

La Nina may bring dry conditions to California

By Mark Grossi, McClatchy Newspapers

FRESNO – Don't let the running rivers and rising reservoirs fool you. The break in California's three-year drought might not last.

The global weather phenomenon La Nina has begun cooling down the Pacific Ocean, which means drier times may be ahead for major parts of California.

The effects of La Nina aren't felt until the rainy season in California. But in May and June, a harbinger appeared as ocean temperatures dropped as suddenly as anyone could remember.

Based on past patterns and statistics, scientists see a clear shift toward drier weather for Southern California and possibly the Sierra Nevada in Central California.

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