

The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) has been updating the City regarding water impacts associated with the Rim Fire situation. The City receives approximately 60% of its water supply from the San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC), otherwise known as the Hetch Hetchy Watershed. **Please note that there continues to be no change or impact to water quality or delivery from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, as of August 28, 2013.**

With the fire advancing into the Cherry, Eleanor and Hetchy watersheds, water quality protection is the (SFPUC)'s top priority in addition to life safety and maintaining current infrastructure status. Maintaining the current status of SFPUC facilities and ensuring no additional fire damage to those facilities, which include Early Intake, Holm and Kirkwood Powerhouses, Camp Mather, and O'Shaughnessy Dam, also remains a top priority.

The Rim Fire is under the unified command of the U.S. Forest Service and CAL FIRE. The Unified Command's primary objective is to contain and extinguish the Rim Fire. To date the Unified Command has not applied biodegradable wildfire retardants in the Hetch Hetchy Watershed. Wildfire retardants, unlike other "fire retardants" are water-soluble and have been used by the U.S. Forest Service to contain the fire in other areas, including the Eleanor and Cherry Lake watersheds. These two watersheds are not used to supply drinking water to the customers. Dipping into the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir to withdraw water for firefighting purposes has also not yet occurred.

If the fire conditions significantly change, there is the possibility that the Unified Command will determine the need to utilize all tools available to contain and extinguish the fire, which could include use of fire retardants in the Hetch Hetchy watershed or dipping into the reservoir. The SFPUC has requested prompt notification of any such activity including timing, quantity, location, and concentration. The attached Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet was developed by the SFPUC on wildfire retardants. BAWSCA is continuing to monitor this situation closely and is in close coordination with the SFPUC. BAWSCA will take whatever additional

steps are needed to protect its member agencies and their customers and keep them informed.