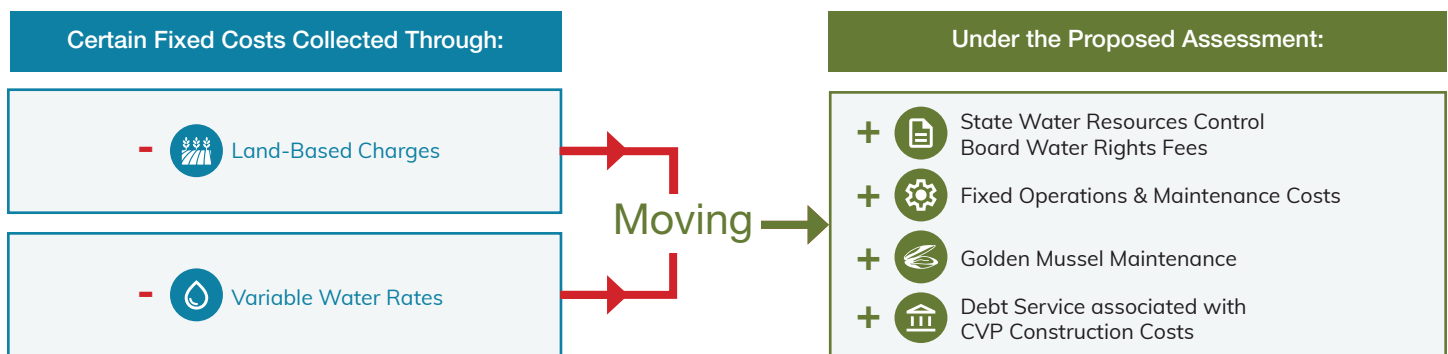




Westlands Water District is holding a Proposition 218 election to fund core District functions including managing its Central Valley Project and other surface water supply contracts, maintaining and operating infrastructure, and ultimately ensure landowners' potential to receive surface water on their lands. The current assessment, approved in the 2017 election, is nearing its 10-year term. Without a new funding mechanism, the District's ability to operate and maintain its system and continue providing surface water deliveries would be at risk.

Prop 218 Timeline



The proposed assessment is not designed to increase total District revenue. It would change how certain District costs are collected by shifting costs currently collected through other rates and charges into the assessment. This shift would reduce corresponding amounts collected through other rates and charges while providing more stable, long-term funding for District operations.

What is Proposition 218?

Proposition 218 is a constitutional initiative which requires new or increased assessments to be approved by affected landowners.

Why is Westlands Water District holding a Prop 218 election?

The District's current assessment is set to expire, which would significantly reduce revenue needed for core operations. The proposed assessment would renew this existing funding mechanism to reflect current costs and provide stable, long-term funding for essential District operations and services.

How long will the proposed assessment last?

If approved, the proposed assessment would remain in place for the next ten years, with scheduled escalation increases through 2037. After that, any new or extended assessment would require landowner approval through a future Proposition 218 process.

What is the value of the proposed assessment for landowners?

The assessment helps ensure that landowners continue to benefit from:

- Ongoing access, or potential access, to **surface water supplies**.

- Continued reliability of water deliveries through a **maintained and functional system**.

- **Protection of long-term land value** across the District, as access to surface water, including through maintained water supply agreements, is an important factor in property value – even for parcels not currently receiving deliveries.

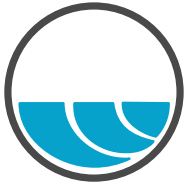
How do items funded under this election differ from the one held in 2017?

Unlike the 2017 Prop 218, the proposed assessment includes funding for additional obligations and emerging needs:

- Debt service associated with Central Valley Project (CVP) construction costs, currently funded through land-based charges.
- Fixed State Water Resources Control Board water rights fees, currently funded through water rates.
- Ongoing maintenance to address Golden Mussels and reduce risks to water supplies and farmland.

What happens if the Prop 218 election passes?

If approved, the assessment would take effect in fiscal year (FY) 2027-28. Approval would also establish how the assessment is calculated based on the benefits each parcel receives, as well as how the maximum assessment may be adjusted annually beginning in FY 2028-29.



Westlands Water District

Maintaining access to surface water to protect the long-term value of farmland for all Westlands Water District landowners.

Attend Prop 218 Workshops and Public Hearing

Join us at a workshop to learn more about the Prop 218 and have your questions answered. The workshops will be hybrid in person in our board room and online.

Visit wwd.ca.gov/news-and-reports/notices/prop-218-proposed-assessment or scan the QR code to join.



Workshop #1 - In-Person & Online
Wednesday, October 7, 2026
at 9:00 AM



Workshop #2 - In-Person & Online
Wednesday, October 21, 2026
at 9:00 AM

Public Hearing

Landowners are invited to attend to the public hearing to provide comments and submit ballots in person before the hearing is closed. The public hearing will take place at the Westlands Water District office.



Public Hearing
Tuesday, December 15, 2026 at 9:00 AM



Westlands Water District office
286 W. Cromwell Ave, Fresno, CA 93711



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO JOIN THE WORKSHOPS AND TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROP 218 AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR LANDOWNERS AND LOCAL FARMLAND.

wwd.ca.gov/news-and-reports/notices/prop-218-proposed-assessment

Proposed Assessment Rates

LAND USE CATEGORY	PROPOSED MAX ASSESSMENT (FY 2027 - 2028)
Priority CVP Benefit	\$86.36 / acre*
Other Water Benefit	\$18.02 / acre

Beginning with fiscal year 2028-29, the maximum rate may increase annually by 3% or the annual change in the regional Consumer Price Index, whichever is greater (capped at 6% per year). The Board may adopt a rate below the authorized maximum if the full amount is not needed.

Priority CVP Benefit: Land eligible to receive water through the District's Priority Central Valley Project (CVP) water service contract. These lands are also eligible to receive other water supplies provided by or conveyed through the District.

* Land eligible for CVP Allocation are also eligible for other water delivery; therefore, the rate is the sum of both category assignments.

Other Water Benefit: Land primarily eligible to receive other water supplies provided by or conveyed through the District. Some lands may also be eligible for secondary CVP water allocations when available.

How to Vote

1. Mail your ballot in the postage paid envelope provided in the ballot packet.
2. Hand deliver your ballot to the Westlands Water District office at 286 W. Cromwell Ave, Fresno, CA 93711.
3. Bring your ballot to the Public Hearing on December 15, 2026.