



Draft Water Shortage Contingency Plan for City of Buellton

July 1, 2023

Water is a precious resource in California, and maintaining its quality is of utmost importance to safeguard the health of the public and the environment.

Water Shortage Contingency Plan for City of Buellton

Additional potential reference resources include: American Water Works Association M60 Drought Preparedness and Response Manual, M52 Water Conservation Programs Manual and G480-20 Water Conservation and Efficiency Program Operation.

City of Buellton Water System

107 W. Highway 246, Buellton CA 93427

Public Water System CA #4210018

Effective: July 1, 2023

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Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

In order to conserve the available water supply and protect the integrity of public water system (PWS) supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Buellton hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water through this Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Plan).

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Plan are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply condition are deemed to constitute a waste of water subjecting the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section XI of the Plan.

Section II: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the City of Buellton by means of a Public Comment Period between May 22, 2023 and June 22, 2023. Final adoption of the Plan occurred at a properly noticed City Council meeting on June 22, 2023.

Section III: Public Education

The City of Buellton will regularly provide the public with information about the Plan, including information about the conditions under which each stage of the Plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented in each stage, including but not limited to the value of water, sources of water being used, methods and opportunities for conservation. Detailed information on public education is provided in Section X of the Plan.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the City of Buellton is located within the Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. The GSA's water planning area assessment documents were considered in the development of the Plan. A copy of the final Plan was shared with CMA GSA and posted on the City's website on May 22, 2023.

Section V: Authorization

The Public Works Director, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The Public Works Director, or designee, shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan. The contact information for the Public Works Director is: 805-686-0137 and via email at roseh@cityofbuellton.com.

Section VI: Application

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and properties utilizing water provided by the City of Buellton. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan may include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

Section VII: Definitions

For the purposes of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply:

Aesthetic water use: water use for ornamental or decorative purposes such as fountains, reflecting pools, and water gardens.

Commercial and Institutional water use: water use which is integral to the operations of commercial and non-profit establishments and governmental entities such as schools, hospitals, clinics, retail establishments, hotels and motels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Conservation: those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by the City of Buellton

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for cleaning a residence, business, industry, or institution.

Industrial water use: the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.

Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, rights-of-way and medians.

Non-essential water use: water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

- (a) irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
- (b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle;
- (c) use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;

- (d) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
- (e) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
- (f) use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools;
- (g) use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
- (h) failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s); and
- (i) use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than firefighting or hauling water for a domestic water use.

Section VIII: Summary of Drought Response Stages and Response Actions

The Public Works Director, or designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a monthly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified “triggers” are reached.

The triggering and termination criteria described in subsequent sections of this document are based on:

- Groundwater well elevations and/or well production capacities relative to system demands;
- Projected drought conditions on Department of Water Resources (DWR) California Water Watch Tool (<https://cww.water.ca.gov>)
- County, State or Federal Drought Emergency Orders
- Emergencies such as fire, earthquake, etc. resulting in potential water outages

The response actions described in subsequent sections of this document are based on the following general precepts:

- Source capacity augmentation is proposed with the City of Buellton’s State Water Project turn-out and decreasing water loss through enhanced operational and maintenance changes. In more critical cases, source capacity may be increased by drilling new wells or conversion/rehabilitation of existing irrigation wells and/or a provision of hauled or bottled water in cases of natural disasters.
- Conservation techniques employed include progressively implementing more strict water use policies, primarily focused on outdoor irrigation and increasingly restrictive water use in business functions. In natural disaster type scenarios, water supplies are limited based on a per capita per day scenario.
- Notification of the public is performed in a variety of ways to ensure drought messaging is received by the residents. Depending on the severity of the drought stage, this may include messages on the City of Buellton’s website and social media to house-to-house outreach services performed with community service groups. Whenever possible, messages will be provided in English and Spanish.
- The City of Buellton will coordinate with a variety of agencies, including the Santa Barbara County Environmental Health, State Water Board’s Division of Drinking Water, and Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA). In the event of severe water shortages, the City of Buellton will also coordinate with Santa Barbara County Public Health to support County registered vulnerable persons, County Offices of Emergency Services (OES), CalWARN, community partners and critical users.

Section IX: Drought Response Triggers

The drought response triggers and terminations discussed below provides details on when varying levels of drought responses, further discussed in Section X, will be implemented and then subsequently terminated. The City of Buellton City Council may choose to make modifications to the triggers and terminations depending on real-time scenarios; however these response triggers stand in the absence of other Board decisions.

Stage 1 Triggers -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of at least 10% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month, in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, the City of Buellton initiates voluntary conservation measures, or CMA GSA or the State of California proposes basin-wide or State-wide voluntary conservation measures.

Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all well related conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 10 consecutive days, or immediately when any other conditions cease to exist.

Stage 2 Triggers -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of at least 20% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, City of Buellton initiates / recommends Stage 2 drought response measures, or the DWR Water Watch drought map shows severe drought conditions in our zip code.

Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all well related conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 10 consecutive days, or immediately when any other conditions cease to exist. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 3 Triggers – ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of at least 30% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month, in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, City of Buellton initiates / recommends Stage 3 drought response measures, or DWR's California Water Watch drought maps shows extreme drought conditions in our zip code.

Requirements for termination

Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all well related conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 10 consecutive days, or immediately when any other conditions cease to exist. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 4 Triggers -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of at least 40% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, City of Buellton initiates / recommends Stage 4 drought response measures, or a County, State or Federal Drought Emergency is declared.

Requirements for termination

Stage 4 of the Plan may be rescinded when all well related conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 10 consecutive days, or immediately when any other conditions cease to exist. Upon termination of Stage 4, Stage 3 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 5 Triggers -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of at least 50% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month, in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, or City of Buellton initiates / recommends Stage 5 drought response measures.

Requirements for termination

Stage 5 of the Plan may be rescinded when all well related conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 10 consecutive days, or immediately when any other conditions cease to exist. Upon termination of Stage 5, Stage 4 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 6 Triggers – CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when groundwater well elevations show an average decrease of greater than 50% (for all of the operating wells) in comparison to the prior month, in groundwater elevations or available flow capacity, or City of Buellton initiates / recommends Stage 6 drought response measures. Triggers may also include earthquakes resulting in significant infrastructure damage, emergency conservation needed for fire protection, or other actual or threatened catastrophic water infrastructure failure as determined by the Public Works Director, or designee.

Requirements for termination

Stage 6 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist and coordination with the health and safety authorities have indicated that the water source and distribution system is safe. Upon termination of Stage 6, Stage 5 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Section X: Drought Response Stages and Actions

The Public Works Director, or designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a monthly basis and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section IX of this Plan, shall determine if a water shortage condition exists and the severity of any such water shortage conditions (e.g., 1-Watch, 2-Warning, 3-Acute, 4-Critical, 5-Emergency, 6-Catastrophic Water Loss), and shall implement the following notification procedures accordingly:

Notification

Description of Customer Notification Methods:

The Public Works Director, or designee, shall notify the public by means of one of the following Methods:

- Method 1: Notice on City of Buellton’s website and social media outlets
- Method 2: Notice in Buellton’s Buzz and utility billings, joint messaging with CMA GSA and other local agencies and County services
- Method 3: Notice to local Spanish and English-speaking radio stations
- Method 4: Email to customer listing
- Method 5: Direct Mail to each customer, in bill or flyer format
- Method 6: Personal phone calls to hospital, elder care facility and school district
- Method 7: Door to door outreach in low-income communities, elderly communities, County registered vulnerable residents, residences with high usage, and/or parts of the distribution system impacted by emergency
- Method 8: County Emergency Messaging text alert

Messaging will be made in English and Spanish.

Prepared materials from Department of Water Resources, “Save Our Water Toolkit”, may be used as drought communication tools with the City of Buellton logo added. The link for these materials is provided below:

<https://saveourwater.com/en/Partner-Toolkit>

Public Safety Contacts:

The Public Works Director, or designee, shall notify directly the following individuals and entities of restrictions and water shortages, as defined in the subsections below, as appropriate for each response stage.

Organization or Department	Name & Position	Telephone	Email
Fire Department Station 31	Fire Captain	911 or 805-686-5062 (non-emergency)	
City of Buellton	Scott Wolfe, City Manager	805-325-9011	scott@cityofbuellton.com
County Office of Emergency Services	Kelly Hubbard, EOC Director	805-681-5526	khubbard@sbcoem.org oem@sbcoem.org
County Env. Health Agency	Lars Seifert, SBCEHS Environmental Health Services Director	805-681-4934	Lars.seifert@sbcpd.org
CalWARN Contact	Alix Stayton, Region I Chair	626-598-1627	R1.REOC1@gmail.com astayton@pwagroup.org
State Water Board District Engineer Division of Drinking Water	Jeff Densmore, District Engineer	805-566-1326	Jeff.densmore@waterboards.ca.gov
Critical Water User: Schools	Randall Hagger, BUSD Superintendent	805-686-2767	rhaggard@buelltonusd.org
CMA GSA	Bill Buelow, Groundwater Program Manager	805-620-7985	bbuelow@syrwcd.com

Support Services Contacts:

The following is a listing of support services that may be appropriate for a water shortage emergency.

Organization or Department	Company & Name	Phone	Email
Water Hauler	Steve Sawin, Valley Tools	805-688- 7213	
Bottled Water Vendors	Albertsons	805-693- 1069	
	Ready Refresh	844-809- 5610	
	Culligan	805-736- 7236	
Well Drilling/Pump Company	Kenny Fisher 3rd Gen Pump & Well	805-904- 8808	3rdgenpump@gmail.com
Community Service Partners: Red Cross	Santa Barbara Office	805-687- 1331	

Drought Responses Actions:

In addition to the Drought Response Stages detailed below, the City of Buellton has a continuously running rebate program to create water-efficient landscapes, program highlights include:

- Turf conversion rebates, currently \$2 per square foot, up to \$1000

Details of our rebate program can be found on our website.

Stage 1 Response -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 10% percent reduction in total monthly water usage in comparison to the prior year.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Review water supply contract and mutual aid agreements with other local agencies. Organize and ensure joint messaging and actions between other local agencies and the County of Santa Barbara on future Drought Stage Responses. Joint messaging and shared Stages will help lessen customer confusion and prevent tension.
- (b) The City of Buellton will begin a special drought water loss audit to evaluate potential areas for limiting water loss.
- (c) Verify CalWARN membership is active and in good standing.
- (d) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- (a) The watering of crops, grass, ground cover, lawns, open ground shrubbery, trees, including greenbelt, golf courses, parks, recreation areas, agriculture, or any other area containing vegetation shall be prohibited between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm.
- (b) The use of water described above shall be in a manner and to the extent which does not allow unreasonable excess water to run off the area being watered. Every water user is considered to have his or her water system under his or her control and is accountable for the knowledge of and the manner and extent of excess water run-off.
- (c) The washing of driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, buildings or any other hard surface on which water will run off except for the washing of

surfaces necessary for preventing a potential threat to health and safety as determined by the Public Works Director, shall be prohibited.

- (d) The washing of any vehicle, camper, trailer, or boat, except at a commercial car washing facility or by use of a bucket and/or hose equipped with a self-closing valve that requires operator pressure to activate the flow of water, shall be prohibited.
- (e) The escape of water through leaks or breaks within any water user's distribution or plumbing system for an unreasonable time shall be prohibited. Unreasonable time shall be twelve (12) hours after the discovery or the notification of such leak or break from the city to correct or implement the correction of such leak or break, whichever occurs first.
- (f) All restaurants that provide table service shall post in a conspicuous place a notice of drought conditions in a form approved by the Public Works Director.
- (g) All hotel/motel operations shall post in each room in a conspicuous place a notice of drought conditions in a form approved by the Public Works Director.
- (h) All recreational/travel trailer parks shall provide to each registered user of said park at the time of registration, a notice of drought conditions in a form approved by the Public Works Director.

Notification Method(s) and Frequency:

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City's website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis.

Agencies Contacted:

Contact CMA GSA, other local agencies and County to align potential future actions.

Stage 2 Response -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions

Target: Achieve a 20% percent reduction in total monthly water usage in comparison to the prior year.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Continue to organize and ensure joint messaging and actions between the City of Buellton and other local agencies and the County of Santa Barbara on future Drought Stage Responses. .
- (b) Continue to perform drought water loss audits to evaluate potential areas for limiting water loss.
- (c) Verify CalWARN membership is active and in good standing.
- (d) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (e) Increase monitoring of groundwater elevations from monthly to weekly.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- (a) The Stage One water use regulations and restrictions on water use shall be applicable.
- (b) The watering of crops, grass, ground cover, lawns, open ground, shrubbery, trees, including greenbelt, golf courses, parks, recreation areas, agricultural, or any other area containing vegetation shall be prohibited between eight a.m. and six p.m.
- (c) The use of water described above shall be in a manner and to the extent which does not allow excess water to run off the area being watered. Every water user is considered to have his or her water system under his or her control and is accountable for the knowledge of and the manner and extent of excess water runoff.
- (d) The use of city water for the flushing of water lines and mains, storm drains, sewer mains, and fire department training exercises except by the prior written approval of the Public Works Director shall be prohibited.
- (e) The use of potable water for cleaning and construction purposes, including, but not limited to, dust control and soil compaction shall be prohibited.

Notification Method(s):

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City's website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis.

Agencies Contacted:

Continue to work with CMA GSA and other local agencies and County to align potential future actions.

Stage 3 Response -- ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 30% percent reduction in total monthly water usage in comparison to the prior year.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Continue to organize and ensure joint messaging and aligned actions between the City of Buellton and other local agencies and the County of Santa Barbara on future Drought Stage Responses.
- (b) Using the results of the drought water loss audit perform leak detection surveys in areas with water loss above 10% and perform associated repairs.
- (c) Coordinate with CalWARN on communications and provisions.
- (d) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (e) Prepare engineering designs, cost estimates and estimated schedule for long-term mitigation strategy of additional wells or rehabilitation of existing irrigation wells. City of Buellton will seek to evaluate if drought construction funding is available.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 with the following modifications:

- (a) The watering of crops, grass, ground cover, lawns, open ground, shrubbery, trees, including greenbelt, golf courses, parks, recreation areas, agricultural, or any other area containing vegetation shall be prohibited except for trees to ensure tree health. However, the use of a reasonable amount of water by means of a hand held bucket is allowed. The watering of recreation areas including golf course greens, tees, and fairways may occur if it utilizes recycled water.

- (b) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare.
- (c) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle not occurring on the premises of a commercial car wash and commercial service stations, that utilizes internally recycled water, or not in the immediate interest of public health, safety, and welfare is prohibited.
- (d) All restaurants are prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.
- (e) Use of water to fill, refill or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited.
- (f) The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
 - i. wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, unless being performed by a City or emergency response employee addressing a public health issue such as fecal waste removal, etc.;
 - ii. wash down of driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
 - iii. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
 - iv. use of water for dust control;
 - v. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
- (g) Failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s) shall be subject to fine(s).

Notification Method(s) and Frequency:

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City's website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis.

Agencies Contacted:

Continue to work with CMA GSA and other local agencies and County to align potential future actions. Continue to collaborate with County Environmental Health and/or State Water Resources Control Board District Engineer on decreasing well production or water level elevations. Reach out to Fire Department and Critical Water Users (hospital, etc.) to notify them of the situation so that they can begin planning for alternative water sources as needed. Initiate planning for short-term alternative water scenarios and long-term mitigation strategies, such as well deepening or adding additional source capacity Coordinate with County Public Health to consider needs of vulnerable persons registered with the County in the event drought conditions worsen.

Stage 4 Response -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 40% percent reduction in total monthly water usage in comparison to the prior year.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Discuss status of City Buellton's water capacity and, prior to moving either system to Stage 5 conservation, evaluate if water transfers through the Central Coast Water Authority could be used to prevent this step.
- (b) Using the results of the drought water loss audit perform leak detection surveys in areas with water loss above 5% and performed needed repairs.
- (c) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (d) Increase groundwater elevation monitoring from weekly to daily.
- (e) Prepare, and get City Council approval for construction of additional wells or rehabilitation of existing irrigation wells. Prepare CEQA documents for the project.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 2 and 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 4 with the following modifications:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas is prohibited, with the exception of water needed to provide tree health. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by means of a filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less.

(b) City Council shall enforce penalties for water restriction violations.

Notification Method(s) and Frequency:

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City's website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis. Regular updates via social media should be utilized on a weekly basis.

Agencies Contacted:

Continue to work with CMA GSA and other local agencies and County to align potential future actions. Continue to collaborate with County Environmental Health and/or State Water Resources Control Board District Engineer on decreasing well production or water level elevations. Continue to reach out to Fire Department and Critical Water Users (hospital, etc.) of the situation so that they can continue planning for alternative water sources, if necessary. Continue coordinating with County Public Health to consider needs of vulnerable persons registered with the County should drought conditions worsen.

Stage 5 Response – EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 50% percent reduction in total monthly water usage in comparison to the prior year.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Discuss status of City Buellton’s water capacity and, prior to moving either system to Stage 6 conservation, evaluate if water transfers through the Central Coast Water Authority could be used to prevent this step.
- (b) Using the results of the drought water loss audit perform leak detection surveys in areas with any water loss and perform associated repairs.
- (c) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (d) Continue daily groundwater elevation measurements.
- (e) Execute agreements with well drillers, schedule new production well construction. Initiate engineering plans, costs, CEQA documents for additional well, if the production of the new well is inadequate to provide needed water supplies.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 2, 3 and 4 shall remain in effect during Stage 5 except with the following modifications:

- (a) All outdoor irrigation is prohibited.
- (b) City Council shall discuss implications for construction activities.
- (c) City Council shall continue to enforce penalties for water restriction violations

Notification Method(s) and Frequency:

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City’s website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis. Regular updates via social media should be utilized on a weekly basis. Water Waster Patrols are implemented.

Agencies Contacted:

Weekly coordination and status updates to all agencies.

Stage 6 Response -- CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve >50% percent reduction in total monthly water usage or implement allocation plan requirements depending on situation.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Sample new well, get State Water Board Division of Drinking Water and County Environmental Health approval to bring the well online.
- (b) Utilize Central Coast Water Authority turn-out to utilize water transfers if available.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 5 shall remain in effect during Stage 6 and indoor conservation such as utilizing showers instead of baths; decreasing frequency of clothes washing and decreasing toilet flushing are further promoted in social media and other communications methods.

Notification Method(s) and Frequency:

Methods: Best Practices and Restrictions shall be conveyed to the community through the City's website, monthly utility billings and the Buellton Buzz. Information shall be distributed on a monthly basis. Regular updates via social media should be utilized on a daily/weekly basis as appropriate. Water Waster Patrols are implemented.

Agencies Contacted:

Daily or weekly coordination and status updates to all agencies, depending on the severity of the issue.

CATASTROPHIC Water Allocation Plan

In the event that water shortage conditions threaten public health, safety, and welfare, the Public Works Director, or designee, is hereby authorized to allocate water according to the following water allocation plan:

Single-Family Residential Customers

The allocation to residential water customers residing in a single-family dwelling shall be as follows:

Persons per Household	Gallons per Month
1 or 2	1,460 – 2,920
3 or 4	4,380 – 5,840
5 or 6	7,300 – 8,760
7 or greater	Requires written verification of any household usage greater than 9,000 gallons per month. Allowable usage will be calculated using 47 gallons per person per day.

“Household” means the residential premises served by the customer’s meter. The above is based on 47 gallons per person per day with all outdoor uses prohibited except by public safety officers (e.g. fire personnel, etc.)

Additional decreases to the table may be required for short-term emergency response to earthquakes, fires, etc. Any short-term decrease (defined as less than 72 hours) will be determined by the Public Works Director along with provision for alternative water supplies for any period of water outage greater than 10 hours. Any conservation decreases to below 47 gallons per person per day, for greater than 72 hours, requires a properly noticed Council meeting (regular or special) for public input and Council adoption.

Master-Metered Multi-Family Residential Customers

The allocation to residential water customers billed from a master meter which jointly measures water to multiple permanent residential dwelling units (e.g., *apartments, mobile homes, etc.*) shall be allocated the same as single-family residential customers.

Commercial Customers

A monthly water allocation shall be established by the Public Works Director, or designee, for each nonresidential, non-industrial commercial water customer who uses water for processing purposes. The allocation to nonresidential, non-industrial commercial water customers shall be as follows: 40% of monthly water usage and no irrigation. All restaurants shall only provide water upon request, hotels must only wash linens upon request of customers, and all commercial

customers must post drought conservation messaging.

Industrial Customers

Industrial customers whose business solely relies on the use of water (such as the beverage industry) shall discuss viable options for operations with the City Public Works Department.

CATASTROPHIC Interim Replacement Water Supply for Water Outages

In the event that local water outages occur, the City of Buellton will use the Central Coast Water Authority intertie turn-out to purchase water from other agencies to provide interim alternative water supply for customers to meet short-term public health needs. Longer-term hauling of water directly to the distribution storage tanks would be coordinated with the Office of Emergency Services and CalWARN as soon as possible if the wells continue to be inaccessible.

CATASTROPHIC Notification of Emergency Service Providers

If adequate water supply will potentially become unavailable for fire response, medical services, public services, etc., then the following emergency providers will be notified as soon as possible to ensure that adequate planning, response and assistance may be provided:

Local Fire Agency: Shall be contacted immediately when any water outages are believed to be potentially imminent or is occurring in any part of the distribution system.

Critical Service Providers (e.g., hospital, school, elder care, etc.): The providers shall be immediately contacted when any water outage is believed to be potentially imminent or is occurring in the distribution system that may in any way impact that user. These users, in the City of Buellton, should have backup plans for water provision and hauling that must be implemented immediately.

State Water Board and/or County Environmental Health: The State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water and the County Environmental Health shall be contacted when any water outage is believed to be potentially imminent or is occurring in the distribution system.

County Office of Emergency Services: The County Office of Emergency Services may be contacted when any water outage is believed to be potentially imminent or is occurring in the distribution system as the result of a natural disaster and/or additional County or State support is needed.

Section XI: Enforcement

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from this water system for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this Plan, or in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by Public Works Director, or designee, in accordance with provisions of this Plan.
- (b) Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the water system, in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violation occurred on the person's property shall constitute a presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violation, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violation.
- (c) Each day that one or more of the provisions in this Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is in repeated violation of this Plan, the City of Buellton shall, after the second warning notice to the customer, be authorized to provide a financial penalty of up to \$100 per day for the third notice, and \$200 per day for the fourth.

For the fourth violation and any subsequent violation within any consecutive 12 calendar months, the City shall impose a surcharge against the customer for the property where the violation occurred, or is occurring, in an amount equal to 100 percent of the water bill for the billing period in which the violation occurred.

- (d) If the violations occurring during Stage 4, 5 or 6 the violations will include the financial penalty and the City may install a flow restrictor on or shut off water service to the property where the violation occurred or is occurring, for a period to be determined by the Public Works Director.
- (e) If a flow restrictor is installed or water service shut off pursuant to this section, prior to restoration of normal water service the customer whose service is affected shall be required to reimburse the city for whatever cost it has occurred and will incur in installing and removing a flow restrictor and in shutting off and turning on water service;
- (f) Any surcharge imposed pursuant to this section shall be added to the account of the customer for the property where the violation occurred or is occurring and shall be due and payable on the same terms and subject to the same conditions as any other charge for regular water service.

Notice of violation/hearings shall be subject to Section 13.68.110 of the City of Buellton Municipal Code.

Section XII: Variances

The Public Works Director, or designee, may grant, in writing, a temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for the public or the person requesting such variance and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- (a) Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which the Plan is in effect.
- (b) Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance shall file a petition for variance with the water system within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Public Works Director, or designee, and shall include the following:

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- (b) Purpose of water use.
- (c) Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
- (d) Detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
- (e) Description of the relief requested.
- (f) Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- (g) Alternative water use restrictions or other measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

A decision on the variance request will be returned to the customer within no more than 5 business days.

While submittal of a variance is required, the following exemptions are pre-approved:

1. Use of a residential swamp cooler on days where the ambient temperature is greater than 80° F for residents that can demonstrate a medical need.
2. Use of water for the operation of a medical support device needed by a resident.

Appendix A: Water System Information

The City of Buellton provides water to approximately 5,500 residential and commercial/industrial customers. The City currently has four (4) wells as part of the water supply system: three (3) shallow wells in the Santa Ynez Underflow and one (1) in the Buellton Uplands. Total well capacity is estimated to be approximately 2385 acre-feet/year and the Santa Ynez River Underflow wells are drilled to depths of 70-72 feet and the Buellton Upland well is drilled to a depth of 1000 feet. The City also has two additional wells, located in the Santa Ynez Underflow. However, both wells are used solely for irrigation purposes for the Zaca Creek Golf Course and for hillside/field irrigation at the “Willemsen Ranch”. The distribution system includes 3 reservoirs: 1 (capacity of ~117,000 gallons), 2 (capacity of 280,000 gallons), and 3 (capacity of ~850,000 gallons). The City is also a participant of the State Water Project through the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA). Annually, the water system utilizes approximately 1127 acre-feet (2022).