



# Westlands Water District

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

April 24, 2015

*This Notice contains important information about the following:*

- **CVP Water Supply**
- **Rescheduled Water**
- **2015-2016 Supplemental Water**
- **Update on San Luis Canal Integration Program**
- **Board of Directors Election**
- **Assessment Equalization Hearing**
- **Water Ordering Procedures for Pumps Enrolled in District Power Programs**
- **Land-Based Charges**
- **Lands Available for Lease**
- **Accepting Reservations for Bollibokka Fishing Club**
- **Holiday Office Closure & Water Ordering Procedures**

## **CVP Water Supply**

On February 27, 2015, the Bureau of Reclamation announced an initial zero allocation for south-of-Delta CVP agricultural water service contractors. Reclamation's March 27, 2015 allocation announcement maintained this zero allocation. Due to extraordinarily dry conditions, the District expects that the allocation will remain zero for this contract year. The District will provide additional notice to water users if the allocation changes.

Reclamation currently has approximately 5.4 million acre-feet of water in key reservoirs; this represents about 63% of the 15 year average. Shasta Reservoir storage is approximately 2.7 million acre-feet (72% of average). Federal storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 388,000 acre-feet (49% of average). Hydrology continues to be well below average with the Northern Sierra 8 Station and the San Joaquin 5 Station indices recording only 77% and 42%, respectively, of average precipitation for the year. The statewide snow water content stands at 5% of average for this date. Jones Pumping Plant has been exporting water at approximately 20% of capacity and has pumped approximately 39,000 acre-feet thus far in April.

## **Rescheduled Water**

The District rescheduled approximately 200,000 acre-feet of water in San Luis Reservoir on March 1, 2015. It is expected that there will be unlimited opportunity to continue to store and use this water through the 2015-2016 contract year.

## **2015-2016 Supplemental Water**

The District received timely Supplemental Water applications for approximately 312,000 acre-feet on 412,000 acres. The District will make every effort to acquire Supplemental Water from available sources for the 2015-2016 contract year. However, due to the extremely dry conditions, lack of available water, and issues concerning Delta operations, it is highly unlikely that the District will fulfill more than one-third of the Supplemental Water requests. Further, allocations will occur after October 2015, for the most part. It is estimated that the delivered cost to water users will be in the range of \$900-\$1,200 per acre-foot.

### **Update on San Luis Canal Integration Program**

The District is nearing completion of negotiating a Warren Act Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation to continue the Canal Integration Program for the conveyance of non-Project water in the San Luis Canal. Staff anticipates restarting the Program after May 1, 2015 and it is expected to operate through September 30, 2015, although it may be shut down earlier if conditions warrant.

Water users who wish to participate must confirm that their well(s) meet water quality requirements, have approved injection facilities in place and must sign a conveyance agreement with the District. Those interested in participating in the Program should contact Israel Sanchez at (559) 241-6237 or Charlotte Gallock at (559) 241-6244.

### **Board of Directors Election**

The terms of five members of the Board of Directors expire in 2015, and an election to fill these positions will be held August 25, 2015. The positions have four-year terms through December 6, 2019. The election will be conducted as an all-mail ballot election and there will be no polling places.

To qualify for the position of Director, the person shall be over the age of 18 years and be either 1) a holder of title to land in the District, 2) the legal representative of the holder of title to land in the district in accordance with California Water Code Section 34030, or 3) a representative designated by a holder of title to land in the District if the holder has filed with the District written evidence of that designation.

Forms for declarations of candidacy for eligible candidates desiring to file for the office will be available from the District's Secretary at 3130 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, California 93703 on or after May 4, 2015. The forms must be filed with the Secretary either in person or by certified mail no later than 5 p.m. on May 29, 2015. Filing by certified mail is authorized, but the forms must reach the Secretary by 5 p.m. on May 29, 2015.

In the event there are no candidates or an insufficient number of candidates for these positions, and a petition calling for an election is not filed within the time period prescribed in Section 10515 of the Elections Code, appointment to the Director positions will be made as prescribed by law.

For further information, call the District's Fresno office at (559) 224-1523.

### **Assessment Equalization Hearing**

The Board of Directors will hold an equalization hearing to establish the District's 2015 Repayment Contract Benefit Assessment on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., at the District's Fresno Office, 3130 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, California. Copies of the 2015 Assessment Book are available for review at the Fresno and Five Points offices. The Assessment Book contains the valuation of all District lands and is based on the benefit assessment valuation schedule approved by the Board at its February meeting.

Landowners who question their land valuations and wish to petition the Board must submit a written application for a reduction of the land valuation on or before May 13, 2015. Landowners must include the reasons supporting the claim for reduction and an opinion of the proper valuation. For additional information, please contact Deborah Tuggle at (559) 241-6212.

### **Water Ordering Procedures for Pumps Enrolled in District Power Programs**

The District's Groundwater Management Program and Temporary Diversion Program provide Western Area Power Administration energy to temporary diversion pumps, groundwater pumps, and drip system booster

pumps. The District's Terms and Conditions for Agricultural Water Service apply to water delivered under the Groundwater Management and the Temporary Diversion Programs. Accordingly, water users are required to place their water orders three days in advance if they are delivering water through a pump enrolled in a District power program. It is critical that water users comply with the ordering procedures to ensure that the District's request for power to operate these facilities is accurate. Failure to place timely "on" or "off" orders will result in inaccurate power requests and, therefore, higher power costs which are passed on to program participants.

**Land-Based Charges**

The 2015-2016 Land-Based Charges were mailed out on March 5, 2015 with the first installment due March 25, 2015 and the second installment due on September 25, 2015. The first installment is now delinquent; please contact Deborah Tuggle at (559) 241-6212 for a payoff amount.

**Lands Available for Lease**

The District has several parcels for lease. For a list of available land, please contact Cork McIsaac of Agriculture Industries, Inc. at (916) 372-5595 or (800) 822-1415.

**Accepting Reservations for Bollibokka Fishing Club**

The Bollibokka Fishing Club is continuing to accept reservations. The District's March 20, 2015, Notice No. 445 contains additional information for anyone interested in taking advantage of this opportunity. The club's season runs from the last weekend in April through November 15 and there are still a number of weeks available at both the Clubhouse and the Way Station. The normal reservation period is Wednesday through Sunday, but reasonable accommodations to this schedule will be made, if possible. Please contact Michael Caranci of The Fly Shop at (800) 669-3474 (office), (530) 222-3572 (fax), michael@theflyshop (email), or by mail at 4140 Churn Creek Road, Redding CA 96002. For additional information, visit the Club's website: <http://www.theflyshop.com/adventures/bollibokka.htm>.

**Holiday Office Closure & Water Ordering Procedures**

District offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2015, in observance of Memorial Day. The affected water ordering deadlines are as follows:

<b>For Water Use On</b>	<b>Place Water Order By</b>
Saturday or Sunday - May 23 or 24	Friday, May 22, 9:30 a.m.
Monday or Tuesday - May 25 or 26	Friday, May 22, noon

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