

**From:** [Jennifer LaPorta](#)  
**To:** [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)  
**Subject:** NO smart water meters in Marin County!  
**Date:** Monday, June 6, 2022 4:44:58 PM

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Dear Board of Directors, Marin Water:

I strongly oppose a switch to "smart" water meters in Marin County! You may think they save water and energy, but they often don't. As in the case of Sebastopol, whose City Council was lied to by Syserco who sold the devices to the City. When asked to provide clarifying information on the purported savings, Syserco wrote: "there has never been a claim that the new meters save energy, save water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Smart water meters will harm the EMF aware and injured community. They will harm our quality of life, disturb our sense of safety and peace and create a nuisance throughout our city. You can't opt out of a "smart city". Adding smart water meters will increase EMF radiation in our county. Peer reviewed published studies find EMF radiation threatens nature and causes a wide range of health impacts: "Effects include increased cancer risk, cellular stress, increase in harmful free radicals, genetic damages, structural and functional changes of the reproductive system, learning and memory deficits, neurological disorders, and negative impacts on general well-being in humans." <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/91fe0ba9/O7AgJig9EE67V0YvHIGIWg?u=https://www.emfscientist.org/>

Dr. David Carpenter, a Harvard trained physician and director of the Institute for Health and the Environment wrote a letter opposing smart water meters and said:

*"Governments should be reducing RFR exposures, not increasing them."*

He warns that the greatest risk from exposure to radiation (RFR) is cancer, and there's growing evidence for brain and reproductive impacts. He writes, "*Some people develop a condition called electro-hypersensitivity (EHS). These individuals respond to being in the presence of RFR with a variety of symptoms, including headache, fatigue, memory loss, ringing in the ears...*" among many symptoms. He further warns, "*exposure to smart meters is a trigger for development of EHS.*"

*Please do NOT approve these smart water meters!*

*Sincerely,*

*Jennifer LaPorta*

*B.S. Environmental Health*

**From:** [Daphne Gerlach](#)  
**To:** [Terrie Gillen](#)  
**Subject:** "Fog catchers" make water out of thin air - CNN  
**Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 8:31:44 PM

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This is a grand possibility as we have fog today and this evening. Rather than desalination from dirty bay water.....please consider this.

Thank you, Daphne

<https://amp.can.com/cnn/2016/11/18/africa/fog-catchers-morocco/index.html>

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Daphne Wallace Gerlach  
Sonoma CA 95476

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# Desert 'fog catchers' make water out of thin air

By Jacopo Prisco, CNN

Updated 6:16 AM EST, Fri November 18, 2016

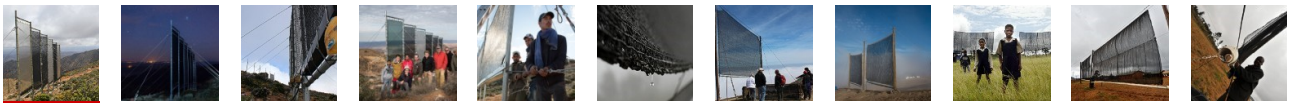


**Photos:** Harvesting nets turn fog into water

In a mountainous area on the edge of the Sahara in Southwest Morocco, large mesh nets capture clouds of fog and condense it into clean drinking water.

1 of 14

Hide Caption



## Story highlights

Giant nets in the Anti-Atlas mountains trap fog and turn it into clean drinking water

The nets have had life-changing effects on the local population

**Marrakech, Morocco(CNN)** — On the edge of the Sahara, in southwest Morocco, giant nets catch moisture from the air, turning fog into drinking water.

The technique involves a fine mesh on which tiny fog droplets -- typically 1 to 40 millionths of a meter -- gather and merge until they have enough weight to travel down into a reservoir.

Set in a dry, mountainous area, it's the [world's largest functioning fog collection project](#), spanning 600 square meters, according to [Dar Si Hmad](#), the women-led Moroccan NGO that runs it.

The pilot project now provides clean drinking water to 500 people in five villages, in a region that has been severely hit by climate change-induced droughts.

## Four years of tests

Fog harvesting was devised in South America in the 1980s and there are active projects in various countries including Chile, Peru, Ghana, Eritrea, South Africa and California.

Efforts to bring it to Morocco started 10 years ago and the project launched in 2015, on World Water Day, after four years of testing.

"This period of observation was extremely important, because water projects can't be rushed into a social contract without a long term study, as the risks are too high," Jamila Bargach, director of Dar Si Hmad, told CNN.





The German and Moroccan team behind the fog-catching project.

The nets, which are set at an altitude of 1,225 meters (4,000 feet), collect an average of 6,000 liters of water a day, which is first filtered for impurities before traveling through eight kilometers of piping to reach homes in the villages.

"The fog is pushed by the winds from the ocean and is trapped by the mountains -- it's stuck here -- so it's easy to empty it of its water," Bargach said of the mountains that are draped in fog for about 140 days a year.

In recognition of its unique contribution to facing the challenges of climate change, the project was awarded the 2016 United Nations "Momentum for Change" award and showcased at the UN's climate change conference, COP22, in Marrakech, Morocco.

## Reversing migration

The region, known as Anti Atlas -- from the name of the nearby mountain range -- has become increasingly depopulated in the last decades as inhabitants were forced to migrate due to lack of water.

"Those who have stayed are among the poorest, and are mostly women, children and the elderly," said Bargach.

"Before we installed the nets, they had to walk three hours a day to go to distant, depleted wells, which is what people still do every day in the region where we don't operate."



**Related Article:** [How much solar energy can your roof make? Just Google it](#)

If the wells are dry, the only way to get water is to have it delivered by trucks, at the price of 30 to 50 dirhams per ton (about \$3 to \$5).

Within the scheme, each ton of water now costs just 4 dirhams, or about 40 cents, and is available from the tap, at home.

"Even though these are poor communities, with people living on less than \$2 a day, they pay for their water because they know the money goes into maintenance," said Bargach.

Battered by winds that can reach speeds of more than 70 miles per hour, the nets are in need of constant care.

## 'CloudFisher'

To address the problem, starting next year the current technology -- from a Canadian NGO called FogQuest -- will be upgraded to a newer version called "[CloudFisher](#)," developed in Germany, which requires no maintenance and will double the water yield.

So far, the nets have had life-changing effects on the local population.

Fog nets harvest 6,000 liters of water each day

"They told me, 'We were like slaves, and now we're free.' It's been an amazing transformation, and they feel proud as recipients of such a maverick way of getting water," said Bargach.

Over the next two years, the project will expand to eight new villages, adding over 500 new beneficiaries.

Dar Si Hmad is also bringing the fog catchers to other regions of southwestern Morocco, at the request of local organizations, providing clean water to a wider network of rural Berber villages that suffer from water stress.

[\*\*View on CNN\*\*](#)





**From:** [lito brindle](#)  
**To:** [Board Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Pine Mountain Tunnel  
**Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 3:24:00 PM

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Hi, just wanted to point out that the Pine Mountain Tunnel could itself be used as a significant storage reservoir for raw water, filled by gravity from Alpine Dam and then delivered by gravity into Phoenix Lake (where we are better equipped to use the water nowadays). It could be directly delivered into the creek at culverts CP 42/43 (Phoenix Creek?) on the dead-end section of the Concrete Pipe Fire Road, which then flows into Phoenix Lake, potentially maintaining that creek's flow all through the dry season. I believe they've looked into maintaining that creek as a trout stream, so it would be "multi-benefit."

Seems a shame to altogether abandon a gravity system.

Thanks!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [GREG RYAN](#)  
**To:** [Board Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Intertie  
**Date:** Thursday, June 2, 2022 7:48:36 AM

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Obviously the Marin water shortage is a long term problem.

Because there was a **miracle** large storm for 2 days last winter you really think we don't have an 'urgent' need for more water. You all passed up the opportunity to make an 'emergency exemption' to get the Intertie project kick started.

Now the residents of Marin are only months away from a severe water shortage due to the short sighted board.

Do us a favor and resign so we can get more strategic and competent board members who can recognize the severity of the situation.

Greg Ryan  
and the owners of Marin who can think strategically

P.S. In case your didn't know - water is vital to our existence and every homeowner in Marin. We have enough village idiots representing the public needs.

**From:** [Dawn Matheson](#)  
**To:** [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)  
**Subject:** Questions/Concerns after Water Supply Community Workshop II  
**Date:** Thursday, June 2, 2022 8:00:40 PM

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I just attended this, I had to leave at 6:00pm for another meeting so I wasn't able to raise these concerns. The presentation we saw was on how you are modeling future needs based on current data. My biggest concern is that the state mandated housing expansion did not seem to be included in the modeling. For Larkspur alone I believe it's 900+ units which will be a substantial increase in demand. The second concern was that they were relying a lot on "Flume" data but that is a voluntary program rather than a randomly selected sampling of users. The people who are interested in flume data are people who are already engaged in solving water issues. That will mess up your data which will in turn mess up your projections. I guess I have a third factor that comes to mind without perseverating on it overlong and that is the predicted change in average humidity which will affect evaporation rates. Maybe I missed it in the presentation or maybe these factors play an insignificant role in the modeling, this is certainly not my area of expertise.

As far as my 2 cents, the solutions to increase supply that seem to make the most sense are expanding and deepening current reservoirs and recycling waste water. I like the first especially because it would have the least maintenance costs over time but it is also the most vulnerable to unpredictable factors so it would have to have a large safety factor worked into its design.

Sincerely,

Dawn Matheson  
Larkspur