



# Westlands Water District

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July 22, 2016

*This notice contains important information about the following:*

- **2016-2017 CVP Water Supply Update**
- **San Luis Reservoir Refill Projection**
- **2016-2017 Supplemental Water Supply Update**
- **2016-2017 Supplemental Water Advance Charges**
- **Canal Integration Program**
- **August Board and Committee Meetings Rescheduled**
- **Westlands Water Quality Coalition Members – Workshop & Farm Evaluation Submittal**
- **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update**
- **Water Ordering Procedures for Groundwater Management and Temporary Diversion Programs**
- **Lands Available for Lease**

## **2016-2017 CVP Water Supply Update**

The Bureau of Reclamation's allocation to Central Valley Project (CVP) south-of-Delta agricultural water service contractors is 5% for the 2016-2017 water contract year. Based on anticipated agreement between Reclamation and the fisheries agencies regarding Jones Pumping Plant summer operations and the actions taken by the District to use its acquired State Water Project supplies, the District believes the allocation will remain 5%, but will not increase.

The CVP currently has approximately 6.2 million acre-feet of water stored in northern CVP reservoirs; this represents approximately 85% of the 15-year average. Storage in Shasta Reservoir is approximately 3.7 million acre-feet; 117% of normal for this time of year. Federal storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 68,000 acre-feet; 22% of the 15-year average. Jones Pumping Plant is currently operating at less than 20% of capacity and has pumped approximately 33,000 acre-feet thus far in July.

## **San Luis Reservoir Refill Projection**

It is unlikely that the federal share of the San Luis Reservoir will fill. Jones Pumping Plant is expected to pump between 40%-60% of capacity during August, at or near capacity during the fall, with winter and spring pumping controlled by hydrology and regulatory actions. Although staff believes that the San Luis Reservoir will not fill, we will continue to monitor and provide water users with updated projections. In spite of the refill projections, water users are encouraged to manage their 2016 surface water deliveries to minimize the risk of losing water.

### **2016-2017 Supplemental Water Supply Update**

The District received adjusted timely applications for 2016-17 Supplemental Water totaling 122,364 acre-feet and late applications totaling 1,660 acre-feet on 256,450 acres. It is estimated that the delivered cost to water users will be in the range of \$700 - \$750 per acre-foot. At this time, the District anticipates that it will be able to acquire approximately 125,000 AF of water supply and fulfill the timely and late requests. However, water users with relatively high per acre requests or late requests will receive the bulk of their water later. Advance payment for the acquisition costs of the water is required at the time of allocation, though June and July allocations are subject to the payment provisions described in Notice 476, of July 12, 2016, with additional details located in the section below. Conveyance related costs will be billed when the water is used.

Allocations of Supplemental Water began in May, and the timing and amounts of expected allocations for the year are shown in the table below. This schedule will continue to be updated monthly to reflect additional supplies and/or changes to the timing for delivery.

<b>Allocation Month</b>	<b>AF Amount</b>
April	0
May – Actual	11,039
June – Actual	78,161
July – Actual	9,202
August – Estimated	15,000
September – Estimated	5,000
October – Estimated	4,000
November – Estimated	1,000
December - Estimated	1,000

With the July 5, 2016 allocation, the District fulfilled the requests for all but approximately 33,000 acres. The District continues to receive offers to purchase additional Supplemental Water supplies. If water users wish to acquire additional Supplemental Water, they should consider submitting a late request.

### **2016-2017 Supplemental Water Advance Charges**

To provide financial relief to water users who received allocations of 2016-2017 Supplemental Water on June 3, June 30 and July 5, 2016, the General Manager has exercised his authority under Section 10 of the District's Terms & Conditions for Agricultural Water Service to establish the due dates for advance payments. Payment plans for the Supplemental Advance charges are as follows:

- The Supplemental Water allocations made on June 3 and June 30 will be payable in three equal monthly installments with one third (1/3) due July 25, one third (1/3) due August 25, and one third (1/3) due September 26, 2016.
- The Supplemental Water allocation made on July 5, will be payable in 2 equal installments with one half (1/2) due August 25, and one half (1/2) due September 26, 2016.

Timely payments made under this payment plan will not incur penalty, interest, or monitoring charges. The 2016-2017 Supplemental Water will become available for use by water users as the advance payments are received. The payment plan is only applicable to the 2016-2017 Supplemental Advance charges on your account from the water allocations made on June 3, June 30 and July 5, 2016. All other charges must be paid in full by the regularly scheduled due date.

Please notify the District prior to July 25, 2016, if you wish to exercise the optional payment plan. Please make sure to include the account name(s) and number(s) for all accounts to be included in the payment plan. Please call your Customer Service Representative at (559) 241-6250 if you have any questions.

### **Canal Integration Program**

The District began operation of the Canal Integration Program (CIP) on April 1, 2016, and will continue to operate the program for water users until noon on July 25, 2016. Water users interested in participating in the CIP for 2017 should direct any questions to Charlotte Gallock at (559) 241-6244 or Israel Sanchez at (559) 241-6237.

### **August Board and Committee Meetings Rescheduled**

The regular August 16, 2016 meetings of the Board of Directors and its Committees have been rescheduled to Wednesday, August 17, 2016. The Finance & Administration Committee is regularly scheduled to convene at 10:00 a.m., the Water Policy Committee is scheduled to convene at 11:00 a.m., and the Board of Directors is regularly scheduled to convene at 1:00 p.m., at the District's Fresno Office located at 3130 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, California.

### **Westlands Water Quality Coalition Members – Workshop & Farm Evaluation Submittal**

Westlands Water Quality Coalition (WWQC) will be holding an information workshop from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Fresno County Farm Bureau office. All members are required to attend one workshop per year. Space is limited; please RSVP to Debra Dunn (559) 241-6242 or email: [ddunn@westlandswater.org](mailto:ddunn@westlandswater.org).

All members are required to complete a Farm Evaluation. Please log-on at <http://wwqc.westlandswater.org/Account/Logon> to complete and submit the Farm Evaluations. User name and passwords were sent out to all members based on contact information on file with the District. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Dunn at (559) 241-6242 or by email at: [ddunn@westlandswater.org](mailto:ddunn@westlandswater.org) or Charlotte Gallock at (559) 241-6244 or by email at: [cgallock@westlandswater.org](mailto:cgallock@westlandswater.org).

### **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update**

The District's Board of Directors conducted two Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation hearings in Kings and Fresno Counties and subsequently voted to serve as the GSA for the proposed Westside Subbasin Boundary on July 19. Serving as the GSA will promote local management of our groundwater resources. The District could be deemed the exclusive GSA by December 2016. The next steps in the District's SGMA implementation are completing the hydrogeologic groundwater model and Interim Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) of the GSA management area. Please contact Kiti Campbell at (559) 241-6226 for additional information.

**Water Ordering Procedures for Groundwater Management and Temporary Diversion Programs**

Water users that participate in the Groundwater Management and/or the Temporary Diversion Programs are required to place their water orders 3 days in advance, in accordance with the District's Terms and Conditions for Agricultural Water Service. It is important 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 higher power costs to each of these programs and their participants.

The District's programs utilize energy from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Base Resource Contract. Because the energy available under the District's contract is rarely enough to cover energy demands of the programs, the District seeks to cover the balance of the demands by ordering the delivery of energy to the "grid" from long-term purchase contracts. To the extent that actual usage does not match this order, the District is either purchasing additional power or disposing of excess purchased power on the spot market. The spot market is often unfavorable for either purchasing or selling power and, as a result, increases costs.

**Lands Available for Lease**

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

No. 477