

Calif. water conservation rules may be loosened

By Matt Stevens, Los Angeles Times

Water providers that have struggled in recent months to meet conservation targets could soon get some relief under the modified drought rules unveiled Friday by state regulators.

The proposed changes to California's emergency drought regulation reward water districts for investing in new local supplies and allow for adjustments to savings goals based on a district's climate and population growth.

Friday's proposal also allows water providers to reduce their "conservation standards" by as much as eight percentage points. A previous plan had said that a water district's target should drop by no more than four percentage points.

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