



NORTH BAY WATER REUSE PROGRAM

Water Supply Reliability through Regional Reuse

The Ten Biggest American Cities That Are Running Out Of Water

The following article studied the 10 largest U.S. cities which are likely to face severe water shortages in the near-term future. Not surprisingly, Los Angeles took first place, the San Francisco Bay Area came in fifth.

5. San Francisco Bay Area, CA

Major Water Supply: various, including Lake Hetch Hetchy

Population (U.S. rank): San Francisco: 815,359 (12th), Oakland: 409,189 (44th), San Jose: 964,695 (10th)

Population Growth Rate: 20% since 2000

Average annual rainfall: 20.4 in.

Much like the southeast in the early 2000's, California has experienced intermittent droughts that have brought the area's water supply to the brink of disaster. After several years of drought between 2005 and 2007, the Bay Area, which represents more than 3.7 million people, was forced to adopt aggressive water usage restrictions. Legal battles ensued between San Francisco area legislators and those in the Sacramento delta who believed they deserved bay area water from major sources, like Lake Hetch Hetchy. According to the NRDC and CERES [studies](#), the San Francisco Bay area, including adjacent cities San Jose and Oakland, are "very likely" to experience a severe crisis as a result of water shortage within the next 50 years. <http://247wallst.com/2010/10/29/the-ten-great-american-cities-that-are-dying-of-thirst/#ixzz144HgZGND>

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