflakes fall. The amount of moisture that accumulates in the soil early in winter, before the snowpack develops, will affect runoff the following spring. Dry soils tend to absorb more of the meltwater than wet soils. The amount of moisture that is absorbed depends on soil characteristics as well as precipitation. Wind, air temperature, storm frequency, and the amount of moisture in the atmosphere determine the accumulation of the snowpack.

How the snowpack accumulates affects its density and texture. Density increases as the snowpack becomes deeper and the lower layers are compressed. Wetness of the snow also affects density. Compression affects the crystalline structure of the snowpack. Density and crystalline structure affect how fast the snowpack melts and how much water it yields.

Mike Halpert, acting director of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's climate prediction center, recently said that while NOAA is predicting at least a two in three chance that winter precipitation will be near or above normal throughout California, with such widespread extreme water deficits, recovery will be slow.

In the Sierras, Lake Tahoe recently dipped below its natural level of 6,223 feet above sea level for the first time in five years, to 6,222.78 feet. Tahoe's drought is predicted

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SILVA VALLEY PARKWAY INTERCHANGE PROJECT CONTNUES ON TRACK

The Silva Valley Parkway Interchange Project is now being built over U.S. Highway 50. The purpose of the project is to provide another access point to U.S. 50 for motorists in El Dorado Hills.

The construction is being done by Myers and Sons Construction, and the project is expected to be completed in 2016.

Initial work started in February 2014. Construction of the supports in the center median of US 50 for the bridge began in March.

Excavation operations for the bridge and the placement of fill material for the westbound on-ramp continued through April.

Hard rock was found when excavating for the median supports for the bridge in April. The contractor spent several frustrating days trying to break the rock with an excavator and hammer before deciding that blasting would be necessary. During the three blasting operations, eastbound and westbound US 50 from the El Dorado Hills Boulevard Interchange to the Bass Lake Road Interchange was closed to traffic, and cars were detoured onto Bass Lake Road, Serrano Parkway and El Dorado Hills Boulevard.

Excavation operations continued in May. Concrete was poured for the north and south bridge abutments, and the placement of fill dirt for the on and off ramps continued.

In June the columns for the bridge in the median of US 50 were constructed. Work in the realigned section of Silva Vally continued.

In August, the aggregate base for new Silva Valley Parkway on the north side of Tong Road was placed. In this location, roadside ditches were constructed and lined with rock and the median curb was constructed.

Erection of the falsework, the temporary scaffolding to support the bridge during construction, began in September, with nightly closures of US 50. The traffic was detoured via El Dorado Hills Boulevard, Serrano

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello All,

In this Thanksgiving season, let us not dwell on the negative events that seem to be swirling about. Rather, let us concentrate on the good things in life. That's not to say that we should ignore the challenges of our times, rather let us put them in proportion.

Let us remind ourselves that we live in a beautiful environment. We are minutes from mountains, forests and lakes. We have a beautiful climate: warm in the summer, cool in the winter, and no humidity to speak of. A veritable Eden.

I would like to thank all of those who campaigned for office this last election. The plethora of candidates on the ballot tells me that there are many of us who want to make a contribution to the community.

I also want to congratulate those who won offices for the coming terms. While you certainly face some challenges, I know that our area has many who will support you in your endeavors to make our community even a better place to live.

Perhaps Seneca said it best: "True happiness is to enjoy the present, without anxious dependence upon the future, not to amuse ourselves with either hopes or fears but to rest satisfied with what we have, which is sufficient, for he that is so wants nothing. The greatest blessings of mankind are within us and within our reach. A wise man is content with his lot, whatever it may be, without wishing for what he has not."

So this Thanksgiving, let us be grateful for our blessings. May the good things of life be yours in abundance, not only at Thanksgiving, but throughout the coming year.

Sincerely,

John E. Thomson

President



Melting snow produces streamflow -- a vital source of water for people living in the West.

DROUGHT *(continued)*

to persist, according to a NOAA drought outlook map for October 2014, through January 2015, with the potential for slow drought recovery later in winter and early spring for the Sierra.

This prediction is based in part on El Niño, according to NOAA, which is associated with warmer-than normal ocean temperatures. While a strong El Niño often pulls more moisture into California during winter months, this year's El Niño, if it develops, is expected to be weak, offering little drought relief. NOAA predicts a 67 percent chance of an El Niño developing by year's end.

NOAA's seasonal outlook does not predict where and when snowstorms may hit or total seasonal snowfall. Snow forecasts depend on the strength and track of winter storms, which are generally not predictable more than a week in advance.

As for temperature, a warmer-than-average winter is predicted in the West, including the inter-mountains.

In October, El Dorado Irrigation District General Manager Jim Abercrombie reported that EID continues to track customer conservation, and compares that usage to the 3-year average.

As of October 21, 2014, cumulative conservation for EID water customers (not including recycled water) since January 1 is 17%. Excluding January, cumulative conservation since the drought declaration on February 4, has been 20%. Conservation for the week of October 15 through October 21 was 28%.

District customers are now under Stage 2 water conservation restrictions. Stage 2 calls for voluntary and mandatory reductions in water use. Voluntary conservation is called for, with the addition of some mandatory measures on irrigation, to achieve up to a 30% demand reduction.

In the case of severely restricted water supplies (up to a 50% supply reduction), a Stage 3 Water Crisis may be declared, with mandatory reductions in water use.

Measures, including water rationing, may be enforced to achieve up to a 50% demand reduction.

In the case of extremely restricted water supplies (greater than a 50% supply reduction), a Stage 4 Water Emergency may be called, with water rationing for health and safety purposes. Extensive restrictions on water use would be used, and water rationing implemented to decrease demand so as to achieve greater than a 50% demand reduction.

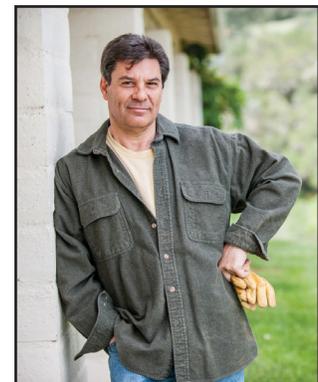
EID customers are reminded that the current Stage 2 mandatory irrigation measures call for the return to a once-a-week watering schedule, Saturdays or Sundays only, depending on one's address, beginning November 16, 2014. ~

Credit: Tahoe Daily Tribune

TWO NEW SUPERVISORS FOR EL DORADO COUNTY

The Board of Supervisors will have two new faces in 2015, Mike Ranalli, who replaces Ron Briggs in District 4, and Sue Novasel, replacing Norma Santiago in District 5.

Michael Ranalli, 56, was a 22-year Intel Corp. technology and marketing executive who moved from the company's Santa Clara headquarters to its Folsom campus in the 1980s. Ranalli eventually built a home on



Mike Ranalli

5 acres in Rescue and later retired to grow wine grapes in Lotus.

Ranalli serves as vice chairman of the county's economic advisory committee. He says he ran to roll back anti-business regulations that have made it difficult for farmers and ranchers to make a living in the county and have stifled growth at business parks in El Dorado Hills, Diamond Springs and Shingle Springs.

Sue Novasel, 59, is a three-term board

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Fabricating the overpass supports for the ramp that will cross Old Silva Valley Parkway on the north side of Highway 50.

Vainly trying to excavate the foundation for the center median supports for the Silva Valley overpass in the solid rock.

INTERCHANGE *(continued)*

Parkway, and Bass Lake Road.

New Tong Road has been constructed and will be opened in the next few weeks for local access to the Capital Korean Presbyterian Church. This work included construction of a precast arch culvert, embankment construction, installation of numerous drainage systems, installation of a new water line, and placement of the structural section for the new roadway.

Work on the project will continue through the winter months. Work on the Westbound Off-ramp Undercrossing is ongoing. The first concrete pour for the superstructure is tentatively scheduled for mid-November.

Construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2015 or in the spring of 2016, depending on the weather ~



Turkey for Thanksgiving?

The history of the Thanksgiving turkey is a bit of a mystery. Nobody knows exactly how this particular bird earned a place of honor at the table each November, but historians have a few different theories.

Thanks to letters and records kept by early American settlers, we know that when the colonists sat down to dine with the Wampanoag Indians, beef and fowl were on the menu. This historical meal would later become known as the first Thanksgiving.

Although historians cannot say for sure which types of fowl were served up that day,

a letter written by pilgrim Edward Winslow mentions a turkey hunting trip, but not in the context of the Thanksgiving dinner.

Another theory attributes the Thanksgiving turkey to the Queen of England. During the 16th century, a fleet of Spanish ships sunk on their way to attack England.

According to legend, Queen Elizabeth received this news while eating dinner. She was so thrilled that she ordered another goose be served. Some historians say the early settlers were inspired by the queen's actions and roasted a turkey instead of a goose.

The wild turkey is a native bird of North America. As a result, Benjamin Franklin claimed this made the turkey a more suitable national bird for the United States than the bald eagle.

Not everyone agreed with Franklin, however, and the bald eagle became the national emblem for the United States in 1782. The bald eagle may be America's bird 364 days a year, but the turkey has one day all to itself — Thanksgiving. ~

HUS, KNIGHT WIN DIRECTOR, TRUSTEE SEATS

Local residents Doug Hus and John Knight won seats on the El Dorado Hills Fire Board and the Los Rios Community College District Board of Trustees, respectively, in this month's elections.

El Dorado Hills Fire Department is governed by the five elected members of the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Hills County Water District, commonly referred to as the El Dorado Hills Fire Board. The District serves approximately 30,000 acres with 13,215 homes and an estimated population of 39,645.



Doug Hus

Los Rios is a two-year public college district that serves the greater Sacramento region. It covers American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges and their remote campuses. The District's 2,400 square mile service area includes all of Sacramento County, most of El Dorado County and parts of Yolo, Placer and Solano counties. About 77,000 students are enrolled in the colleges. ~



John Knight



Sue Novasel



Autumn

When the trees their summer splendor
 Change to raiment red and gold,
 When the summer moon turns mellow,
 And the nights are getting cold;
 When the squirrels hide their acorns,
 And the woodchucks disappear;
 Then we know that it is autumn,
 Loveliest season of the year.

— Carol L. Riser

SUPERVISORS *(continued)*

member and past president of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District. Novasel, who moved to the Tahoe region in the 1970s “because of my passion for skiing and the outdoors,” went on to work as a ski instructor at Heavenly Resort before opening a wedding and event planning business.

Novasel said her challenge as supervisor would be to develop and diversify the economy of a “tourist town” while protecting lake-area communities, where residents have long worried “we would lose our feeling of being rural.” Novasel was one of the original authors of a 1989 Meyers community plan that called for protected greenbelts separating hotel and retail developments and small office centers. Novasel said the plan needs updating to encourage environmentally sensitive development while streamlining the permitting process for such construction.

Supervisor Shiva Frenzen, elected September 9, 2014, in a special election to replace Ray Nutting in District 2, took office immediately.

Credit: Peter Hecht, Sacramento Bee



BLAC BOARD MET IN NOVEMBER, ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR DECEMBER

The November regular board meeting of the Bass Lake Action Committee was held on November 3 at 7:00 PM at the Thom-

son's, 501 Kirkwood Court in Woodridge, El Dorado Hills.

The board and members in attendance heard reports on the promised improvements to Oak Knoll Park, and the annual assessment charges for the landscape and lighting assessment districts for Bass Lake A (Hills of El Dorado) and Bass Lake B (Woodridge).

The 2014 Annual General Membership Meeting and Christmas Party will be held on December 1, 2014, at the home of Stuart and Sue Colvin, 131 Gage Court in Serrano, El Dorado Hills, 916-358-9333. The election of officers will be the only item of business on the agenda. All BLAC members and invited guests will be sent an invitation with driving directions and a gate code.

As always, all BLAC members are cordially invited to attend all meetings. For further information about BLAC meetings and membership, please contact Vice President Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~



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