



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2010

TO: Natural Resources and Culture Committee – Agenda of September 8, 2010

FROM: Alex Ruiz, Interim Director of Public Utilities

SUBJECT: Monthly Update on Conservation and Water Use Restrictions

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Since the first month of implementation of mandatory use restrictions in San Diego, the Public Utilities Department staff has provided the City Council's Natural Resources and Culture Committee with monthly updates on compliance efforts and resulting reductions in water use. For Fiscal Year 2010, water usage citywide was 11% lower than usage during the previous year, meeting the 8% reduction target set by the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA). In Fiscal Year 2011, the CWA called for the same use reduction target of 8%. This update summarizes water usage in the City of San Diego for this Fiscal Year through July 31, 2010. It also includes the current water supply outlook and the latest information on water waste compliance.

**Water Supply Outlook**

California got some relief in Fiscal Year 2010 with plentiful snowpack and above average rainfall in certain parts of the state. This allowed some of the reservoirs to be replenished and ready to meet water demands this new Fiscal Year. Lake Oroville is currently 60% full; this time last year, it was 40% full. Diamond Lake is 62% full compared to 48% last year. Lake Powell currently is 64% full, the same level as it was this time last year.

San Diego received 10.55 inches of rain last year, which is average rainfall at Lindberg Field. City reservoirs are currently 54% full.

**Water Use Reduction**

Overall usage recorded in July was 3.3% higher in 2010 (15,041 AF) than in 2009 (14,553 AF). July 2009 was the second implementation month of mandatory water conservation, and outreach efforts during that time were at its peak. Still, July 2010 was 13% lower than July 2008 (17,318) before mandatory conservation started. (See Chart A.)

**Chart A – Total Consumption (AF)**

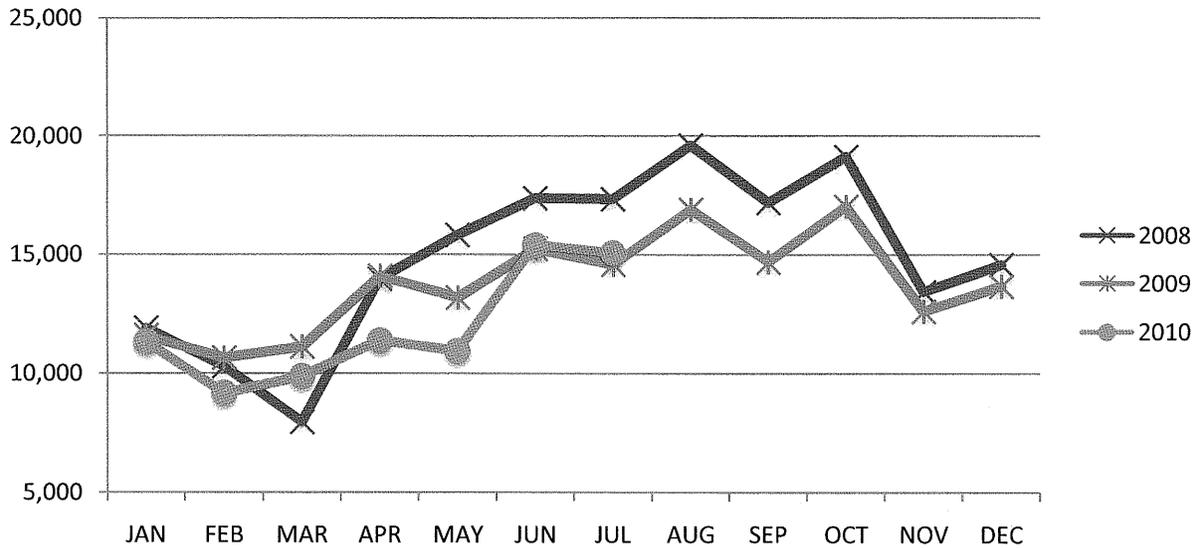


Chart A above shows how overall usage in the City has trended. Since mandatory water conservation messaging began in May 2009, monthly usage has been significantly lower than the prior year, through May 2010. Water usage in June and July 2010 has been about the same or slightly higher than usage in June and July 2009, and it shows that the commitment to conserve water from 2008 (non-mandatory conservation year) remains steady. In reference, June and July 2010 were 11.4% and 13.1 % lower than the same months in 2008.

**Chart B – Billed Consumption in July (AF)**

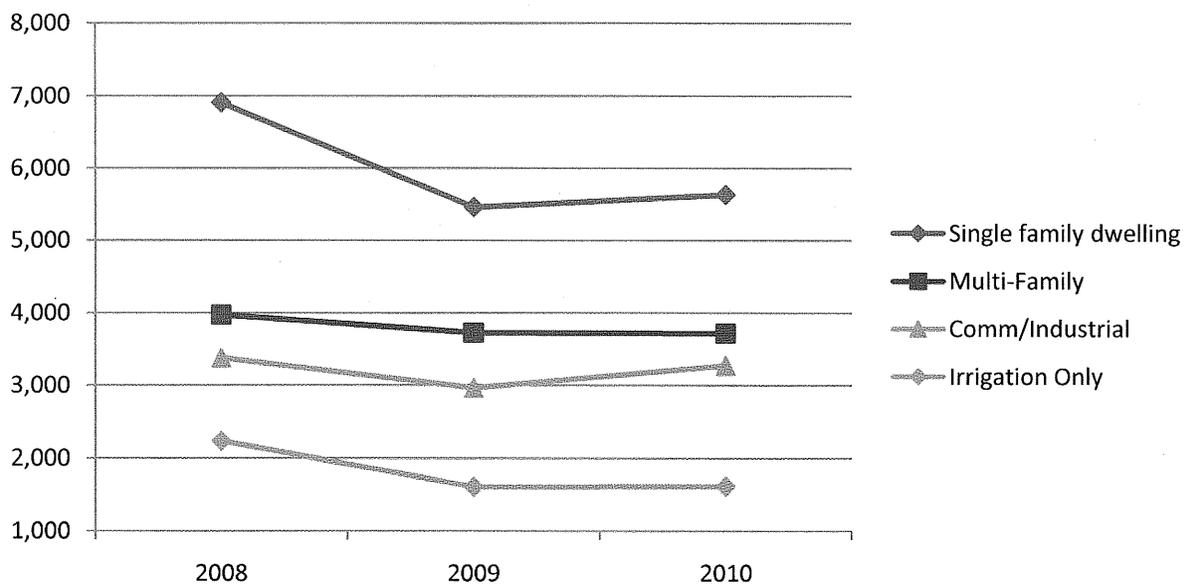


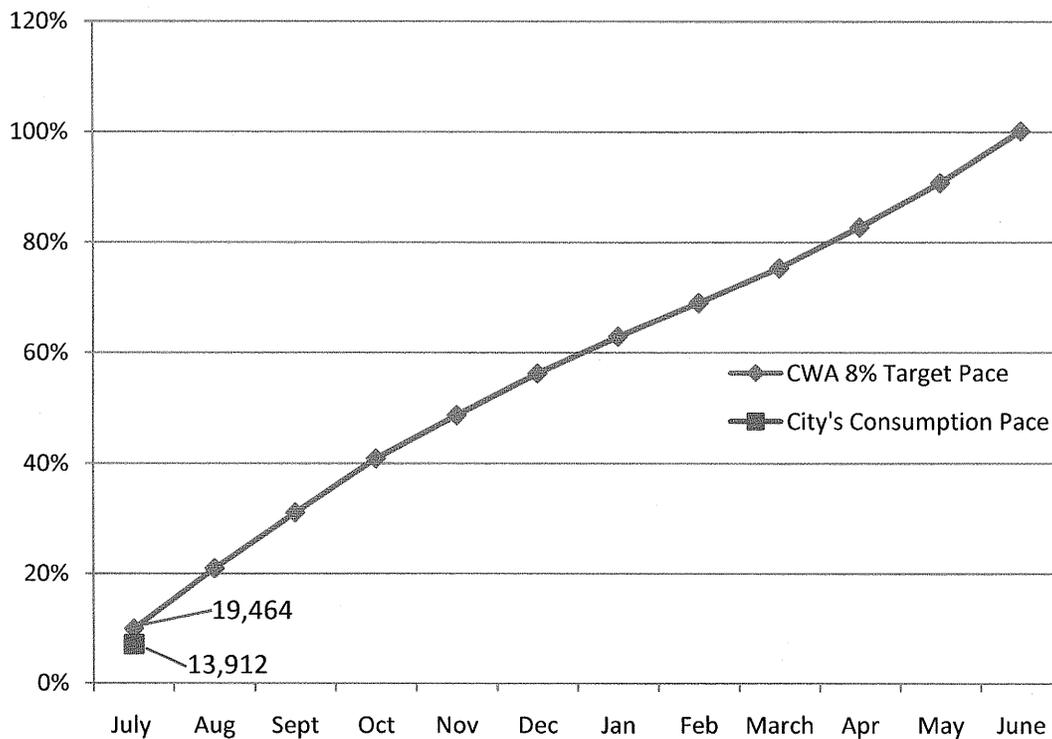
Chart B above shows how the major user categories used water in July 2010, as compared to July consumption from previous years.

Irrigation and multi-family residential usage came close to being the same as they were in July last year. Usage from single-family residential and commercial/industrial customers, however, went up in July 2010 by 3.1% and 10.4% respectively.

### Meeting the CWA Allocation

CWA is expected to release the Fiscal Year 2011 acre-feet allocation next month. City staff anticipates the 8% allocation for San Diego to amount to a 198,614 AF consumption target for the year. Chart C shows the annual target broken down into monthly targets, and when comparing the actual consumption in July 2010 to the anticipated target for July, the City is 28% below its target so far.

**Chart C – Consumption Pace**



### Water Waste Enforcement

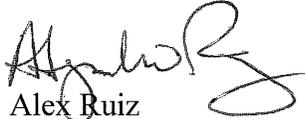
With regards to water waste enforcement, over 6,053 complaints were received through July 31, 2010, since the restrictions began last June. A total of 77 cases have been referred to Code

Page 4

Natural Resources and Culture Committee – Agenda of September 8, 2010

August 30, 2010

Enforcement Officers due to non-action. One citation carrying a \$100 fine was issued on Aug. 5, 2010 for a property water leak that has not been repaired.



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LSG/lsg

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