



Water News

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT

OCTOBER 2017

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

Real Facts on Water Supply

"There's not enough water in California." It's a common refrain from anti-farming activists who are using that argument to promote restrictions on agricultural water use. Although the state's water supply is at a high level, there is no doubt that when the supply is reduced, the activists will return to their effort to restrict water to Westlands and other agricultural districts. And they will rely on the same misinformation to make the case that California's water supply is insufficient to provide enough water for urban, agricultural, and environmental water use.

These same activists claim that agriculture is using 80% of the state's water resources and that as a result, policies such as land retirement, crop dictation, and groundwater restrictions need to be imposed to protect urban and environmental water use.

Westlands and other agriculture districts have pushed back against the misinformation but this false narrative continues to have an impact on the debates that shape policy-making.

For that reason, the Westlands' public affairs staff is accelerating efforts to educate policy-makers and the public about water supply allocations. We intend to show that when our water is properly managed, the state has adequate supply to for residential, agricultural and environmental uses. While the activists want to discount a substantial amount of the water supply to arrive at a high usage number for agriculture, Westlands will be using accurate numbers that show how much water is available for all uses.

Here's the difference between "fake news" and reality: the Water Agency Inc. reports that between October 1, 2016 and August 6, 2017, the water supply and allocation system experienced the following:

- 52,102,700AF of water flowed into the Delta and was available for the environment, residential, and agricultural use.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3](#)

IN THE NEWS

WATER POLICY LEAVES CALIFORNIA VULNERABLE

Orange County Register: Dr. Michael Shires explains why Southern Californians should care about Central Valley water supply.

[READ FULL OPED](#)

CALIFORNIANS SHOULD CHERISH FARMS, NOT GO TO WAR AGAINST THEM

Sacramento Bee: Paul Wenger makes it clear that California agriculture is essential to the state.

[READ FULL OPED](#)

COMMENTARY: PUNDITS MISS THE POINT IN WRITING ABOUT AGRICULTURE


AgAlert: Farmers need to remain active to correct biased newspaper commentaries.

[READ FULL ARTICLE](#)

CALIFORNIA'S FAMILY FARMS ARE HARDLY "BIG AG"

California Farm Water Coalition: The coalition lists the facts about California farming and why the terms "Big Ag" is harmfully inaccurate.

[READ FULL BLOG](#)

Like us on
Facebook 

We are now on Twitter!

Follow us [@Westlands_Water](#)
and join the conversation today.



CONTACT US

Westlands Water District Office
3130 N. Fresno Street
P.O. Box 6056
Fresno, CA 93703-6056

Phone: 559-224-1523
Fax: 559-241-6277

Email: info@westlandswater.org

Customer Accounting Main Line
Phone: (559) 241-6250
or 1 (800) 266-6574

Media Inquiries:

Phone: 559-241-6233

Email: pubaffairs@westlandswater.org

westlandswater.org



CALENDAR

NOV
21

WWD Board Meeting

DEC
19

WWD Board Meeting

OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Westlands Water District offices will be closed to observe the following holidays:

Veterans Day
November 10, 2017

Thanksgiving
November 23 – 24, 2017

Important Notices

Westside tours

We've been busy educating policymakers and stakeholders on the water efficient agricultural operations in the westside. Special thank you to those growers who participated in the tours and helped illustrate the significance of farming in the Central Valley.



PHOTO: Westlands recently hosted 60 students and staff from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Georgia. The group viewed several crops and engaged in meaningful discussions about farming in California in comparison to the South.



We're hiring

Westlands Water District is recruiting to fill one Accounting Technician vacancy at our Fresno Office. Applications are being accepted beginning Monday, October 16, 2017 through Friday, October 27, 2017. More details can be found on our [website here](#) including the supplemental application.

Westlands is also looking to fill one Maintenance Scheduler vacancy in the Field Engineering & Planning Department at our Five Points Field Office. Applications are being accepted beginning Monday, October 23, 2017 through Friday, November 10, 2017. Further details and the supplemental application can be found [here](#).

Ag One West Side Alumni and Friends Luncheon

Are you a Fresno State alumnus? Mark your calendar for the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Annual Luncheon. Doors open at 11:30am and lunch will be served at noon. Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased through November 1st.



For more information, visit www.agonefoundation.org or call 559-268-4266. We're proud to have educational programs in the valley that develop and encourage the next generation of ag!

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

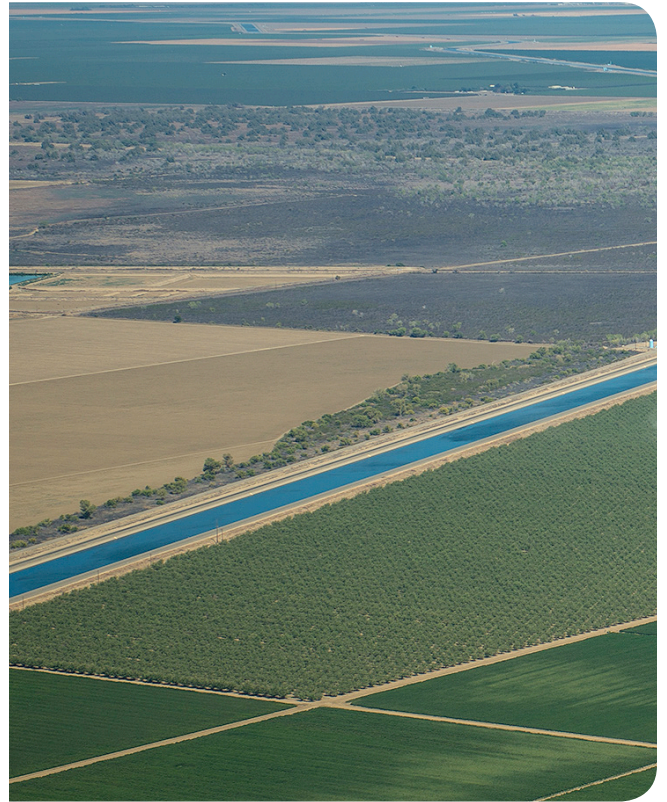
Continued from page 1

- 2,247,400AF (which equals **4.3%** of the Delta inflow) flowed to Central Valley Project (CVP) contractors and 2,931,100AF (which equals **5.6%** of the Delta inflow) flowed to State Water Project (SWP) contractors.
- 46,742,500AF (which equals **89.7%** of the Delta inflow) flowed to the ocean.

Contrary to the claims of the activists, and despite experiencing almost NO water delivery restrictions in 2017 because of this year's historic hydrology, almost 90% of the water that flows into the Delta ends up in the ocean.

This is only one example of the ongoing effort to provide a fact-based narrative to the public and decisionmakers. As a priority matter, Westlands will be educating policy-makers about the facts about agriculture and urban jobs that rely on a stable water supply.

**Johnny Amaral, Deputy General Manager of External Affairs
Westlands Water District**



National Farmers Day

October 12th was National Farmers Day. We hope you celebrated the success and legacy of Central Valley farming with some fresh produce. Westlands is proud of our farmers all year long! Don't forget to follow Westlands on social media so you don't miss out on exciting updates and news! #ThankAFarmer