



# 'Skip the dip': Dangerous runoff claims 19 lives in California rivers

More than half dozen deaths happened in Northern California waterways

KCRA 3 | Updated: 10:39 PM PDT Jun 23, 2017



Vicki Gonzalez

Reporter



**SOUTH YUBA RIVER STATE PARK, Calif. (KCRA)** — More than a dozen people have been killed in California rivers since the weather started warming up as snow becomes dangerous runoff.

Since April, there have been 19 river-related deaths statewide, [according to South Yuba River Citizens League \(SYRCL\)](#).

“Folks, it may look nice and refreshing, but it’s not safe. It’s too fast. It’s too cold to swim. Please stay out of the river,” SYRCL Executive Director Caleb Dardick said. “That snow is melting right now, and it’s melting fast. It’s a great thing for the river. It is cleaning and purifying the river. It is wonderful for the environment. But, it’s not a good time to be in the water.”