



RCWD News Release

RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT
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SUBJECT: *Rancho California Water District moves to Drought Stage 3c
Restoring Customers Efficient Water Budgets*

Temecula, CA June 9, 2016 –

Rancho California Water District's (RCWD/District) Board of Directors voted today, June 9, 2016, to move out of Stage 4a and into Stage 3c of the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan. This will restore residential, landscape, agricultural, and commercial customer's efficient budgets to 100% and will continue to encourage customers to use water efficiently. The Board also voted to remove the drought penalty charges that were added to tier 4.

The Board of Directors decision to move to Stage 3c balances two major influences. First, it follows the State Water Resources Control Board's decision in May to revise Emergency Conservation Regulations resulting from improved water supply conditions in the northern part of the state. Secondly, the District relies on local groundwater for 40% of its supply and this source remains stressed as the southern part of the state has had multiple years of below average rainfall.

“Our customers have done a tremendous job this past year to reduce water usage,” said Jeff Armstrong, General Manager. “Since July 2015 our customers have reduced

28% compared to 2013 usage. However, the need to continue to be water use efficient remains especially throughout the hot summer months ahead as the long-term drought is still not over.”

Stage 3c will give residential and landscape customers their full tier 1 and tier 2 efficient budget. Tier 3 (the inefficient tier) is eliminated. Therefore customers who go over their efficient budget will go directly to tier 4 and pay the highest price for water. Customers will begin to notice changes on their bills after July 11, 2016. For more information on Stage 3c please visit the drought page at ranchowater.com.

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Formed in 1965, Rancho California Water District supplies an area consisting of approximately 150 square miles. The District serves the area known as Temecula/Rancho California, which includes the City of Temecula, parts of Murrieta, and other contiguous lands. The District is separated into two divisions: the Santa Rosa Division generally west of I-15 and Rancho Division generally east of I-15. The District currently provides sewer service to the Cal Oaks and Bear Creek areas.

“The mission of the Rancho California Water District is to deliver reliable, high-quality water, wastewater and reclamation services to its customers and communities in a prudent and sustainable manner.”