

California Drought Update



For December 29, 2016

by Patrick Ruckert

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<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaDroughtUpdate>

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“Every Member of Congress, everyone in the executive branch from the President on, in the field of national resources, has to plan during their period of administration or office for the next generation, because no project that we plan today will be beneficial to us. Anything we begin today, is for those who come after us. And just as those who began something years ago make it possible for us to be here, I hope we’ll fulfill our responsibility to the next generation that’s going to follow us.”

*President John F. Kennedy,
Pueblo, CO August 17th, 1962*

A Note To Readers

Three months into the new water year, and half-way through the rainy season, this sixth year of drought has become an enigma for some. “Are we still in a drought?,” some are asking. Others are less unclear, recognizing that the water deficit will absolutely not be made up this winter, and it will require several years of above normal precipitation to do so. A glance at the U.S. Drought Monitor, below, gives you the picture.

The Water Board continues to provoke the people of the Central Valley with their insane and generally incompetent plan to drain the San Joaquin River system into the Delta to save a few Salmon at a price tag of an estimated \$650,000 per fish, at least according to Aubrey Bettencourt. (See her column below on page 12).

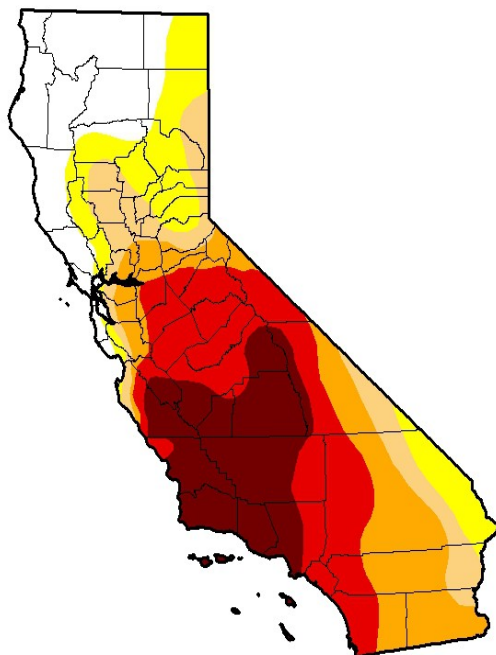
What continues to be lacking in any discussion about the drought is how is the state going to provide water for another 10 million people a decade or two down the road? As the quote from President John Kennedy above demonstrates, the U.S. political leaders have not always been blind to the welfare of the generations to come.

Even more importantly is the more general task of reinstilling the idea that the nation has a mission, a mission in which every citizen can and must participate. To end once and for all the destruction of the real economy requires a virtual revolution in economic and financial policy. The incoming President Donald Trump must embrace such a policy. A mission for the nation encompassing both an accelerated fusion research program and an intensely invigorated space program will be a good start. The economic policy required is spelled out in the Four Cardinal Laws authored by Lyndon LaRouche. The second law, a return to a Alexander Hamilton banking a credit policy is the subject of our “Feature” this week.

U.S. Drought Monitor

This week's U.S. Drought Monitor presents a picture that some have found hard to accept. Since, at least in the northern part of the state we have had lots of rain for the past three months, still, 70 percent of the state is in drought. In addition, when you compare the “current” conditions in any of the categories of drought to “last week” and “3 months ago,” you notice that the change is very slow to register. For example, the most serious category of drought, “exceptional,” has barely moved downward. Since we are in the sixth year of this drought, to put it simply, everything has gotten very dry, and much of the rainfall has just soaked into the very thirsty soil.

U.S. Drought Monitor California



December 27, 2016
(Released Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	17.47	82.53	68.87	57.79	40.60	18.31
Last Week <i>12/22/16</i>	15.09	84.91	70.11	59.09	41.55	19.75
3 Months Ago <i>9/27/16</i>	0.00	100.00	83.59	62.27	42.80	21.04
Start of Calendar Year <i>12/29/15</i>	0.00	100.00	97.33	87.55	69.07	44.84
Start of Water Year <i>9/27/16</i>	0.00	100.00	83.59	62.27	42.80	21.04
One Year Ago <i>12/29/15</i>	0.00	100.00	97.33	87.55	69.07	44.84

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The Sixth Year of Drought: Yes or No?

The sixth year of the drought began on October 1. So, three months into the water year and half-way through the rainy season, where do we stand and what is the forecast?

Three months ago 100 percent of the state was in drought, now it is 70 percent. One year ago 90 percent of the state was in the two most serious categories of drought; today that is down to about 40 percent. So, as the water officials say, it looks better, but there is still a long way to go till we are out of it. That is, if we ever do get out of it.

The worry right now is that the snowpack is not looking too good. It is only at 72 percent of normal. On January 3 the state will hold its first on the spot measure of the snowpack.

My favorite headline this week is: “Water officials: Mountain snowpack low, but it's early.” It kind of reminded me of what the Clinton campaign was saying on election night. Well, we can hope the snowpack's “it's early” does not result in the same “it's early” that Clinton supporters experienced.

Then we have Bill Patzert, climatologist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Cañada Flintridge, who always has something interesting to say. This time he is optimistic that the climatic elements that have produced and prolonged this drought have gone, or are going, away.

Here are some excerpted articles and links that will more or less inform you of where we are and what is being forecasted. We shall start with Patzert:

Door is open' for more Southern California storms as drought-causing climate patterns end

By Steve Scauzillo

San Gabriel Valley Tribune

December 23, 2016

<http://www.dailybreeze.com/general-news/20161223/door-is-open-for-more-southern-california-storms-as-drought-causing-climate-patterns-end>

It's gone.

The so-called Ridiculously Resilient Ridge, also known as The Blob, once perched off the Northwest coast blocking all storms like a football team's defensive line, has dissipated, said Bill Patzert, climatologist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Cañada Flintridge.

Many climatologists believed this was the main reason for the lack of rainfall in Southern California, making the past five years the driest in Southern California history as measured from downtown Los Angeles.

More recently, another high pressure system, this one living in the ocean in the Southwest, prevented storms from entering Southern California during the winter of 2015-16 by pushing storms up into Northern California and the Pacific Northwest. That, too is gone, he said, leaving a clear path for winter storms such as the ones hitting Southern California this month. The rain almost makes us forget about the drought — for a little while, he said.

Third, gone is the La Niña, the system that brings cooler ocean waters and dry conditions following El Niño, the weather pattern that often allows storm after storm to reach the West and turns other parts of the globe into drought.

California sees largest drought-free patch since 2013

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/california-sees-largest-drought-free-patch-since-2013/>

By Michael Barba

December 23, 2016

Almost a third of [California](#) is not experiencing drought conditions for the first time since 2013, according to new numbers the U.S. Drought Monitor released Thursday.

The new numbers show that just under 30 percent of the state is not in a drought. About 15 percent of the state is drought-free while another 15 percent is "abnormally dry," meaning in the preliminary stage of a drought but not in one.

While bits of Northern California are in the clear for now, much of Southern California and the Central Coast are experiencing shades of "extreme" or "exceptional" drought, though to lesser extents than last year. Today a fifth of the state is in an exceptional drought compared to more than double that at this time last year.

The rainfall has helped, but experts say the season could turn an ugly corner.

KPBS Drought Tracker Update: Halfway Through Wet Season, Where Does CA Stand

December 26, 2016

By David Wagner

<http://www.kpbs.org/news/2016/dec/26/kpbs-drought-tracker-update-were-halfway-through-r/>

GUESTS:

David Wagner, science & technology reporter, KPBS

Dan Cayan, climate researcher, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

After a week that brought [rain and snow](#) to San Diego County, an update from the [KPBS Drought Tracker](#) shows statewide rain totals growing at a steady pace, but the Sierra snowpack struggling to keep up.

We're now close to halfway through California's wet season, defined as the six months between Oct. 1 and April 1. So far, statewide rainfall is running a bit ahead of schedule. As of Monday morning, the state has received 58 percent of what normally falls by the beginning of April.

But [warm temperatures](#) have prevented the Sierra snowpack from keeping pace with rainfall. On average, snowpack measurements are hitting only 24 percent of the normal April 1 measurement.

The winter's not over yet," Cayan said. "It doesn't mean that we won't get some storms that are relatively cool and large snow-generators. So, we'll see."

The Sierra snowpack serves as an important source of water for many parts of California leading into warmer summer months. Rain is [helping to fill California's reservoirs](#). But Cayan notes that after six years of drought, parched soil is absorbing lots of rainfall, and not as much water is being captured as possible.

"Since it's been pretty dry in the last several years, some of that water really hasn't run off," said Cayan. "We're still in a catch-up mode as far as recovering from the long period of dryness we've had."

Do holiday storms offer glimmer of hope for end of drought?

By Ryan Sabalow and Tony Bizjak

December 23, 2016

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article122753654.html#storylink=cpy>

“At this point, we’re cautiously optimistic,” said Jeanine Jones, interstate resources manager for the state Department of Water Resources. “We’re in the fingers-crossed, wait-and-see mode.”

Experts like Jones aren’t ready to declare the drought over in spite of one of the more promising starts to California’s wet season in years. The reason? The state’s water-supply picture is very much a mixed bag at this point, and it’s still early in the state’s brief rainy season to point to any sort of trend. Most of the precipitation that falls in California falls in January and February.

While the state’s reservoirs have filled to near average levels for this time of year and have twice as much water in them as they did at this time last year, other critical sources of water remain in worse shape.

Many of the state’s most important groundwater basins, which provide a vital source of water for farms and cities in drought years, remain critically overdrafted following years of rampant pumping, Jones said.

“That takes longer to recover,” she said.

Water officials: Mountain snowpack low, but it's early

Scott Smith, Associated Press

December 28, 2016

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/California-officials-Mountain-snowpack-low-but-10821136.php>

Media: KTVU

The Sierra Nevada snowpack, which provides roughly one-third of California's water supply, measures at 72 percent of normal for water content, according to the state's Department of Water Resources' electronic monitors.

California’s Mild Snowfall Means the Drought Will Likely Continue

By Meredith Rutland Bauer

December 28, 2016

http://motherboard.vice.com/en_ca/read/californias-mild-snowfall-means-the-drought-will-likely-continue

Californians are keeping a hopeful eye to the Sierra Nevada mountains, hoping for lots of snow to keep the state flowing with water this summer.

So far, it looks like they’ll be disappointed. The most recent estimate from a state water agency shows the Sierra Nevadas has only received 72 percent of the snow it receives in non-drought years by late December.

California Drought: Sierra Nevada Snowpack Water Content Below Average, But Officials Say It's Still Early

By Avaneesh Pandey

December 28, 2016

<http://www.ibtimes.com/california-drought-sierra-nevada-snowpack-water-content-below-average-officials-say-2466214>

The Sierra Nevada snowpack — the source of roughly a third of California's water supply — remains nearly 30 percent below average for this time of the year despite the state recently witnessing its [heaviest rainfall in decades](#). In an [update](#) released Tuesday, California's Department of Water Resources (DWR) said that the snowpack currently has a water content of 10.5 inches, just 72 percent of the Dec. 27 average.

First in a series of snow surveys scheduled

By Democrat staff

December 27, 2016

<http://www.dailydemocrat.com/general-news/20161227/first-in-a-series-of-snow-surveys-scheduled>

SACRAMENTO >> State water officials are saying it's too soon to know whether this winter will deliver enough rain.

But on Jan. 3, they expect to have a better idea of whether the state is headed into another year of drought.

The Department of Water Resources will conduct its first media-oriented manual snow survey of Water Year 2017 at 11 a.m. next Tuesday, Jan. 3, at Phillips Station, just off Highway 50 near Sierra-at-Tahoe Road approximately 90 miles east of Sacramento.

Electronic readings of the Sierra Nevada mountain snowpack today peg its statewide water content at 10.5 inches, 72 percent of the Dec. 27 average.

After December rains SoCal remains bone dry

By Kate Cagle

December 24, 2016

Santa Monica Daily Press

<http://smdp.com/after-december-rains-socal-remains-bone-dry/159079>

"This is the sixth year of drought and we don't see it ending anytime soon," said Kim O'Cain, a senior sustainability analyst for the city of Santa Monica.

You Take Our Water and We Will "unleash the dogs of war"

That is one more comment on the State Water Resources Control Board plan to allow the San Joaquin River system flow to be increased, depriving farmers of even more water and costing hundreds of millions in lost income and economic activity. See last week's report for more:
<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org/pdf/20161222-California-Drought-Update.pdf>

Then we have the following, on the same topic, opening up a potential hornet's nest. Some excerpts from the article follow, but the entire article is well worth reading:

Taking the water could cost the state

By Mike Dunbar

December 24, 2016

<http://www.modbee.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/mike-dunbar/article122742469.html#storylink=cpy>

Lots of angry words were billowing about during the momentous state water board hearings in Stockton, Merced and Modesto. There were vows to fight, to resist and not to accept the second-class-citizen status the state's proposed rules would impose. One threatened to "unleash the dogs of war."

Through most of it, board members sat stoically, letting it roll off their backs. They expected anger. But there was one word that probably made board members nervous.

"Taking."

Bill Lyons, the former California Secretary of Agriculture, said it first: "I call this a water taking by the state."

It came up again during the Merced Irrigation District panel discussion. "This is an illegal taking of storage space on Lake McClure," said general counsel Phil McMurray.

Coincidentally, the same word was being heard in the courtroom of federal Judge Marian Blank Horn some 2,400 miles away. Ruling in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, she told farmers in northern California and southern Oregon they could sue the Bureau of Reclamation for damages after the Bureau refused to live up to its water contracts on the Klamath River. That happened in 2001, when the Bureau decided fish needed the water more than the farmers who had relied on it for 90 years.

Judge Horn ruled the farmers' losses were from a "physical" taking of their rights, not a "regulatory" taking – which government can do with impunity.

The state's plan will make water deliveries to farms unreliable. And when the state's groundwater rules kick in, there will be even less water for farming – compounding the economic implications.

"The state has the ability to regulate the use of water, and they need to," said land- and water-use attorney Gene Tanaka of Best Best Krieger in the Bay Area, citing efforts to deal with flooding or drought. But, "the issue becomes a lot more complicated when the state is regulating the amount of water available and it affects the viability of the dams – then there is an issue of taking."

Feature

To Solve California's Water Problem, Revive the Space Program

What I wish to do with the “Feature” this week, and over the next several weeks, is to do some serious education on economics, for only if the American people really understand how to fix the disaster our economy is today can they be mobilized to ensure that the incoming Trump administration will not be another disaster, like Bush or Obama. I include at the end of this report several items illustrating the crippled state our economy actually is in.

Two weeks ago the “Feature” focused on step one of Lyndon LaRouche's comprehensive policy of returning the U.S. to the American System as created by our first Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, the reinstatement of the Glass-Steagall banking law.

<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org/pdf/20161215-California-Drought-Update.pdf>

For reference here are:

LaRouche’s Four Cardinal Laws

- Reinstatement of Glass Steagall, fully separating commercial banking from the gambling activities of investment banks, hedge funds, and other speculators. This will immediately wipe out Wall Street's debt, which is unpayable and illegitimate in the first place – along with the political power of the Wall Street/London bankers cartel.
- Launch a massive infusion of Federal credits, through that restored commercial banking system, into the real economy. This Hamiltonian approach to national banking and Federal credit is the centerpiece of FDR’s policy as well.
- Concentrate on those areas of investment that most increase the energy flux density of the economy as a whole, including infrastructure, scientific and technological R&D. This means trillions of dollars in capital investment, to build a 21st century infrastructure grid along the lines of the World Land-Bridge.
- Pursue areas of frontier scientific exploration, keying off the work of the great 20th century Russian scientist, V.I. Vernadsky in the field of biogeochemistry and the noösphere. This must include an international crash program to achieve commercial fusion power, an essential feature of the next phase of space exploration, as well as solving the energy and water requirements of a world facing a breakdown crisis of Dark Age proportions.

No single one of these measures alone can work, only the integrated implementation of the entire program as the single totality Mr. LaRouche presents in his [Four Laws policy document](#). Economic growth is a product of the mankind’s unique capabilities for creative discovery — setting mankind apart from all lower forms of life, and ensuring there are no limits to mankind’s growth (other than those self-imposed by degenerate policies). LaRouche’s Four Laws program is rooted in this scientific insight into the source of economic progress, as understood by Franklin Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, and the great genius of Alexander Hamilton.

LaRouche’s Four Laws provides the only basis for the United States to save itself from collapse and join in collaboration with China, Russia, India, and other nations participating in the global economic renaissance centered around China’s New Silk Road program.

Here is a 28 minute video on the four laws:

A New Era for the United States

<https://larouchepac.com/20161209/new-era-united-states#.WFB5GAZ8Ufo.facebook>

Law Number 2: Hamiltonian National Banking System

The reinstatement of Glass-Steagall must be immediately followed by a “return to a system of top-down, and thoroughly defined as National Banking,” as originally defined by Alexander Hamilton. As the nation’s first treasury secretary Hamilton successfully oversaw the creation of a national bank, and its use to issue the credit needed for the development of the nation. This basic principle has been at the heart of all periods of major development and growth of the United States, including under John Quincy Adams and Abraham Lincoln (and was echoed in the policies of Franklin Roosevelt and John Kennedy), and must be revived today.

The History & Future of the U.S. Credit System

Throughout the 226 years since the U.S. constitutional system was ratified, the American people and their government have amazed the world with periods of some of the most unprecedented scientific and technological growth the world has ever seen. In 1789-1801 first Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton oversaw the revolutionary transformation of the young republic’s war debt into guaranteed-return internal improvement investments, and later, under the guiding hand of President John Quincy Adams and Nicolas Biddle the rapid construction of new roadways and canals which opened up the North American continent for development was facilitated by the founding of the 2nd National Bank throughout the 1820s.

"A national debt... will be to us a national blessing."

-First Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton

In 1861-1869, Abraham Lincoln invoked the same authority to simultaneously finance the war that ultimately defeated, not just the Confederate South, but the British Empire’s international slave trade, at the same time sponsoring the transcontinental railroad and the settlement of the West through land grant universities. And finally, from 1933-1944, Franklin Roosevelt asserted the sovereignty of the U.S. government and its economic interests over those of Wall Street, thereby overpowering the forces which had dried up the lending capabilities of commercial banks and unleashed an unparalleled industrial renaissance that still runs the country today.

What each of these moments in American history have in common with each other, is the expression and utilization of the sovereign power of federal credit endowed in the U.S. Constitution by Alexander Hamilton. Today, however, is not one of the those periods. Currently, as in the periods interspersed throughout these enormous leaps of growth in our country’s history, U.S. economic policy has been subverted by monetarism. Unless the United States learns from its history, and how, as in the case of Andrew Jackson, sound economic policy has repeatedly been corrupted by populist denigration of the federal authority in charge of economic growth and the illusion of money making money, we will, as a nation, never actually win the battle our founders set out to win.

Hamilton's Credit System

The U.S. credit system is not merely a well-regulated currency where credit is available through banks, instead, the total organization of economy, banks, the currency and investments, are all geared toward growth. According to the first act of Congress following his first Report on Public Credit, no debt of the government was to be handled as a self-evident, monetary debt, but was tied together with a future income related to increases in productivity, regulated and facilitated by the Bank.

Hamilton viewed the currency not as wealth itself, but the constitutional responsibility of government

to facilitate the scientific ingenuity and spirit of enterprise. Hamilton's action of turning monetary debts into credit debts... became more valuable to the growth of the economy than if the full monetary debt had been forgiven In Hamilton's Report on Manufactures, he laid down the essential principle of economy as a physical system of productivity. The primary measure of value is not capital, but the mental powers which increase the productive powers of labor, and thus increase the value of capital through increasing productivity and production. The determination of the value of goods, of labor, and of production is therefore those increases or decreases in the rates of productivity.

The lesson that governments in crisis need to learn today is that Hamilton's action of turning monetary debts into credit debts in the immediate aftermath of the Revolutionary War, became more valuable to the growth of the economy, than if the full monetary debt had been forgiven.

Only with the establishment of a global credit system will mankind be given an honest chance to reach his full potential as a creative force in the universe, and defeat the imperial, monetarist interests that have forced much of the planet's population into the bestial conditions of life today.

Background: Alexander Hamilton's original four reports to Congress on economy

· ["On Public Credit, 1790"](#)

https://larouhepac.com/sites/default/files/hamilton_publiccredit_0.pdf

· ["On a National Bank, 1790"](#)

https://larouhepac.com/sites/default/files/hamilton_nationalbank_1.pdf

· ["On the Constitutionality of a National Bank, 1791"](#)

https://larouhepac.com/sites/default/files/hamilton_constitutionality_0.pdf

· ["On the Subject of Manufactures, 1791"](#)

https://larouhepac.com/sites/default/files/hamilton_subject_of_manufactures.pdf

The reports are available in book form from Amazon for \$10.00:

The Vision of Alexander Hamilton: Four Economic Reports by Alexander Hamilton Paperback – October 26, 2016

https://www.amazon.com/Vision-Alexander-Hamilton-Economic-Reports/dp/0943235030/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1480534062&sr=1-1&keywords=the+vision+of+alexander+hamilton

Background: History of the United States' fight for a Hamiltonian system

Manhattan's Struggle for Human Freedom Against the Slave Power of Virginia

<https://larouhepac.com/node/1353>

Overturing the Myth of Andrew Jackson

<https://larouhepac.com/120712/myth-andrew-jackson-destroyed>

States' Rights, the British Empire, & The 'Greenback' Credit Policy

<https://larouchepac.com/052314/empire-states-rights-credit-policy>

Videos:

The Two Massachusetts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJE6nRzATPs>

Historically speaking, there are two traditions of Massachusetts. There is the patriotic faction, represented by the Mathers, Winthrop and Benjamin Franklin. And then, there's the Tory faction, represented by the British Traitors of 1620-1783, and their forebears today, who are now wittingly acting to dismantle the United States.

American Credit System 1650-1796

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSglqajuzXI>

This video presents the development of American credit policies beginning with early colonies through to establishment of the United States Constitution.

The Economy and Trump

President-elect Donald Trump has said he wants to put \$1 trillion into infrastructure building over ten years. While the U.S. desperately must rebuild and build anew its infrastructure, Trump has not only been short on details, but there are two other things left up in the air. First, without first reinstating Glass-Steagall and a Hamiltonian credit system, it just won't be done. Second, while yes we need to repair and build bridges, roads, etc., that is not how an infrastructure policy should be defined. Better is to use Larouche's term "platform." Meaning we must invest in the scientific and technological areas that raise the productivity of the economy to a higher platform. We will discuss this more fully when we report on the fourth of LaRouche's Four Laws: An aggressive fusion research program and a revitalized space program.

Meanwhile, even Trump is throwing doubt on his own program:

Will Trump live up to his infrastructure promises?

December 16, 2016

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/business/article121926128.html#storylink=cpy>

In a post-election interview with The New York Times, Trump himself seemed to back away, saying infrastructure won't be a "core" part of the first few years of his administration. But he said there will still be "a very large-scale infrastructure bill."

He acknowledged that he didn't realize during the campaign that New Deal-style proposals to put people to work building infrastructure might conflict with his party's small-government philosophy.

At least, as far as we know, Trump has not backed off his support for reinstating the Glass-Steagall banking law:

Trump calls for '21st century' Glass-Steagall banking law

October 26, 2016

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-election-trump-banks-idUSKCN12Q2WA>

REUTERS/Carlo Allegri

U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Wednesday called for a "21st century" version of the 1933 Glass-Steagall law that required the separation of commercial and investment banking, a change the Republican Party also supported in its 2016 policy platform.

Trump gave no details about his banking plan other than to say he would prioritize "helping African American businesses get the credit they need."

Democrat Hillary Clinton's husband, former president Bill Clinton, signed legislation in 1999 that repealed Glass-Steagall.

U.S. banking law was comprehensively revised by the Dodd Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act in 2010 as a response to the financial crisis of 2008.

(Reporting by Emily Stephenson)

Our friend Aubrey Bettencourt combines in this column the crimes of the water regulators and the real conditions of life and death of thousands in California. Here are some excerpts, but I do recommend reading the entire column:

As Homeless Deaths Surge, Government Bureaucrats Spend Millions on Fish

Fox & Hounds

<http://www.foxandhoundsdaily.com/2016/12/homeless-deaths-surge-government-bureaucrats-spend-millions-fish/>

By: Aubrey Bettencourt

The number of homeless people dying on the streets, along the riverbank and under bridges is going up in Sacramento, writes Bill Lindelof of the [Sacramento Bee](#). As the total climbed to 705 homeless men, women and children dying between 2002–2015 in California's capitol, state government bureaucrats at the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), propose that the public spend \$260 million to help fish in the Sacramento River.

The office of the SWRCB is directly across the street from dozens of homeless encampments at Cesar Chavez Park and under a mile from the riverbanks, bridges and streets where so many tragic souls have lost their lives.

The total sum to be spent on 4,000 fish is, according to the SWRCB, an expense of \$260 million per year. Of the 4,000, 90 percent are expected to die, be eaten by predators or be caught by commercial fishermen and sports anglers, barely leaving 400 survivors to spawn, at \$650,000 per fish. That same \$260 million is enough money to provide 86 million meals to the homeless community each year, enough to cover rents for 142,857 low-income seniors per year or provide 900,000 free dental exams.

But in our exceptionally "progressive" state, we have gone so far to extremes that our state government and bureaucrats would rather spend \$260 million failing to save fish to make a political point that they'll step over the dying homeless to do it.

Obama loves to brag about how many jobs his administration has created. Here is one problem with his claim. Excerpts:

Top Ex-White House Economist Admits 94% Of All New Jobs Under Obama Were Part-Time

by [Tyler Durden](#)

Dec 25, 2016

<http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2016-12-23/top-white-house-economist-admits-94-all-new-jobs-under-obama-were-part-time>

Quoted by [quartz](#), he said “We find that 94% of net job growth in the past decade was in the alternative work category,” said Krueger. “And over 60% was due to the [the rise] of independent contractors, freelancers and contract company workers.” In other words, nearly all of the 10 million jobs created between 2005 and 2015 were not traditional nine-to-five employment.

The final item here highlights something that has never before been seen in our nation and in other developed sector nations only occurs during war time, with one exception. That was Russia after the end of the Soviet Union and the destruction of its economy by London and Wall Street criminals.

California's birthrate falls to its lowest level on record

By Soumya Karlamangla

<http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-ln-birth-rate-20161220-story.html>

California’s birthrate dropped to its lowest level ever in 2016, according to [data](#) released by the state’s Department of Finance.

Between July 2015 and July of this year, there were 12.42 births per 1,000 Californians, the agency said this week. The last time the birthrate came close to being that low was during the Great Depression, when it hit 12.6 per 1,000 in 1933.

But, unlike after the Depression, birthrates haven’t bounced back quickly as the economy has picked up.

Similarly, the national birthrate began falling in 2008 and continued to do so through 2013, when it hit a record low of 12.4 per 1,000 people. The rate increased only slightly in 2014, the most recent year for which there is data, to 12.5.

But she added that it’s been a while since the recession ended and, though birthrates may have increased a little, “I don’t think we’re at anything like compensation.”