



DEL ORO WATER COMPANY

Firmly committed to producing and delivering a safe, dependable supply of quality water in an efficient, cost effective manner with service that exceeds the expectations of our customers

August 17, 2009

Water Shortage Advisory UPDATE

The following provides additional information regarding the *Water Shortage Advisory* postcard you recently received in the mail.

As you are aware, the origin of Herring Creek is Herring Reservoir, which flows over the Herring dam approximately two miles upstream from Del Oro Water Company's intake. In an effort to minimize concern, we would like to inform our customers that a temporary interruption in Herring Creek's flow is not uncommon at this time of year, and especially in light of the fact that California is experiencing a third year of drought.

A representative from the Stanislaus National Forest stated that "Herring Creek has a big range in annual hydrograph levels. It peaks in May from snowmelt, and quickly drops to low flow in the summer."

According to PG&E records, the volume of Herring Creek is at its highest during April, May, and June, and it is very common to see zero discharge from the Reservoir from July through November. Because Del Oro does not control or maintain Herring Reservoir, there is no way to ascertain how long it could be before flow is restored, but it could be just a matter of days or as long as several months.

We appreciate the continued patience and understanding of all our Strawberry customers. Any efforts to reduce demand for water during this temporary shortage will certainly help.

Sincerely,

Susan Howard

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Director of Community Relations

Del Oro Water Company

Phone: 530.894.1100 x 108

Fax: 530.894.7645

E-mail: slh@corporatecenter.us

Website: www.delorowater.com