

## **Reading Resources: California Drought**

Key facts about the CA drought, written by Dr. Faith Kearns (UC Institute of Water Resources) include:

- 1) California depends on water from the winter snowpack to get through California's dry summers. Images taken from NASA's Airborne Snow Observatory show that the snowpack levels in the Sierra Nevada Mountains decreased from 179,000 acre-feet (57.6 billion gallons of water) in April 2014 to 74,000 acre-feet (24 billion gallons of water) in March 2015.
- 2) Global climate change seems to be exacerbating the drought.
- 3) Wildlife and ecosystems have been severely impacted by the drought.
- 4) Pumping groundwater to compensate for the shortage of surface water has detrimental effects on residents whose wells have dried up. Groundwater depletion causes land to sink.

### **Books for Adults**

Beyond Chinatown / Steven P. Erie, 2006.

Discusses the history of the MWD and Southern CA water politics.

Climate Change (DK Eyewitness) / John Woodward. DK Publishing, 2008.

Climate of Extremes / Patrick J. Michaels. Cato Institute, 2009.

Global Warming / Sir John Houghton. Cambridge Univ. Press, 2009.

How to change minds about our changing climate / Seth B. Darling.  
The Experiment, LLC., 2014.

Just Cool It! / David Suzuki & I. Hanington. Greystone Books, 2017.

Managing California's Water: From Conflict to Resolution / Jane Hanak and Jay Lund, 2011.

Re-Imagining the California Lawn / Carol Bornstein and David Fross, 2011.

The Great Thirst: Californians and Water, A History / Norris Hundley, Jr., 2001.

The West without Water: What Past Floods, Droughts and Climate Clues Tell us about Tomorrow / Lynn Ingram and Frances Malamud-Roam, 2015.

Water to the Angels: William Mulholland, His Monumental Aqueduct and the Rise of Los Angeles / Les Standiford, 2015.

### **Featured Websites**

State of California – Drought

[ca.gov/drought](http://ca.gov/drought)

California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/drought>

Many drought related actions to preserve and protect the state's fish and wildlife resources.

California Dept. of Water Resources

[water.ca.gov/waterconditions](http://water.ca.gov/waterconditions)

California Drought

[www.cadrought.com](http://www.cadrought.com)

News, drought tolerant landscaping, maps, data, photos.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

[www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com)

Save the Drop, L.A.

[www.lamayor.gov/savethedropla](http://www.lamayor.gov/savethedropla)

Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti's call to action for water conservation, plus water saving tips and various incentives for buying rain barrels, water efficient washing machines and commodes, and converting from turf (lawns) to perennials, succulents and cacti.

Dr. Ian Fenty (JPL Science)

<https://science.jpl.nasa.gov/people/Fenty/>