



# DROUGHT UPDATE FOR THE TOWN OF OLIVER

For Immediate Release  
September 7, 2017

## Monitoring Water Levels in the Oliver Water Systems

The Province of British Columbia declared the Okanagan in Drought Level 3 with “very dry conditions”. The implication is that a Level 3 drought could have serious ecosystem or socioeconomic impacts. As such, the Province has called for a voluntary 30% reduction in water use for both surface and groundwater users.

The Town of Oliver has a “Drought Response Status Matrix” to ensure that Operations are responding to water restrictions using monitored data that may not necessarily coincide with the Province’s criteria.

The Operations Department are continuing to monitor groundwater and surface water levels to ensure they meet the Town’s “Drought Management Plan” criteria before issuing “Stage 1 to 4” restrictions on water users.

Both ground water and surface water levels have been monitored at the “normal” stage but this status could change in the near future. Water levels will be monitored throughout September, and in the meantime, water users are encouraged to reduce water where they can during this dry period.

The Town of Oliver received funding from Okanagan Basin Water Board to develop a Drought Management Plan for Oliver and the plan is currently being prepared for uploading to the website.

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