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Province lists Okanagan at Level 3 drought

By Osoyoos Times on June 21, 2019









The province is moving the Okanagan region to Level 3 drought along with much of B.C.

Level 3 or "very dry" is the second highest drought level on the provincial scale. Most areas in B.C. are either Level 2 "dry" or Level 3 as of June 17.

Water suppliers are urged to continue monitoring weather, reservoir and groundwater levels, as well as customer demand, in assessing water restrictions.

Read more: Water restrictions in effect

Low snowpack over the winter months combined with a warm spring has brought on a rapid and early shift from the spring melt to low-flow conditions, according to a report from the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

The month of May was one of driest on record in Kelowna, with some upland reservoirs not bringing Okanagan Lake to "full pool."

Regular water restrictions for this time of year were put into effect in Osoyoos in May.