

SHASTA TEHAMA WATERSHED EDUCATION COALITION

Fall Newsletter ✨



STWEC ANNOUNCEMENT



2024-2025 STWEC FISCAL YEAR

STWEC's 2024-2025 Fiscal Year begins on November 1, 2024. If you have not completed your 2023 Annual Farm Report please contact the STWEC office.

Your 2024-2025 Invoice will be mailed in December 2024 and due **January 31, 2025**. Mail your payments directly to our office, online through our secure payment portal on the STWEC website, or over the phone with staff at 530-527-4208.

Your 2024 Annual Farm Report is due on **February 15th, 2025**. Submit your Report on the Data Management Tool (DMT) on STWEC's homepage at stwec.org.

ONLINE DMT
(DATA MANAGEMENT TOOL)



CALIFORNIA HYDROLOGY UPDATE

CONDITIONS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024



GROUNDWATER

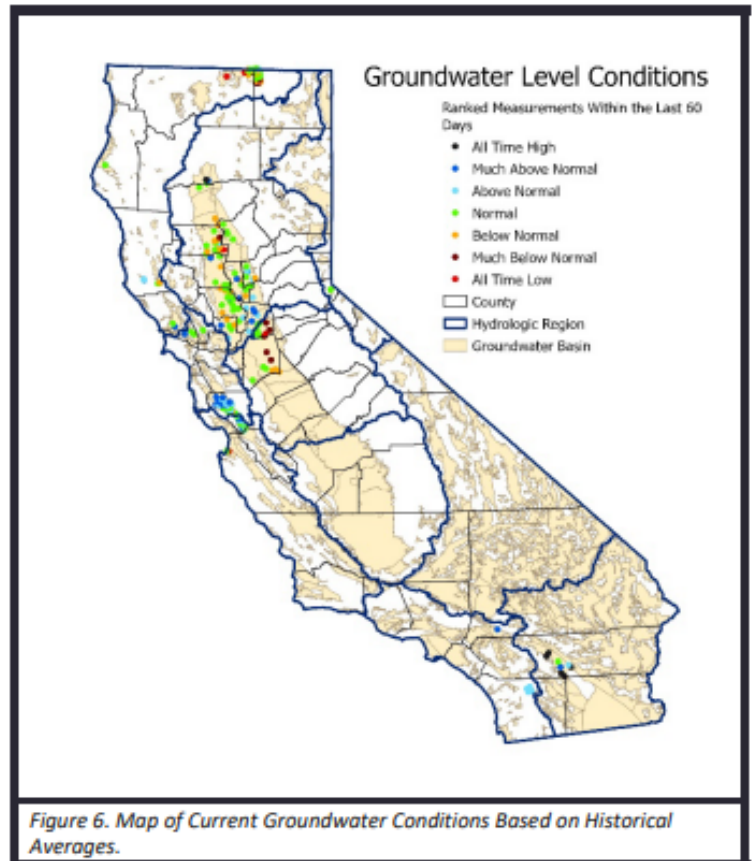
While the state's surface water reservoirs were replenished from the storms and runoff in water year 2023, groundwater basins are much slower to respond and are still recovering from past decades of drought and significant pumping. Groundwater levels, especially in shallow aquifers, continue to show improvement. Recently measured monitoring wells show groundwater levels in

PRECIPITATION

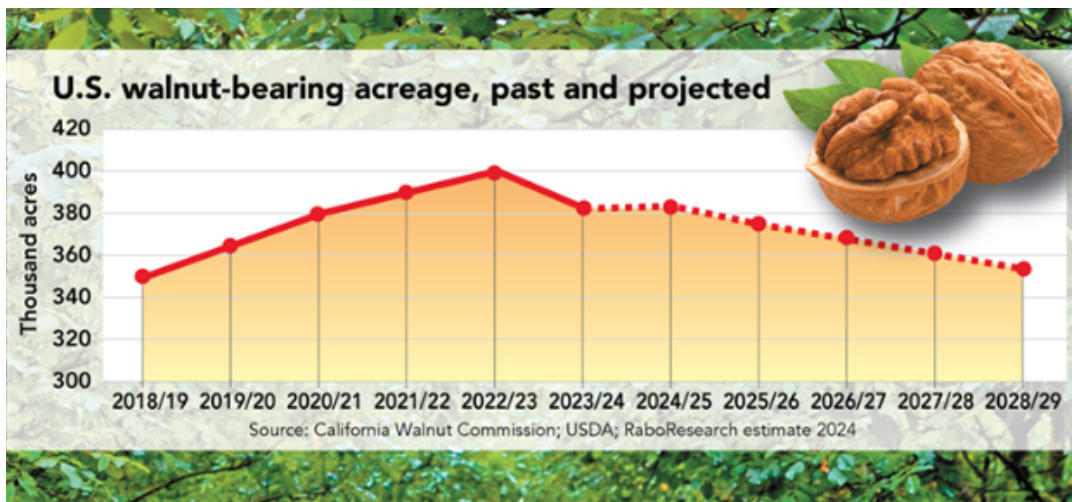
The end of September concludes water year 2024, which resulted in being an average water year. The water year started with dry and below average conditions. A series of winter storms and atmospheric rivers in January and February 2024, pushed the statewide accumulated precipitation slightly above average. The statewide accumulated precipitation for water year 2024 is at 100% average, with 23.8 inches total through the end of September. For the month of September, aside from a few scattered showers producing minor precipitation Northern California and along the Sierra Nevada, the rests of the state was dry.

The Sacramento River region has accumulated about 34.5 inches of precipitation for the water year, which is 95% of the average.

23% of monitoring wells across California are below normal, 39% are normal, and 38% are above normal. These statistics are based on 354 wells where groundwater levels have been collected for at least 10 years and the most recent measurements were collected within 60 days. There were 6 dry domestic wells within the Sacramento Valley reported in the last 30 days. Data reported is as of October 11, 2024.



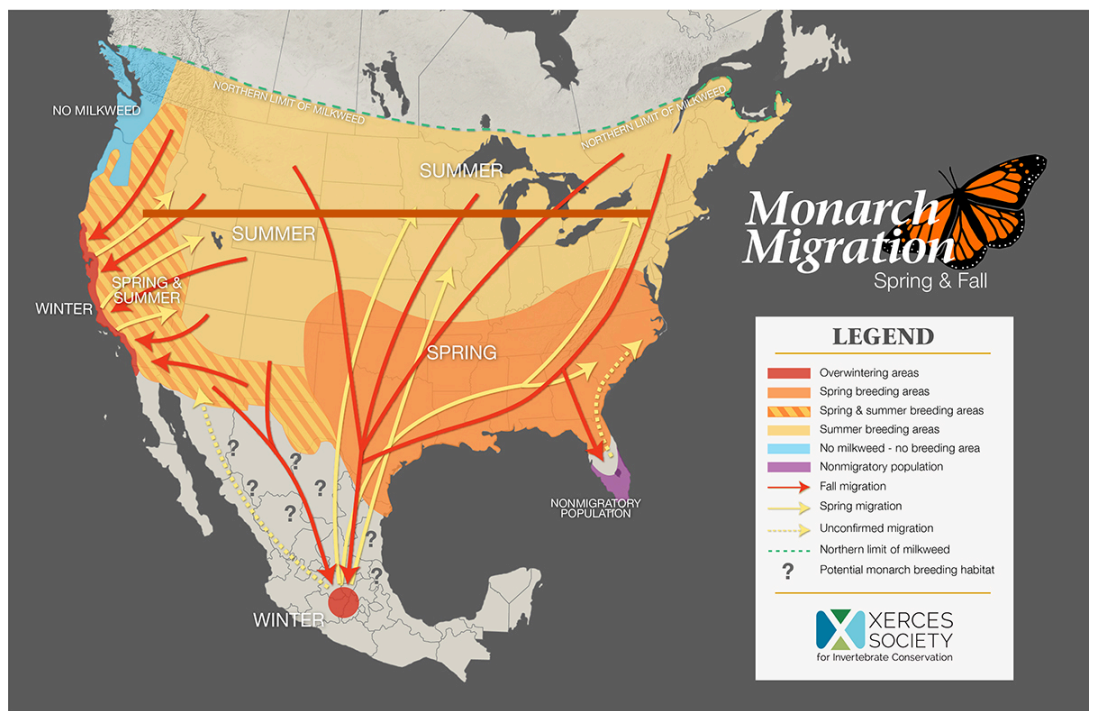
Walnut market recovery may come slowly



With more California walnut orchards being removed, the outlook for the industry is expected to improve as growers try to balance supply and demand. But such efforts alone will not be enough to put them on a fast track to market recovery and profitability, analysts suggest.

🦋 What's Bugging You? 🦋

The iconic monarch butterfly—famed for its vibrant orange and black wings—makes its annual stop along California’s Central Coast this month to overwinter. This journey is part of a multigeneration migration that spans North America, with monarchs traveling as far as Mexico and Canada.



Habitat in Tehama County is considered spring and summer breeding areas which is critical to species survival. But their numbers have dwindled. Monarch populations have declined due to loss of habitat, such as areas with native milkweed, which the species depend on for food and reproduction.



How is Supporting Pollinator Habitat Beneficial to Ag?

- increased crop production
- lower artificial pollinator costs
- Biodiverse pollinators increase crop resiliency to disease and pests



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Shasta Tehama Watershed Education Coalition,

On behalf of the entire board, I want to express our deepest gratitude to Ron Keown and Sam Mudd for their dedicated service and contributions to our Coalition. Their efforts and commitment have made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for their dedication to advancing our mission.

As we continue to navigate these challenging times, please know that our commitment to fiscal responsibility remains strong. Our board has been vigilant in monitoring expenses and working hard to minimize costs to our members without compromising the quality of support and services we provide. This year has presented unique obstacles, but we are committed to finding innovative solutions and maintaining the strength of our Coalition.

Finally, let's take a moment to recognize the resilience of our community. It's been a tough year for many, and it's more important than ever to support one another. Please remember to take care of each other and stand behind our local growers, who are a vital part of what makes our region so special.

I truly wish you and your family good health and continued safety.

-Martin Spannuas, STWEC President



PO Box 933
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Up Coming Board Meeting:

Bi-Monthly Meeting Thursday, November 14th, 2024 @ 8:00 am
RCDTC Board Room 202 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080

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