

# Westlands Water District

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

March 24, 2014

This notice contains important information about the following:

- 2014-2015 Water Supply Update
- Rescheduled Water Update
- Allocation of System Gain Water
- 2014-2015 Canal Integration Program Response May Be Required
- 2014-2015 Supplemental Water Response May Be Required
- 2013-2014 Supplemental Water
- Long Term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
- Expanded Irrigation System Improvement Program
- Land-Based Charges
- Lands Available for Lease
- Advance Notice of Inspection and Repair Shutdown Schedule
- Bollibokka Fishing Club Reservations

#### 2014-2015 Water Supply Update

On February 21, 2014, the Bureau of Reclamation announced an initial zero allocation for south-of-Delta CVP agricultural water service contractors. Reclamation did not issue an updated allocation announcement this month. However, due to extraordinarily dry conditions the District expects that the allocation will remain zero for this water year. The District will provide additional notice to water users if the allocation changes.

Reclamation currently has approximately 5.3 million acre-feet of water in key reservoirs; this represents about 63% of the 15 year average. Shasta Reservoir storage is approximately 2.1 million acre-feet (59% of average). Federal storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 455,000 acre-feet (54% of average). Hydrology continues to be well below average with the Northern Sierra 8 Station and the San Joaquin 5 Station indices recording only 56% and 44%, respectively, of average precipitation for the year. Jones Pumping Plant has been exporting water at approximately 61% of capacity and has pumped approximately 90,000 acre-feet thus far in March. Exports at Jones are expected to drop to about 20% of capacity this week as inflows to the Delta begin to drop.

# **Rescheduled Water Update**

The District rescheduled 218,082 acre-feet into the 2014-2015 water year. The period of use for Rescheduled Water will not be restricted or limited this year. The rate for all rescheduled water types delivered in 2014-2015 will consist of water acquisition and conveyance costs incurred by the District for the water, plus District and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority O&M rates for 2014-2015. In addition, Reclamation's rescheduling fee of \$8.41 per acre-foot will be added.

# **Allocation of System Gain Water**

Approximately 4,000 acre-feet of System Gain water from 2013-2014 that was rescheduled by the District will be allocated and will appear on water users' March 2014 allocation statements. The water will be ratably allocated to water users in direct proportion to their water used during 2013-2014, excluding groundwater. Therefore, water users will be allocated approximately 0.009 acre-feet per acrefoot delivered last year. The rate for this water is \$218.10 per acre-foot. Please direct questions to your Customer Accounting Technician at (559) 241-6250.

#### 2014-2015 Canal Integration Program – Response May Be Required

The Board of Directors will consider implementing a Canal Integration Program (CIP) to convey non-Project groundwater in the San Luis Canal in 2014. Staff developed a proposal for the CIP and is in discussions with the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Contractors regarding requirements and approvals. To assist in this effort, water users that are interested in participating in the CIP should complete the survey included in the District's Notice No. 415 dated February 24, 2014, and return it to the District immediately. Water users with wells that qualified for the 2008 CIP should also submit the survey if you plan to participate in the 2014-2015 CIP. Please direct any questions to Israel Sanchez at (559) 241-6237.

#### 2014-2015 Supplemental Water – Response May Be Required

The District will make every effort to acquire Supplemental Water from available sources for the 2014-2015 water year. However, due to the extremely dry conditions making available water scarce and issues concerning Delta operations, it is highly unlikely that the District will fulfill more than a small percentage of the Supplemental Water requests. Further, the District's likely sources of Supplemental Water will be from north-of-Delta, which are pumped between July and September. District allocations of this water may occur as late as October this year, since north-of-Delta transfers require both Department of Water Resources and Bureau of Reclamation confirmation as to deliveries. For water that is acquired, the District estimates that the delivered cost to water users will be in the range of \$1,000-\$1,300 per acre-foot.

If you need Supplemental Water, please return the 2014-2015 agreement, included in the District's Notice No. 415 dated February 24, 2014, to the Fresno office by close of business on March 31, 2014. The agreement may be mailed to Westlands Water District, P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, CA 93703, but agreements not received at the District by the due date will not be considered timely (regardless of the postmark). You may also hand deliver the agreement to the District's Fresno office at 3130 N. Fresno Street. Requests received after the deadline will receive a lower priority for allocations and will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please direct questions to your Customer Accounting Technician at (559) 241-6250.

## 2013-2014 Supplemental Water

For the prior water year the District acquired 158,189 acre-feet of water supply. Allocations of Supplemental Water began in April, and the timing and amounts of allocations for the year are shown in the table below.

Allocation Month	AF Amount
April – Actual	48,057
May – Actual	1,387
June – Actual	1,313
July – Actual	25,000
August – Actual	31,854
September – Actual	0
October – Actual	0
November – Actual	27,397
December – Actual	12,128
January – Actual	8,957
February – Actual	2,096

# **Long Term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program**

The Regional Water Quality Control Board accepted the District's Notice of Intent to serve as the coalition representative for growers subject to the Western Tulare Lake Basin General Order (GO). The District determined that it would provide coalition services in order to provide a cost effective alternative to that of growers having to individually satisfy the waste discharge reporting requirements of the program. Pursuant to the GO, interested growers must enroll their irrigated lands with the District coalition by June 13, 2014. The District will mail landowners and water users the enrollment forms in the next few weeks. Please direct any questions to Orvil McKinnis at (559) 241-6242.

### **Expanded Irrigation System Improvement Program**

Moisture sensing and irrigation system control equipment is now approved for funding through the Expanded Irrigation System Improvement Program (EISIP), the District's low interest lease program. Water users may include this equipment in their bids for approved irrigation system equipment or may submit separate bids to upgrade existing systems. For additional information on applying for the EISIP, please contact Israel Sanchez at (559) 241-6237.

## **Land-Based Charges**

2014-15 Land-Based Charges bills will be mailed out on or about May 1 with the first installment due May 25, 2014, and the second installment due September 25, 2014. A penalty will be added to unpaid charges on the day following the payment due date. Please contact Deborah Tuggle at (559) 241-6212 for additional information about Land-Based Charges.

#### Lands Available for Lease

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

## Advance Notice of Inspection and Repair Shutdown Schedule

The following table provides water users with advance notice of the District's pumping plant and system inspection and repair shutdown schedule for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Week	Division Valve	Pumping Plant
October 13, 2014		23L
October 20		9L
November 3		25R
November 17		5L
December 1		14RA, 14RB & 14RC
December 8	26-1.7	26L
December 15		29RA & 29RB
January 5, 2015		14L
January 12		8L
January 26		11L
February 2		28RA, 28RB & 28R10W
February 9		18R

# **Bollibokka Fishing Club Reservations**

Reservations are still being accepted for the Bollibokka Fishing Club. The Club property was acquired by the District in 2006 to facilitate the raising of Shasta Dam. Until that time, the District is committed to operating the existing fishing club.

The Club property is very private, located along seven miles of the McCloud River immediately upstream of Shasta Lake. The McCloud River is esteemed for its beauty and has been known to have some of the best trout fishing in the world. In order to protect this unique fishery, all fishing is catch and release, fly only, barbless hooks.

The fishing season begins on April 26, 2014, and ends on November 15, 2014. If you are interested in reserving a week for a fishing trip to Bollibokka, please review the following information and contact the Club manager listed below. Remember that for reservation purposes the week begins on Wednesday morning and ends at sunset on the following Monday. The Club is closed on Tuesday for cleaning unless reserved for consecutive weeks.

Although the early opportunity for landowners and water users to reserve a week at the Club closed on January 31, 2014, a number of weeks are still open. There are two accommodations available for rent on the property:

- The Way Station is located on the upper two miles of the property. The Way Station can accommodate up to six guests, and that is also the maximum number of rods permitted on this portion of the river. The cost is \$4,200 per week.
- The Club House and Rock House are located on the lower five miles of the property. The two
  buildings can accommodate ten and four guests, respectively, but the maximum number of rods
  on this portion of the river is twelve. The cost is \$7,000 per week.

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The District is utilizing the experienced fly fishing services of The Fly Shop in Redding, California to handle Club management activities and coordinate all uses of the property. Additionally, the Fly Shop has associations with many fly fishing guides familiar with the McCloud. For more information, 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: <a href="http://www.theflyshop.com/adventures/bollibokka.htm">http://www.theflyshop.com/adventures/bollibokka.htm</a>

The Fly Shop will try to accommodate all reservation requests on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once your reservation is accepted, The Fly Shop will provide a Confirmation Package, which contains directions to the facilities, updated policies, information on cooking and cleaning services and additional contact information. Payment for your stay should be made directly to The Fly Shop.

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