



# Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street, P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, California 93703-6056, (559) 224-1523, FAX (559) 241-6277

January 22, 2015

*This notice contains important information about the following:*

- **2014-2015 Rescheduled Water**
- **2014-2015 Supplemental Water Update**
- **2015-2016 CVP Contract Allocation**
- **Public Hearing on Proposed 2015 Benefit Assessment Valuation Schedule**
- **Public Hearing on Proposed 2015-2016 Water Rates, Charges and Land-Based Charges**
- **Proposed Amendment of the District's Rules and Regulations Regarding Inefficient Irrigation Practices**
- **Reminder of Due Date for December Statement of Account Invoices**
- **Reclamation Law Certification/Reporting**
- **Low Interest Irrigation Equipment Lease Program**
- **Lease of District Owned Land**
- **Department of the Navy Agricultural Lease**
- **Holiday Office Closure & Water Ordering Procedures**

## **2014-2015 Rescheduled Water**

At the end of December, water users had remaining supplies of approximately 183,000 acre-feet. If demands for water and transfers into the District match staff's projections through February, the District will have about 175,000 acre-feet of water in San Luis Reservoir on March 1, 2015. Because San Luis Reservoir is not projected to fill this year, the District expects that there will be unlimited opportunity to reschedule water into the 2015 contract year.

## **2014-2015 Supplemental Water Update**

The District received timely Supplemental Water applications for approximately 247,000 acre-feet on 368,000 acres. The District made 41,000 acre-feet available for allocation to water users in December and January, bringing the total Supplemental Water allocated this year to approximately 101,000 acre-feet. This completes the allocation of all Supplemental Water acquired this contract year, although the District will continue to pursue additional water acquisitions to meet outstanding requests.

The District estimates that the Supplemental Water delivered cost to water users will be in the range of \$800-\$900 per acre-foot. Advance payment for the acquisition cost of the water is required at the time of allocation.

## **2015-2016 CVP Contract Allocation**

The CVP has approximately 4.1 million acre feet of water in key reservoirs; this represents approximately 60% of the 15-year average. Storage in Shasta Reservoir is approximately 1.95 million acre-feet (70% of 15-year average). Federal storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 332,000 acre-feet (47% of 15-year average). With the Jones Pumping Plant operating at about 20% capacity, the federal share of San Luis Reservoir will not fill by February 28, 2015.

Based upon these conditions and certain assumptions concerning hydrology, District staff is projecting the ranges of potential Central Valley Project allocations for the 2015-2016 contract year as follows:

<b>2015-2016 Contract Year South-of-Delta CVP Water Supply Allocation Forecast</b>						
<b><u>Water Year Type</u></b>	<b>Delta Restrictions Imposed Under Biological Opinions</b>					
	<b>Maximum</b>		<b>Moderate</b>		<b>Minimal</b>	
	Initial Allocation	Final Allocation	Initial Allocation	Final Allocation	Initial Allocation	Final Allocation
Wet	0-10%	35-45%	0-25%	35-50%	0-25%	50-65%
Above Normal	0-5%	25-30%	0-10%	25-35%	0-15%	35-50%
Below Normal	0%	0-15%	0%	0-20%	0%	0-50%
Dry	0%	0%	0%	0-5%	0%	0-10%
Critically Dry	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Public Hearing on Proposed 2015 Benefit Assessment Valuation Schedule**

The Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2015 Repayment Contract Benefit Assessment Valuation Schedule on February 17, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. at the District's Fresno Office, 3130 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93703. Landowners and water users will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed valuation schedule.

The Repayment Contract Benefit Assessment is levied to collect a portion of the District's annual repayment obligation to the United States for costs incurred in building distribution and drainage collector facilities. The Recommended Schedule of Per Acre Valuations for the 2015 Repayment Contract Benefit Assessment is unchanged from the schedules that have been used since 1990. Copies of the schedule are available from Deborah Tuggle at (559) 241-6212.

**Public Hearing on Proposed 2015-16 Water Rates, Charges and Land-Based Charges**

The District will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2015-2016 water rates, charges and land-based charges on Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., at the District's Fresno Office, 3130 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93703. At this public hearing, the Board shall hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the proposed water rates, charges and land-based charges.

These rates and charges are proposed in order to pay the costs of water service, including District operations and maintenance; debt service related to the acquisition of long-term water supplies; certain repairs of distribution system pipe; drainage service area costs for representation of landowners; and activities of the Westlands Water Quality Coalition associated with the waste discharge requirements general order for the Western Tulare Lake Basin Watershed. For additional information, please refer to the District's notice dated January 2, 2015.

If you have any questions about the proposed water rates and charges, please call Customer Accounting at (559) 241-6250. If you have any questions about the proposed land-based charges, please call Deborah Tuggle at (559) 241-6212.

**Proposed Amendment of the District's Rules and Regulations Regarding Inefficient Irrigation Practices**

The Board of Directors' Water Policy Committee may consider an amendment to the District's Rules and Regulations, Article 2. Regulations for the Allocation and Use of Agricultural Water within Westlands Water District, at its meeting on February 17, 2015. The proposed amendment would phase out furrow, flood, and

other inefficient irrigation practices, giving water users an extended period of time to do so. Water users are encouraged to attend the Water Policy Committee meeting if they are interested in commenting on the proposed amendment.

**Reminder of Due Date for December Statement of Account Invoices**

As a reminder, December Statement of Account invoices (Water Bills), which were mailed on January 12, 2015, are due January 27, 2015.

**Reclamation Law Certification/Reporting**

Earlier this month, notices were mailed to water users and landowners regarding the Reclamation Law's annual certification/reporting requirements. The forms are due for filing with the District by February 1, 2015. Lands are ineligible for service in the new water year until the forms are submitted. This filing deadline allows timely processing of the forms and helps to ensure water service is not interrupted. Water users who lease land may want to check with their landowners to make sure the landowner is aware of and will return the form(s) by the deadline. If you have any questions, please call Lucinda Anderson at (559) 241-6218 or Christine Brazier at (559) 241-6224.

**Low Interest Irrigation Equipment Lease Program**

The District's Expanded Irrigation System Improvement Program (EISIP) offers low interest loans to water users for the lease-purchase of irrigation system equipment. EISIP funds up to \$130,000 towards the purchase of irrigation system equipment, the design of irrigation systems, and purchase of portable aluminum irrigation pipe, micro-irrigation, linear move and center pivots. Interested water users may contact Israel Sanchez at (559) 241-6237 to begin the application process.

**Lease of District Owned Land**

The District has land available for lease in Fresno and Kings Counties. For a detailed list of available land, please contact Cork McIsaac of Agriculture Industries, Inc. at (916) 372-5595 or (800) 822-1415.

**Department of the Navy Agricultural Lease**

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest has provided the enclosed announcement informing interested bidders about a Department of the Navy Agricultural Lease at Naval Air Station Lemoore. Please use the contact information in the letter if you have any questions about this agricultural lease program.

**Holiday Office Closure & Water Ordering Procedures**

District offices will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2015, in observance of President's Day. The affected water ordering deadlines are as follows:

<b>For Water Use On</b>	<b>Place Water Order By</b>
Saturday or Sunday - February 14 or 15	Friday, February 13, 9:30 a.m.
Monday or Tuesday - February 16 or 17	Friday, February 13, noon

The emergency telephone number for after hours and holidays is (559) 224-1523.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TO LEASE GOVERNMENT LANDS  
FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES**

1. The Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest, proposes to lease Government-owned land for agricultural purposes located at the Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California, under the process and terms outlined in the Invitation for Bid.

2. Sealed bids must be received at Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest, ATTN: Ms. Kimberly Spencer, Desert IPT Real Estate, Code JV10.KS, 1220 Pacific Highway, Building 130, San Diego, California, 92132-5190, by **2:00 P.M.**, Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), on **February 12, 2015**. Bids will be opened promptly at 2:00 P.M. (PDT). No bids will be accepted after 2:00 P.M. **FAX COPIES OF BIDS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED RESPONSIVE.**

3. **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

Parcel	Farmable Acres	IFB Number	Lease Term
4A29	+/- 292.3	N6247315RP100	March 1, 2015- December 31, 2019

4. Bid package and instructions will be posted electronically on Navy Electronic Commerce Online (NECO). Interested bidders can view bid package by parcel number and, if interested, review the bid package and instructions. Interested bidders will then print and complete the bid form and return under the Sealed Bid process.

5. Interested bidders should go to the following NECO website: <https://www.neco.navy.mil/> and proceed with the following steps:

- a. Search Synopsis
- b. Under NAICS Code scroll down to: "111 - Crop Production"
- c. Click on "Search" at bottom of page.
- d. Click on "NAS Lemoore, Parcel 4A29."
- e. Click on "View Solicitation."
- f. Under the Line Items section, download the file listed.
- g. The Invitation for Bid documents must be reviewed thoroughly.
- h. Print the Bid Form, which is included in the downloaded file.
- i. Complete and submit Bid Form according to all instructions outlined in the Invitation for Bid.

6. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kimberly Spencer, Realty Specialist, at (619) 532-3918 or via email at [kimberly.spencer@navy.mil](mailto:kimberly.spencer@navy.mil)

7. The Department of the Navy reserves the right not to award the Lease.