

California water conservation slips again

By Dale Kasler and Phillip Reese, Sacramento Bee

Urban Californians used about 1.8 percent more water in October compared with a year earlier, state officials said Tuesday. It marked the fourth straight month in which conservation has slipped following the state's decision to relax drought mandates.

The State Water Resources Control Board said, however, that conservation was better in October than in September, and that it was largely pleased with the efforts Californians were making.

"Californians' continued commitment to conservation shows they don't take water for granted anymore," said board Chairwoman Felicia Marcus in a prepared statement.

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