

If You Think the Water Crisis Can't Get Worse, Wait Until the Aquifers Are Drained

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In ten years, the Colorado River Basin has lost the equivalent of two Lake Meads, the largest reservoir in the U.S., pictured here at dusk with Las Vegas in the background.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER ESSICK, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Karma Norjin Lhamo of Ichetucknee Alliance has posted a link to an article by Dennis Dimick in the [National Geographic](#) with these comments:

[Karma Norjin Lhamo](#) [Ichetucknee Alliance](#)

This is a vitally important article even though it doesn't mention Florida, where we are fortunate enough to have an aquifer that is recharged by rain; however, aquifer levels have been falling here in FL at the rate of about one foot per decade since the 1990s. That doesn't sound like much until you realize that for each foot that the freshwater aquifer falls, the layer of saltwater underneath it rises 40 feet.

*With all this trouble in aquifers around the country, you would think that Florida's leaders and water managers would have the foresight to understand that it's not too late to preserve our aquifer *IF* we are extremely careful about how we use groundwater and what we use it for. And since our springs are the top layer of the Floridan Aquifer, if we save the springs we can save the aquifer*