Sierra Nevada snow a fraction of normal



An inversion this week over Lake Tahoe is keeping temps too warm to make snow. Photo/John Gomez

By Dale Kasler, Sacramento Bee

The last time California officials conducted their snow survey near Echo Summit, a month ago, the ground was practically barren.

This time there was snow. Just not a lot of it.

The Department of Water Resources' monthly snow survey at Phillips Station revealed a meager 13.6 inches of snow, or 14 percent of historical average. It was the latest evidence of a dry winter that has conjured up fears of another drought.

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