2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan

Prepared Pursuant to Water Code Section 10826

Dudley Ridge Water District

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Adopted on March 10, 2021

Board of Directors

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AF acre-feet

Aqueduct Governor Edmund G. Brown California Aqueduct

AWMP Agricultural Water Management Plan

AWUF Agronomic Water Use Fraction

Board of Directors of Dudley Ridge Water District

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

cfs cubic feet per second
CVP Central Valley Project
CWD Cawelo Water District
District Dudley Ridge Water District

DWR California Department of Water Resources

Cran even element or water it

ETc Crop evapotranspiration

EWMP Efficient Water Management Practice

KWB Kern Water Bank

KWBA Kern Water Bank Authority
M&I Municipal and Industrial
mg/L milligrams per liter

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

Plan Agricultural Water Management Plan

Project State Water Project

SGMA Sustainable Groundwater Management Act SGVMWD San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

SWC State Water Contractors

SWKGSA Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

SWP State Water Project

SWSD Semitropic Water Storage District

TWUE Total Water Use Efficiency

Westside Districts Belridge Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water

(or WS5) District, Dudley Ridge Water District, Lost Hills Water

District, and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District

Section I: Introduction

A. Previous Water Management Activities

This Agricultural Water Management Plan ("AWMP" or "Plan") represents the five-year update to the 2015 Update to the 2012 Plan prepared by Dudley Ridge Water District ("District") to comply with the requirements of the SB X7-7 (the Water Conservation Act of 2009). The District has, however, been involved in other water management efforts, as itemized below.

Six previous water management plans have been prepared for or by the District.

In 1983, the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") prepared a report for the District titled "Final Draft-Recommended Water Management Plan for Dudley Ridge Water District, A Service Area of the State Water Project". The 1983 report was one of several prepared to assist State and local agencies in the efficient use of existing water supplies. The 1983 report recommended the following:

- 1. Continue grower practices to reduce evapotranspiration, including the installation of low-volume irrigation for young trees and vines.
- 2. Continue landowner-initiated programs to improve irrigation management, including a) construction of additional tailwater return systems, b) support of a soil laboratory to determine improved water application methods, c) support of an experimental station to conduct field tests on irrigation systems and methods, and d) support of an irrigation scheduling program.
- 3. Encourage continuation of irrigation scheduling programs already practiced in the District and expand this practice to the remainder of the District.
- 4. Evaluate seepage losses from unlined on-farm distribution systems to determine the const-effectiveness of corrective measures.

In 1987, the District updated and expanded the previous plan as an effort to improve water management practices and provide a basis for developing water conservation projects, recognizing the decreasing ability for the State Water Project ("SWP" or "Project") to meet project demands. The 1987 plan was titled "Water Management Plan for Dudley Ridge Water District". The 1987 report recommended the following:

- 1. Landowner installation of low-volume irrigation systems on new permanent crop plantings.
- 2. Continue on-farm weed control measures.
- 3. Distribute information to water users regarding irrigation scheduling and system evaluations.
- 4. Continue existing on-farm irrigation scheduling programs and expand awareness of programs to others.
- 5. Inform water users of educational and training seminars related to irrigation management.
- 6. Encourage on-farm metering of irrigation deliveries and tailwater return flows.

- 7. Continue grower practice of performing irrigation evaluations and applying the information to similar field conditions.
- 8. Review programs and results from other agricultural water suppliers and assess their applicability for the District.
- 9. Continue on-farm programs to improve irrigation management, including participation in seminars, installation of on-farm flowmeters, participation in University of California's Cooperative Extension research projects and installation of automatic controls and more efficient irrigation systems.
- 10. Implement water conservation projects that are cost-effective and financially feasible.

In 1992, the District prepared and adopted the "Dudley Ridge Water District 1992 Water Management Plan" in fulfillment of the requirements of AB 1658 (the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act of 1986). The 1992 report recommended the following:

- 1. Develop a firm District water supply sufficient to meet the needs of permanent and other high value crops in all years through long-term water transfers, exchanges, and/or groundwater banking programs with other agencies.
- 2. Alleviate water charges to landowners in years when they do not receive a water supply.
- 3. Minimize short-term financial hardships to landowners due to SWP delivery deficiencies that may be imposed prior to developing goals 1 and 2.
- 4. Implement identified water management opportunities that are cost-effective and financially feasible for water users and landowners.

In 2005, the District prepared and submitted the "2005 Agricultural Water Management Plan" in compliance with AB 3616 (the Agricultural Water Suppliers Efficient Water Management Practices Act of 1990), in accordance with the January 1, 1999 Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Efficient Water Management Practices by Agricultural Water Suppliers in California. The 2005 report concluded that the District had fully implemented all of the critical Efficient Water Management Practices ("EWMP") and the applicable conditional EWMPs.

In 2012, the District prepared and submitted the "2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan" in compliance with SB X7-7. The 2012 report concluded that the District had fully implemented all of the critical and the applicable conditional EWMPs.

In 2015, the District prepared and submitted the "2015 Update to the 2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan" in compliance with SB X7-7. The 2015 report concluded that the District had fully implemented all of the critical and the applicable conditional EWMPs.

The purposes for preparing the 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan for the District are to:

1. Incorporate the requirements from the 2018 Water Conservation Legislation (AB

- 1668 and SB 606).
- 2. Continue to evaluate the District's water management practices.
- 3. Identify areas to improve the efficiency of water use within the District.
- 4. Consider past and future water management strategies to increase the reliability of water deliveries to the District.
- 5. Document the District's water management plan to its water users and other interested parties, including, but not limited to, providing a document for which to conduct a California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") review to expedite processing of future water transfers, exchanges, and banking operations.

B. Coordination Activities

1. Notification of AWMP Preparation

Table 1 provides a summary of specific interested parties that are to be notified and/or requested to provide some level of involvement in the 2020 AWMP during the public review process. As the review process progresses, dates will be inserted under the appropriate columns.

Table 1. Summary of Coordination, Adoption, and Submittal Activities

Potential Interested Parties	Notified of AWMP Preparation	Notified of Public Meetings	Copy of Adopted AWMP Sent
Local Newspaper The Corcoran Journal	2/10/21	2/10/21	
Local Government Agencies Kings County	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Kings County Water Commission	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Kings County LAFCO	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Other Special Districts Tulare Lake Basin WSD	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Kern County WA	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Kettleman City CSD	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Green Valley WD	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
State Government Agencies Department of Water Resources			3/18/21
California State Library			3/18/21
Other District Landowners/Water Users	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21
Website	2/10/21	2/10/21	3/18/21

2. Public Participation

Prior to adopting the Plan, the District made the proposed Plan available for public inspection and held a public hearing on the Plan. Prior to the hearing, notice of the time and place of hearing was published in a local newspaper and posted within the District and at the District office. Exhibit 1 includes copies of the public notifications on the

hearing time and place, copies of the notice of availability of the Plan for public review, and public comments that were received and considered prior to adoption.

C. Plan Adoption and Submittal

1. Plan Adoption

At the hearing held on March 10, 2021, the Board of Directors ("Board") adopted the Plan on a unanimous vote. A copy of the Resolution of Plan Adoption is included in Exhibit 2.

2. Plan Submittal

After adoption, the Plan was submitted to the interested parties as shown in Table 1.

3. Plan Availability

After adoption, an electronic copy of the Plan was sent to DWR to be made available for public review on DWR's internet website.

D. Plan Implementation Schedule

Following adoption, the District intends to subject the Plan to CEQA review to expedite processing of future water transfers, exchanges, and banking operations that are addressed in the Plan. The District intends to update the Plan again in 2025 and subsequently on a five-year schedule.

Section II: Agricultural Water Supply and Service Area

A. Physical Characteristics

1. History and Size of the Service Area

The District is a California Water District, formed subsequent to a vote of the landowners on September 26, 1962 and organized on January 26, 1963 under California Water District Law, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. of the California Water Code. A five-member Board of Directors ("Board") governs the District. Board members must be landowners in the District or a designated representative of a landowner.

Since 1991, as a result of a zero SWP allocation to the District that year, the District has operated without any employees. Prior to that time, the District employed one ditchtender to oversee field operations. Currently, these field duties and other duties to manage and operate the District are performed in part by contracted services (part-time ditchtender and a management consultant) and in part by various farm operators themselves or by private contractors retained by the District (primarily weed control and facility maintenance).

The District's primary water source is imported surface water supplies from the SWP; the District does not use local groundwater due to its low yields and poor quality. In addition to the SWP supplies, water has been made available through programs for water regulation and storage in off-site groundwater basins and from purchases, transfers, and balanced and unbalanced exchanges from other water agencies. The District's surface water supply is comprised of (1) SWP Table A contract amount of 41,350 acre-feet ("AF"), (2) other SWP water including Article 21, Turnback Pool, and occasional annual or multi-year transfers or exchanges with other SWP contractors, and (3) as available, Dry Year Transfer Program water (defined later in this document) and non-Project water obtained outside the District and delivered to the District or to its banking/exchange programs. In drier years, the District's supply is heavily supplemented by banked water recovered from groundwater storage programs in which the District is participating; in average to wet years, the supply is mostly or exclusively from surface water sources.

The land use within the District is agricultural; the District's boundaries do not encompass any incorporated or unincorporated communities. Through a number of annexations over the years, the District has expanded in size from the original 29,330 acres to its current size of 37,628 acres, of which 20,976 acres have a water allocation and approximately 16,000 acres are currently farmed.

2. Location of the Service Area and Water Management Facilities

The District is located in southern Kings County on the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley. The District lies south of Kettleman City and is bounded on the northeast by the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, on the south by the Kings-Kern County Line, and generally on the west by the Governor Edmund G. Brown California Aqueduct ("Aqueduct"). Interstate 5 traverses the District in a northwest-southeast direction. Refer

to **Exhibit 3** for a location map and Exhibit 4 for a water distribution system map of the District.

The District delivers water from the Aqueduct through five delivery structures ("turnouts"). From each turnout, water is delivered to landowners through District owned concrete-lined canals and/or underground pipelines to metered farm turnouts.

The District owns approximately 12 miles of concrete-lined distribution canals and 10 miles of pipelines. In addition to the distribution canals and pipelines, the District owns a terminal reservoir to capture operational spills, whereby the final field deliveries can be made directly from the reservoir. While this reservoir was historically utilized, privately owned storage reservoirs have since been constructed that supplant its operation. Refer to Table 2 for the itemized water distribution system inventory.

Table 2. Water Conveyance and Delivery System

Supply Points	Year Constructed /Deeded	Headworks Design Capacity (cfs)		Туре	
Turnout No. DR1	1967	67		Venturi meter	
Turnout No. DR1-A	1984	36		Venturi meter	
Turnout No. DR1-B	1997	25		Venturi meter	
Turnout No. DR2	1967	193		Parshall flume	
Turnout No. DR3	1967	170		Parshall flume	
			1	1	
Supply Canals	Year Constructed /Deeded	Pipe Diameter (In)	Average Bottom Width (ft)	Туре	Length (mi)
Lateral 1-A	1985	24		Concrete pipe	1.0
Lateral 1-B	1984	24		Concrete pipe	0.9
Canal 2-E	1989		2	Concrete lined	4.5
Canal 2-E1	1992		2	Concrete lined	2.0
Canal 2-S	1967		6	Concrete lined	1.2
Lateral 2-D	1967	42, 48		Concrete pipe	1.0
Canal 3-S	1967		6	Concrete lined	1.2
Canal 3-S Extension	1990		8	Concrete lined	3.2
Lateral 3-E1	1990	12-27		PVC pipe	4.0
Lateral 3-E2	1989	12-27		PVC pipe	3.1
Reservoirs	Year Constructed /Deeded	Acreage	Туре		
Reservoir 2-E	1991	10.33	Earth lined		
Reservoir 2-E1	1992	6.06	Earth lined		
Emergency Spill Easements	Year Constructed /Deeded	Acreage	Туре		
Canal 2-S	1974	6.06	Earth lined		
Canal 2-E	1989	8.31	Earth lined		
Canal 3-S	1989	86.27	Earth lined		

The District does not own or operate any subsurface drainage facilities. Shallow groundwater conditions experienced prior to the late 1980's have long since been alleviated by extensive landowner conversions to low-volume irrigation systems. The only surface water drainage facilities controlled by the District are pipelines installed to carry local runoff under District canals. Similar drainage pipelines and structures are owned and operated by the State of California to protect the Aqueduct and Interstate 5 from flooding.

Landowners are required by the District to maintain applied water on their lands—privately operated tailwater/spill recovery systems are in place to accomplish this element of water management.

Operational Constraints

Daily operations of the SWP can result in constraints to the efficient operation of the District's delivery system.

 Aqueduct water level variability: Automated Aqueduct turnouts DR1, DR2 and DR3 have the ability to open or close as water levels in the Aqueduct fluctuate, to maintain consistent downstream deliveries. Turnouts DR1-A and DR1-B are siphons that operate on the difference in elevation (head) between the Aqueduct and the turnout discharge; downstream deliveries are highly dependent on Aqueduct levels.

As an example, Aqueduct levels at DR1-A can fluctuate between elevations 312.2 feet and 310.5 feet above mean sea level. At the higher level, the maximum flow rate through the turnout is 32 cubic feet per second (cfs); at the lower level the maximum flow rate drops to 17 cfs. To the extent possible, DWR operations personnel respond to District requests to meet water demands by raising Aqueduct levels to minimize delivery constraints due to water level variability.

Moss/weed buildup: From late spring through fall the Aqueduct, which functions
more like a series of connected reservoirs than a flowing canal, tends to
experience a buildup of moss, algae, and aquatic weed growth. These weeds
can lead to blockages at the intakes of the turnouts and reductions in delivery
capacity throughout the distribution system.

To combat this problem, the District installed traveling water screens at turnouts DR2 and along Canal 3-S from turnout DR3. These screens mechanically remove moss and weeds prior to the intakes to the turnouts. The District's other turnouts utilize stationary grates (DR1) and downstream intake pipe orientations (DR1-A and DR1-B) to minimize weed uptake, but this has proven inadequate due to the amount of seasonal moss and weeds in the Aqueduct.

Additionally, the District must also use herbicide applications to supplement its

weed control strategies. Beginning as early as May and continuing through October, the District contracts with local chemical companies for regular applications of herbicides to control weed growth. In practice, the District must spend tens of thousands of dollars annually on weed control and water users regularly must manually or mechanically remove debris to prevent damage and capacity constraints to their irrigation systems.

Aqueduct capacity/peaking constraints: When Aqueduct capacity becomes oversubscribed by other SWP contractors, agricultural contractors can be limited by contract (under Article 12b of the Water Supply Contract) to delivering a maximum of 18% of their annual Table A contract amount in any given month—this equates to a maximum delivery to the District of 7,443 AF (~125 cfs) in any given month, and it is anticipated that this constraint could cause delivery shortfalls in the future. In 2003 the District was awarded a Proposition 204 (the Safe, Clean, Reliable, Water Supply Act) grant to evaluate the development of off-stream surface reservoirs to, among other purposes, store water to be made available for delivery during the peak months—none of the sites evaluated proved to be cost-effective.

3. Terrain and Soils

A small portion of the District is located on the shore of the historic Tulare Lake, however, most of the District is on smooth, gently sloping alluvial fans extending eastward from the Kettleman Hills. Elevations range from about 190 to 350 feet above sea level. The slope varies from 15 feet per mile in the southeast part of the District to slightly more than 60 feet per mile in the northwest. Over shorter distances, near the apex of some more recent alluvial fans, there are slopes of about 4 percent and the break from the fans to the lakebed is very steep. However, most of the District has slopes of less than 25 feet per mile.

There are no major streams in the District. Minor streams (drainage arroyos) in the Kettleman Hills to the west will on rare storm occasions produce sufficient runoff to reach the District. Damage to land and crop losses due to flooding have occurred during these rare runoff events.

The predominant soil type for the northern portion of the District (the lower half of township 22 to the upper quarter of township 23) is Wasco-Westhaven-Westcamp. The predominant soil type in the mid portion of the District (the rest of township 23 to the upper quarter of township 24) is Wasco-Panoche-Westhaven. The remainder of the District is both Lethent-Garces-Panoche with Milham bordering the west and Kimberlina-Twisselman the south. The soils are rated by grades from 1 to 6 with 1 being a soil with no limiting factors (i.e. drainage problems, high salinity, etc.) and 6 having the highest limitations for farming.

Table 3 lists the names and generalized descriptions for soils found in the District. As shown in the table, over 70% of the District is comprised of soils that are Grade 2 or

better; the remainder of the soils are generally poorer drained or more severely sloped, and are generally not farmed.

Table 3. Landscape Characteristics

Map Symbol/Soil Name ¹	% of District	Percolation Rate (inch/hour)	Grade	Soil Description
102 Avenal loam, 0-5% slopes	< 1	0.2-2.0	1	Very deep, well drained
105 Cantua coarse sandy loam, 5-15% slopes	< 1	2.0-6.0	2	Deep, somewhat excessively drained
109 Delgado sandy loam, 5-15% slopes	< 1	2.0-6.0	4	Shallow, somewhat excessively drained
112 Excelsior sandy loam	< 1	0.06-2.0	3	Very deep, well drained
113 Garces loam	11	<0.06-0.6	4	Very deep, well drained
124 Homeland fine sandy loam, partially drained	< 1	0.6-6.0	5	Very deep, poorly drained
125 Houser fine sandy loam, drained 126 Houser clay, partially drained	1 < 1	<0.06-6.0 <0.06	4 5	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained
127 Kettleman loam, 5-15% slopes	< 1	0.6-2.0	2	Moderately deep, well drained
131 Kimberlina fine sandy loam, sandy substratum	3	2.0-6.0	1	Very deep, well drained
139 Lethent clay loam	3	<0.06-0.2	3	Very deep, moderately well drained
144 Milham sandy loam, silty substratum	12	0.06-6.0	2	Very deep, well drained
150 Panoche loam 151 Panoche clay loam, saline-alkali	20 9	0.6-2.0 0.2-0.6	1 2	Very deep, well drained
154 Pits and Dumps	< 1		6	
155 Rambla loamy sand, drained	7	<0.06-6.0	3	Very deep
162 Sandridge loamy fine sand	2	0.6-2.0	2	Very deep, somewhat excessively drained
165 Twisselman silty clay 166 Twisselman silty clay, saline-alkali	2 < 1	0.06-0.2 <0.06	3 4	Very deep, well drained
174 Wasco sandy loam, 0-5% slopes	11	2.0-6.0	1	Very deep, well drained
175 Westcamp loam, partially drained	3	<0.06-2.0	3	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained
176 Westhaven loam, 0-2% slopes 177 Westhaven loam, 2-5% slopes 178 Westhaven clay loam, saline-alkali, 0-2% slopes	5 3 3	0.2-6.0 0.2-6.0 0.06-0.2	1 1 2	Very deep, well drained

Exhibit 5 provides a soils map of the District.

The topography and location of the District favors early fruit production and generally long growing seasons. These factors have little effect on the operations and management of the District.

4. Climate

The District's regional climate is semi-arid with hot, dry summers and mild winters. Average daily temperatures vary from 45 degrees in January to 84 degrees in July, with typical diurnal ranges of 32 degrees in the summer to 20 degrees in the winter. Annual precipitation from 1955 through 2015 averaged 6.64 inches, with over 90 percent of the total rainfall received between October and April. Refer to Table 4 for District climatology for selected periods.

Table 4. Detailed Climate Characteristics

Month	Average Precipitation, Inches ¹	Average Reference Evapotranspiration (ETo), Inches ²	Average Minimum Temperature, °F¹	Average Maximum Temperature, °F¹
January	1.38	1.39	35.2	55.2
February	1.18	2.25	39.7	62.1
March	0.82	4.21	42.9	68.1
April	0.69	6.09	47.2	74.3
May	0.31	7.97	54.5	84.4
June	0.06	8.64	61.7	93.0
July	0.01	9.22	68.0	100.1
August	0.03	8.31	66.5	98.6
September	0.09	6.31	60.7	92.1
October	0.27	4.39	52.0	80.6
November	0.72	2.24	41.8	67.1
December	1.08	1.30	35.7	56.1
Annual	6.64 Total 2.63 (1972)– 13.16 (2010)	62.32 Total 5.19 Average	50.5 Average	77.6 Average
Wet Season (Oct-Apr)	6.14 Total	21.87 Total	42.1 Average	62.3 Average
Dry Season (May-Sep)	0.50 Total	40.45 Total	62.3 Average	93.6 Average

¹ National Weather Service-Western Regional Climate Center 1955-2016: http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/

B. Operational Characteristics

1. Operating Rules and Regulations

The District's water delivery system is classified as a fixed duration-restricted, arranged demand system with deliveries arranged in advance and a normal duration in 24-hour time intervals. By contract with DWR and under the District's Rules and Regulations, daily water requests for a continuous and constant rate are to be made at least 24 hours in advance, with adjustments made at 9:00 a.m. each day. In practice, the District and DWR attempt to accommodate adjusting water deliveries on a day-to-day basis and

² CIMIS Station 21 report 1982-2017 average.

since 2003 DWR has allowed mid-day delivery reductions to minimize electrical use during peak periods.

Water is allocated evenly to each acre within District's Water Service Area, which includes those lands within the original District boundaries that have requested water service. Lands within the original District boundaries that have not requested water service and lands that have been annexed into the District are not allocated a water supply but can use water allocated to other lands.

Refer to Exhibit 6 for a copy of the District's Operating Rules and Regulations, adopted on December 12, 2018.

2. Water Delivery Measurements or Calculations

The District has five metered turnouts off the Aqueduct that serve a total of five agricultural water users. Four turnouts serve individual water users exclusively; the remaining turnout (DR2) is shared among three water users. Refer to Table 5 for a summary of the District's water measurement devices.

Table 5. Water Delivery Measurements

Measurement Device	Frequency of Measurement (Days)	Frequency of Calibration (Months)	Frequency of Maintenance (Months)	Estimated Level of Accuracy
Propeller Meters	Daily	As needed	As needed	± 5%
Flumes	Daily	As needed (by DWR)	As needed (by DWR)	3%-5%
Venturi Meters	Daily	As needed (by DWR)	As needed (by DWR)	± 2%

3. Water Rate Schedules and Billing

District costs are allocated to landowners and water users via three types of charges:

<u>Benefit Assessments</u> – Levied on a per relative land valuation basis with valuations varying based on whether the property has a water allocation or not; these charges include all SWP fixed costs and minimum District administrative costs. These charges are levied in February and are due in equal installments on July 1 and November 1 of each year.

<u>Standby Charges</u> – Levied on a per acre basis to all lands that have ever received a water allocation; these charges include most District administrative costs and system maintenance costs. Charges vary within seven primary standby charge service areas, based on the maintenance requirements for the distribution system in each service area. These charges are levied in February and are due in equal installments on March 1 and July 1 of each year.

<u>Water Toll Charges</u> – Levied at a uniform block rate on a per acre-foot basis of water delivered to each farming operation; these charges include variable and off-aqueduct

SWP costs and District costs associated with water deliveries. These charges are levied in February (due on March 1) based on scheduled deliveries from January through June, and in June (due on July 1) based on actual and scheduled deliveries from January through December.

It is the Board's policy to make year-end adjustments to reflect actual costs incurred for the year. Standby charges and water toll charges may also be adjusted during the course of the year, if necessary. This policy ensures that each year, each water user and landowner is charged their appropriate share of that year's water cost.

4. Water Shortage Allocation Policy and Drought Plan

As discussed later in this report, the District relies on its diverse water supply portfolio as its primary mechanism for enduring periods of drought. Unlike farmers in other areas who can fallow lands during periods of drought, farmers in the District have permanent plantings (trees and vines) that require a minimum water supply to keep alive. In water short years these farmers use deficit irrigation (the application of water below full cropwater requirements) to reduce irrigation water use. This can result in reduced cropyields and, if taken to the extreme, no cropyield and long-term damage.

Determining Drought Severity

The District's primary water source is imported surface water supplies from the SWP. In the fall of each year, DWR operations staff review current Project storage and projected deliveries through the end of the year and develop allocation projections for the following year based on a range of forecasted hydrology. DWR declares the initial allocation forecast for the following year at the beginning of December; this allocation is adjusted up or down as hydrology dictates.

District management maintains a close relationship with DWR operations staff and uses these allocation projections to determine water supply availability and level of drought severity. These projections are conveyed to District landowners for use in planning their farming operations and projecting supplemental water needs.

Water Shortage Allocation

Rule 5 of the District's Operating Rules and Regulations (Exhibit 6) addresses the allocation of District water supplies:

Each acre of land in the District's Water Service Area (excepting those subordinately annexed lands which, by virtue of a contract with the District, have received an annual entitlement for SWP Table A water as a result of an approved transfer) shall be allocated the same quantity of Table A Contract Water such that the total is equal to Table A Contract Water which is available to the District. Any other water available to the District, including water not needed by water users, shall be offered to the other water users as it becomes available; if requests for such other water exceed the supply for water available, the water shall be allocated in

proportion to the Water Service Area acreage attributed to each requesting water user, up to the water user's request.

Alternative Water Supplies

As discussed later in this report, the District relies on banking, transfers, and exchanges to supplement its annual water supply. At all but the higher SWP water allocations, the District is proactive in seeking and securing supplemental water supplies. Since 2009, the District has collaborated in securing additional water with four other agricultural water districts that also rely heavily on the SWP for their water supplies. The other districts are member units of the Kern County Water Agency and consist of Belridge Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge–Maricopa Water Storage District. Due to their common location on the Westside of the southern San Joaquin Valley, the five districts are informally referred to at the Westside Districts or Westside 5 ("WS5").

Coordination and Collaboration

As discussed later in this report, in addition to the WS5, the District coordinates with neighboring local districts where there are common landholders to utilize limited supplies in the most beneficial manner.

Revenues and Expenditures

The majority of the District's expenses are DWR charges that are due regardless of the amount of water delivered. As the SWP allocation gets reduced, the actual cost of the water to the water users increases proportionately. For example, the District spent \$6.1 million for its 2020 SWP water supply. At 100% allocation, this would equate to approximately \$148/AF, but at the 2020 allocation of 20%, the unit charge raised to \$739/AF.

In addition, at lower SWP allocations, the market for supplemental water becomes more active, which results in higher unit costs to the water users.

Section III: Quantity of Water Uses

A. Agriculture Water Use

All water use within the District is for agricultural purposes. The District water supplies come from surface supplies. The District does not own any wells and does not provide any groundwater to its water users.

Table 6. Surface Water Supplies (AF)

Source	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Prior Year Carryover	1,656	9,838	7,415	7,092	9,202
Carryover Spill	0	0	0	-317	0
Table A	17,372	27,981	13,621	24,811	3,527
Article 21	0	15,722	0	3,484	0
Turnback Pool	0	400	0	0	0
Multi-Year Water Pool	461	0	0	0	0
Yuba Accord	0	0	333	0	1,011
Dry Year Transfer Program	0	0	800	0	1,272
Transfer from Tulare Lake Basin WSD	2,295	7,500	0	0	899
Transfer from San Gabriel Valley MWD	1,192	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Butte County	1,276	1,943	800	1,859	265
Transfer from Browns Valley ID	0	0	1,593	0	2,170
Transfer from Metropolitan WD of Southern CA	0	143	295	440	96
Transfer from Kern Water Bank Authority	140	14460	7,885	0	8,450
Transfer from City of Fresno	0	371	0	0	0
Transfer from Solano County WA	0	0	1,000	0	0
Transfer from Empire-Westside ID	0	0	438	0	305
Transfer from Kern County WA	0	0	0	2,000	0
Landowner Imported Water	41,747	40,769	53,176	47,098	60,569
Total Surface Water Supplies	66,139	119,127	87,356	86,467	87,766
Transfer to Kern County WA	-9,505	-9,025	-28,300	-4,000	-18,900
Transfer to Kern Water Bank Authority	0	-39,965	-621	-21,020	0
Transfer to Metropolitan WD of Southern CA	-1,049	-5,062	0	-1,311	-350
Transfer to San Gabriel Valley MWD	0	-1,487	0	-3,345	0
Total Transfers Out	-10,554	-55,539	-28,921	-29,676	-19250
Total Surface Water Supplies Used in-District	55,585	63,588	58,435	56,791	68,516

B. Environmental Water Use

The terminal spill reservoir on Canal 2-E, constructed in 1990 to mitigate for the Canal 3-S lining project, historically was used as for regulation and tailwater return. Subsequent landowners' improvements have eliminated its use. No environmental resources are currently supported directly by the District's water supplies.

C. Recreational Water Use

No recreational resources are supported by the District's water supplies.

D. Municipal and Industrial Use

Although there are individually owned and operated domestic systems that provide small quantities of water for farm operations, shop buildings, and farm housing, these are minor and incidental to the operation of the District. No municipal and industrial resources are supported by the District's water supplies.

E. Groundwater Recharge Use

No groundwater recharge resources located within the District are supported by the District's water supplies. However, as presented in Section IV, the District participates in groundwater banking or exchange programs with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Cawelo Water District, Semitropic Water Storage District, Kern County Water Agency, and the Kern Water Bank Authority.

Section IV: Quantity and Quality of Water Resources

A. Water Supply Quantity

1. Surface Water Supply

The District's primary water source is surface water supplies from the SWP; the District does not pump local groundwater due to its low yields and poor quality. In addition to the SWP supplies, water has been made available through programs from water stored in off-site groundwater basins and from purchases, transfers, and exchanges with other water agencies. The surface water supply is comprised of SWP Table A contract amount (currently 41,350 AF), other SWP water (including Article 21, Multi-Year Water Pool [no longer available], and Turnback Pool water [not available beginning 2021]), and non-Project water obtained outside the District (including, as available, imported landowner water, Dry Year Transfer Program water, Yuba Accord water, and multi-year transfers with Butte County, Browns Valley Irrigation District, and Western Hills Water District) which are delivered to the District or to its banking/exchange programs. In drier years, the supply is heavily supplemented by water recovered from groundwater storage programs in which the District participates; in average to wet years, the supply is mostly or exclusively from SWP surface water sources. These water supplies are described below; Tables 9-13 summarize water deliveries for the years 2016-2020.

• <u>SWP Table A Contract Amount</u>: This is the maximum amount of SWP water that the District can request each year in accordance with the District's long-term water supply contract. In 2009, the District (on behalf of a landowner in the District) permanently transferred 14,000 AF of its SWP Table A contract amount to Mojave Water Agency. The transfer was in phased amounts, with 7,000 AF transferred in 2010, 3,000 AF transferred in 2015, and the remaining 4,000 AF transferred in 2020. In 2013, the District (on behalf of another landowner in the District) permanently transferred 1,993 AF of its SWP Table A contract amount to Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency. The District's current SWP Table A contract amount is 41,350 AF.

- <u>SWP Article 21</u>: This water is made available for delivery on a short-term basis as determined by DWR when SWP water remains available on a real-time basis after operational requirements for Project water deliveries, water quality, and other regulatory requirements have been met. The last time SWP Article 21 water was made available was in 2019.
- SWP Turnback Pool Program: This program allows SWP contactors to offer a portion of their allocated Table A water for sale to other SWP contractors. This water is combined into a pool and allocated to purchasers based on their proportionate Table A contract amounts. The amount of water made available through the Turnback Pool has continued to decline, no Turnback Pool water has been available since 2017. With execution of the SWP Water Management Amendment in early 2021, the Turnback Pool has been terminated.
- Multi-Year Water Pool Demonstration Program: This demonstration program was initiated by DWR for the two-year period 2013-14 and was re-instated for 2015-16. The program allows SWP contactors to offer a portion of their allocated Table A water for sale to other SWP contractors, with higher returns available to the sellers than what is available through the Turnback Pool. The amount of water made available through the Multi-Year Water Pool has also continued to decline from its high in 2013, primarily due to reduced SWP carryover water available and the low SWP water allocations in recent years.
- <u>Dry Year Transfer Program</u>: This program, borne from the 1991 Drought Water Bank program, was more formally initiated by DWR in 2001 and allows for the purchase of non-Project water north of the Delta (made available through land fallowing, groundwater substitution, and reservoir releases) for delivery to SWP contractors. The program has been used extensively in years when additional transfer capacity exists in the Aqueduct, based on the annual need for additional water by SWP and potentially other water agencies.
- Yuba Accord: This DWR program allows for the purchase of non-Project water north of the Delta (made available through land fallowing, groundwater substitution, and reservoir releases) for delivery to SWP and other water contractors.
- Imported Landowner Water: Some landowners have surface and groundwater supplies available from other local sources that are conveyed to the District instead of being used on other agricultural lands they own. When imported to the District, this allows these landowners more flexibility in meeting demands and reducing the amount of recovery required from banking/exchange programs.

As has occurred in the past, the District intends to continue to engage in these water transfers and exchanges with other SWP contractors and other water agencies throughout the State. Potential single- or multi-year arrangements with SWP contractors could include water agencies (or their member units) from Plumas County in the north to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in the south. Potential non-Project (non-SWP) partners include, but are not limited to, water agencies within the Central Valley Project ("CVP") service area (Friant Water Users Authority, San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority, and Sacramento Valley contractors), San Joaquin Tributaries

Authority, water right holders of tributaries in the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento Valley, and non-CVP districts within the Northern California Water Association.

When delivery capacity in the Aqueduct is limited, the water supply contract with DWR can contractually limit the District to a maximum monthly delivery of 18% of the District's Table A amount, or 7,443 AF (~125 cfs). Historically, the District has consistently exceeded the 18% limit during the month of July, with deliveries about 20% of the annual Table A amount; this pattern of demand is typical for agricultural areas on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. To date, DWR has not had to enforce the 18% limitation on the District.

Over the next five years, it is anticipated that statewide demand for SWP and supplemental water supplies (including Article 21, Dry Year Transfer, and Yuba Accord water) will increase slightly, resulting in smaller delivery allocations and less water being made available for District use, particularly the availability of Article 21 water.

Although the District's only long-term contractual water supply is for SWP water, approximately 5,000 acres in the northeast portion of the District are located within the permitted Place of Use for CVP water, specifically the Consolidated Place of Use (Westside CVP water) and the Friant Place of Use (irrigation only boundary and the irrigation and M&I boundary).

2. Groundwater Supply

Although the District lies within the boundaries of what is defined as the Tulare Lake groundwater basin, it is categorized by DWR in Bulletin 118 as having "groundwater unavailable and/or unusable". All agricultural wells in the area have been abandoned due to poor yield and poor water quality. Only one small well is known to be in use within the District, which is used for non-potable uses.

As noted in the following section, the District has developed or participated in groundwater banking projects located elsewhere in the State to increase the dry year reliability of its water supply.

However, the District is located within the Tulare Lake Subbasin (Subbasin 5-22.12) of the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Basin per DWR Bulletin 118. Although lands in the District have little impact on groundwater of the Subbasin, the District has entered into a joint powers agreement with other water purveyors in the Subbasin to form the Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("SWKGSA") to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"). In cooperation with the four other Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Subbasin, the Tulare Lake Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan was developed, adopted, and then submitted to DWR in January 2020.

3. Other Water Supplies

Allocation studies by DWR have estimated the delivery capability of the SWP supply at 59% (Draft State Water Project Delivery Capability Report 2019). As a result of declining SWP delivery capability¹, the District has aggressively pursued opportunities to supplement and increase the reliability of the SWP surface supply. The following programs represent the current agreements the District has entered into to increase dry/average year supplies for its water users.

San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Under a 1995 agreement with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District ("SGVMWD"), which was subsequently amended and restated in 2002, 2005, 2017, and again in 2020, landowners within the District are able to store water with SGVMWD, either by direct delivery or by exchange, for return by exchange to the District in later years. Program details include:

- 20,000 AF storage account capacity, 90% recovery of delivered water.
- Program terminates at end of 2035 (and any extensions of the districts' SWP contracts); District can recover up to ten years after program termination.
- Water physically delivered to SGVMWD (direct delivery).
 - Delivery limited based on SGVMWD pipeline capacity, groundwater levels, and local weather conditions.
 - Return available only after SGVMWD gets the first 5,000 AF of their SWP supply (~17% Table A allocation).
- Water delivered to SGVMWD by exchange (reclassification).
 - Delivery by reclassification is limited to years when the SWP Table A allocation is 50% or greater.

The 2020 Water Banking Agreement, also provides a banking component for SGVMWD, allowing SGVMWD to store water in the District's KWB capacity for interim storage during times when SGVMWD's conveyance capacity in the East Branch of the Aqueduct is limiting deliveries to SGVMWD.

Cawelo Water District

Under a 2001 agreement with the Cawelo Water District ("CWD"), which was subsequently amended and restated in 2002, landowners within the District receive the benefit of "regulation program" water and are also able to store water through "in-lieu banking" for extraction in later years. Program details include:

- 50,000 AF storage capacity, 94% recovery of in-lieu banked water.
- Program intended to continue along with SWP contracts; earliest termination at the end of 2035; District can recover water for up to 5 years after program termination.
- Regulation program

o District account builds up at 600 AF per year beginning in 2003; plus

¹ SWP delivery capability has steadily declined from 72% when the first DWR report on the reliability (delivery capability) of the SWP was published (State Water Project Delivery Reliability Report 2002, finalized in 2003) to the current 59% level.

- 2.000 AF in both 2003 and 2008.
- District recovery of up to 2,000 AF per year of CWD SWP water on account.
- In-lieu banking program
 - At discretion of CWD—recharge via District providing and delivering water to CWD when CWD wells can be turned off.
 - o Recovery up to 2,000 AF per year of CWD's allocation of SWP water.

Semitropic Water Storage District

Under a 2008 agreement with the Semitropic Water Storage District ("SWSD"), landowners within the District are able to store water with SWSD, either by direct delivery or by exchange, for return by exchange to the District in later years. Program details include:

- Lowest priority for storage and recovery.
- 10% recharge/conveyance loss.

Kern Water Bank

Under a 1995 agreement with DWR, the District chose to permanently relinquish 4,330 AF of its Table A contract amount in exchange for a 9.62% share of the Kern Water Bank ("KWB"), a groundwater banking facility located in western Kern County, owned and operated by the Kern Water Bank Authority ("KWBA"). The District is one of six entities participating in the KWB. During the formation of the KWBA, the District landowners were provided an opportunity to participate in the KWB program; landowners representing 45% of the land within the District's Water Service Area chose to participate. Program details include:

- 144,300 AF storage capacity (estimated total KWB storage of 1,500,000 AF), 6% recharge/conveyance loss, additional 4% available for purchase by neighboring Kern County districts.
- Minimum recharge capacity of 3,688 AF per month (estimated KWB recharge capacity of 460,000 AF per year).
- Minimum recovery capacity of 1,924 AF per month (estimated KWB recovery capacity of 240,000 AF per year).

Common Landowner Transfer Agreements

Under a 2009 agreement with the Kern County Water Agency and a 2011 agreement with Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, the District has established long-term water transfer agreements approved by DWR to allow common landowner transfers of SWP water between the District and each of these water agencies.

Common Landowner Exchange Agreements

Under a 2009 agreement with the Kern County Water Agency, the District has established a long-term water exchange agreement approved by DWR to allow common landowner exchanges of SWP water between the districts.

San Joaquin Valley Water Districts

Prior to 2009, the District had made case-by-case transfers or exchanges with other water districts to best manage their water supplies; generally, such transfers/exchanges had been with adjoining neighboring water districts in the San Joaquin Valley (i.e., Lost Hills Water District and Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District), but have also included transfers and/or exchanges with others, including those entities listed in Table 6, plus the Central Coast Water Authority, Kern County Water Agency, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Belridge Water Storage District, Empire West Side Irrigation District, Westlands Water District, and Green Valley Water District. Since 2009, in addition to most of the above-mentioned districts, the District has also engaged in transfers with Merced Irrigation District, North Kern Water Storage District, Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Municipal Utility District, Arvin-Edison Water Storage District, and St. Johns Water District.

Programs with the Westside Districts

As mentioned in Section II.B.4, in 2009 the District entered into an agreement (subsequently amended in 2011) with four member units of the Kern County Water Agency (Belridge Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District) to cooperatively develop and manage supplemental water supplies for their mutual benefit. Under this agreement each district shares supplemental water obtained by their district with the other four districts in proportion to their participation percentage; the District is allocated 14.34% of the supplemental supplies obtained under this agreement. These five districts ("Westside Districts" or "WS5"), have developed numerous water reliability programs, including a long-term water supply program with Western Hills Water District, multi-year water purchase programs with Butte County, Browns Valley Irrigation District, Merced Irrigation District, and Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District as well as annual water purchase or exchange programs with Arvin-Edison Water Storage District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, North Kern Water Storage District, Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, Exeter Irrigation District, Fresno Irrigation District, Gravelly Ford Water District, Lindmore Irrigation District, Lower Tule River Irrigation District, Madera Irrigation District, Porterville Irrigation District, Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District, Solano County Water Agency, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Mojave Water Agency, San Luis Water District, Kern Delta Water District, Central Coast Water Authority, and West Kern Water District.

B. Water Supply Quality

1. Surface Water Supply

Except for the moss/algae issues described previously, there have been no water quality problems that limit the use of the SWP water within the District. Table 7 provides water quality data at DWR Check 21.

Table 7. Average Water Quality Measurements

Parameter	Units	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Alkalinity	mg/L as CaCO3	75	46	69	64	78
Aluminum	mg/L	0.100	0.232	0.076	0.177	2.576
Ammonia	mg/L as N	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.07	
Antimony	mg/L	0.031				0.033
Arsenic	mg/L	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.388
Barium	mg/L	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	4.33
Boron	mg/L	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Bromide	mg/L	0.27	0.09	0.23	0.15	0.21
Calcium	mg/L	20	13	18	16	20
Chloride	mg/L	90	32	77	51	73
Chromium	mg/L	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001
Conductance (EC)	μS/cm	545	254	460	368	471
Copper	mg/L	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.577
Hardness	mg/L as CaCO3	109	60	93	79	99
Iron	mg/L	0.014	0.017	0.017	0.026	1.593
Magnesium	mg/L	14	7	12	10	12
Manganese	mg/L	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.03	1.267
Nickel	mg/L	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.266
Nitrate + Nitrite	mg/L as N	0.41	0.48	0.40	0.49	0.42
Organic Carbon, Dissolved	mg/L as C	4.2	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.5
Organic Carbon, Total	mg/L as C	4.0	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.4
рН		8.2	7.7	8.0	7.9	8.2
Phosphate, Ortho	mg/L as P	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.09	0.09
Phosphorus	mg/L	0.11	0.11	0.09	0.10	0.10
Selenium	mg/L	0.001		0.001	0.002	0.356
Sodium	mg/L	63	25	54	39	52
Sulfate	mg/L	40	20	30	27	32
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	303	146	256	194	262
Turbidity	N.T.U.	6	11	3	10	5
Zinc	mg/L	0.009	0.006			

Source: DWR Water Data Library

http://www.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary/waterquality/station_county/index.cfm

2. Source Water Quality Monitoring Practices

DWR maintains an automated sampling station at Check 21 (just upstream from the District turnouts) that records electrical conductivity, water temperature, and turbidity on a daily basis. In addition, grab samples are taken on monthly intervals. Table 8 summarizes sampled constituents and sampling frequency:

Table 8. SWP Water Quality Parameters

Constituent	Sampling Frequency	Notes
Project Standard	Monthly	1
Total Organic Carbon	Monthly	
Dissolved Organic Carbon	Monthly	
Suspended Solids	Monthly	
Bromide	Monthly	
Pesticides and Herbicides	March, June, September	2
MTBE (Purgeable organics)	March, June, September	
Asbestos	Monthly	
Electrical Conductivity	Daily	3
Temperature	Daily	3
Turbidity	Daily	3

¹ Includes Alkalinity, Al, Sb, As, Ba, Be, B, Cd, Ca, Cl, Cr, Cu, F, Fe, Pb, Mg, Mn, Hg, NO₃, Se, Ag, Na, Dissolved Solids, Specific Conductance, SO₄, Turbidity, Zn.

² Includes chlorinated organic, organo-phosphorus pesticides, herbicides, carbamates, misc. pesticides.

³ Daily readings from an automated station.

Section V: Water Budget

A. Quantifying Water Supplies

Tables 9-13 itemize the District's water supplies for each year. The District routinely transfers and/or exchanges water to and from various entities as part of its normal operations. As the tables below illustrate, water may be transferred out of and into the District from the same source during the same year (or as part of a multi-year or banking program). This flexibility is required to make the best annual and long-term use of the District's limited and variable water supplies.

1. Water Quantities:

Table 9. 2016 Surface and Other Water Supplies (AF)

Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Prior Year Carryover	47	541	189	689	87	103							1656
Table A				6400	503	3469	745	1474	1003	3115	115	548	17372
Multi-Year Water Pool							421	40					461
Allocated Water	47	541	189	7089	590	3572	1166	1514	1003	3115	115	548	19489
				1				ı				1	
Butte County							1267			9			1276
Kern Water Bank Authority				140									140
San Gabriel Valley MWD							1192						1192
Tulare Lake Basin WSD					1830				370	95			2295
Transfers/Exchanges In	0	0	0	140	1830	0	2459	0	370	104	0	0	4903
				ı	T	ı						T	
Kern County WA				-6400					-1000	-1600		-505	-9505
Metropolitan WDSC										-1049			-1049
Transfers/Exchanges Out	0	0	0	-6400	0	0	0	0	-1000	-2649	0	-505	-10554
						1		1					
Imported Landowner Water	0	0	2254	4299	5621	6973	7149	6772	6161	2518	0	0	41747
Total	47	541	2443	5128	8041	10545	10774	8286	6534	3088	115	43	55585

Table 10. 2017 Surface and Other Water Supplies (AF)

Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Prior Year Carryover	759	9079											9838
Table A			1083		1567	3565	3148	3228	3406	7826	4002	156	27981
Article 21		2152	7875	4238	1457								15722
Turnback Pool										400			400
Allocated Water	759	11231	8958	4238	3024	3565	3148	3228	3406	8226	4002	156	53941
Butte County							641	641	661				1943
City of Fresno		371											371
Kern Water Bank Authority	11318	3142											14460
Metropolitan WDSC											97	46	143
Tulare Lake Basin WSD								2000	3500	2000			7500
Transfers/Exchanges In	11318	3513	0	0	0	0	641	2641	4161	2000	97	46	24417
Kern County WA		-4800								-625	-3600		-9025
Kern Water Bank Authority	-11318	-7381	-1789	-2302	-1645	-1791	-1989	-2621	-2637	-3015	-3477		-39965
Metropolitan WDSC			-4536						-526				-5062
San Gabriel Valley MWD		-1452	-35										-1487
Transfers/Exchanges Out	-11318	-13633	-6360	-2302	-1645	-1791	-1989	-2621	-3163	-3640	-7077	0	-55539
Imported Landowner Water	2013	400	806	2083	5315	9915	9862	7067	1766	1542	0	0	40769
Total	2772	1511	3404	4019	6694	11689	11662	10315	6170	8128	-2978	202	63588

Table 11. 2018 Surface and Other Water Supplies (AF)

Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Prior Year Carryover								2415				5000	7415
Table A										621	7000	6000	13621
Yuba Accord								323			4	6	333
Dry Year Transfer Program							536	264					800
Allocated Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	536	3002	0	621	7004	11006	22169
Browns Valley ID					420	186		37	55	895			1593
Butte County	206	264	17	58	247					8			800
Empire Westside ID									438				438
Kern Water Bank Authority	2479	3900	920	586									7885
Metropolitan WDSC										188	107		295
San Gabriel Valley MWD										510	345	145	1000
Transfers/Exchanges In	2685	4164	937	644	667	186	0	37	493	1601	452	145	12011
Kern County WA								-10300			-7000	-11000	-28300
Kern Water Bank Authority										-621			-621
Transfers/Exchanges Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-10300	0	-621	-7000	-11000	-28921
		I	1	1	I	I	1	I	ı	I			I
Imported Landowner Water	2541	2680	5354	2620	4048	7695	9065	6659	4346	3122	1037	4009	53176
Total	5226	6844	6291	3264	4715	7881	9601	-602	4839	4723	1493	4160	58435

Table 12. 2019 Surface and Other Water Supplies (AF)

Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Prior Year Carryover	197	6895											7092
Carryover Spill			-317										-317
Table A							1052	19135	1293	740	2591		24811
Article 21		412	3072										3484
Allocated Water	197	7307	2755	0	0	0	1052	19135	1293	740	2591	0	35070
Butte County				91	298	429	261	227	105	97	10	341	1859
Kern County WA			2000										2000
Metropolitan WDSC									11	283	146		440
Transfers/Exchanges In	0	0	2000	91	298	429	261	227	116	380	156	341	4299
Kern County WA									-669	-740	-2591		-4000
Kern Water Bank Authority		-1520					-652	-18224	-624	740	2331		-21020
Metropolitan WDSC							-400	-911					-1311
San Gabriel Valley MWD	-155	-1417	-1773										-3345
Transfers/Exchanges Out	-155	-2937	-1773	0	0	0	-1052	-19135	-1293	-740	-2591	0	-29676
		r			r								
Imported Landowner Water	2251	2373	4742	2320	3586	6816	8029	5898	3849	2765	918	3551	47098
Total	2293	6743	7724	2411	3884	7245	8290	6125	3965	3145	1074	3892	56791

Table 13. 2020 Surface and Other Water Supplies (AF)

Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Prior Year Carryover	11	5403	27		2093	1120				548			9202
Table A		1066		2000			70		2	341	47	1	3527
Yuba Accord									296	643	72		1011
Dry Year Transfer Program							484		340	376	72		1272
Allocated Water	11	6469	27	2000	2093	1120	554	0	638	1908	191	1	15012
Browns Valley ID								484	1531	13	142		2170
Butte County							260			5			265
Empire Westside ID										305			305
Kern Water Bank Authority				43	8407								8450
Metropolitan WDSC										23	69	4	96
Tulare Lake Basin WSD					353	546							899
Transfers/Exchanges In	0	0	0	43	8760	546	260	484	1531	346	211	4	12185
Kern County WA		-6400		-2000	-10500								-18900
Metropolitan WDSC										-350			-350
Transfers/Exchanges Out	0	-6400	0	-2000	-10500	0	0	0	0	-350	0	0	-19250
Imported Landowner Water	144	1965	2759	3812	7149	10985	11894	11422	6076	3870	202	291	60569
Total	155	2034	2786	3855	7502	12651	12708	11906	8245	5774	604	296	68516

B. Quantification of Water Uses

Crop Water Use

The primary use of the applied water is to meet the evapotranspiration rates of the crops. The overall crop requirement also takes into consideration the leaching requirements and the effective precipitation. Tables 14-18 were developed to estimate crop water use for the District's water budget. The following assumptions were used in the estimates:

- Crop evapotranspiration (ETc) was derived from the Irrigation Training & Research Center's (ITRC) ETc Table for Irrigation District Water Balances, Zone 16 for typical year.
- Leaching requirement was developed from Journal of Irrigation and Drainage Division data to maintain 100% yield potential.
- Effective precipitation was calculated using relationships described in DWR's Effective Precipitation, 1989, MacGillivray and Jones.

Table 14. 2016 Agricultural Crop Data

Crop	Total Acreage	ET crop (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requirement (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitation (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF)
Almonds	4,802	4.03	0.28	(0.24)	4.07	19,553
Grapes	1,132	2.89	0.12	(0.24)	2.76	3,129
Pistachios	7,762	3.77	0.23	(0.24)	3.76	29,154
Pomegranates	1,937	3.85	0.23	(0.24)	3.84	7,435
Stone Fruit	172	3.72	0.32	(0.24)	3.79	652
Total Irrigated	15,805	60,034	3,746	(3,859)		59,921
Non-Farmed	21,823					
Total	37,628					

Table 15. 2017 Agricultural Crop Data

Crop	Total Acreage	ET crop (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requirement (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitation (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF)
Almonds	3,965	4.04	0.28	(0.24)	4.09	16,202
Grapes	1,132	2.89	0.12	(0.24)	2.77	3,137
Pistachios	7,762	3.77	0.23	(0.24)	3.76	29,212
Pomegranates	1,937	3.87	0.23	(0.24)	3.86	7,481
Stone Fruit	172	3.73	0.32	(0.24)	3.81	655
Total Irrigated	14,968	56,728	3,514	(3,555)		56,688
Non-Farmed	22,660					
Total	37,628					

Table 16. 2018 Agricultural Crop Data

Crop	Total Acreage	ET crop (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requirement (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitation (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF)
Almonds	4,262	3.93	0.28	(0.04)	4.17	17,764
Grapes	1,104	2.80	0.11	(0.04)	2.87	3,169
Pistachios	7,762	3.67	0.22	(0.04)	3.85	29,896
Pomegranates	1,937	3.75	0.22	(0.04)	3.94	7,625
Stone Fruit	172	3.62	0.31	(0.04)	3.88	668
Total Irrigated	15,237	56,211	3,494	(584)		59,121
Non-Farmed	22,391					
Total	37,628					

Table 17. 2019 Agricultural Crop Data

Crop	Total Acreage	ET crop (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requirement (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitation (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF)
Almonds	4,709	3.64	0.25	(0.24)	3.65	17,196
Grapes	1,104	2.58	0.10	(0.24)	2.44	2,698
Pistachios	7,762	3.43	0.21	(0.24)	3.39	26,352
Pomegranates	1,937	3.48	0.21	(0.24)	3.44	6,667
Stone Fruit	172	3.35	0.29	(0.24)	3.40	584
Total Irrigated	15,684	53,960	3,366	(3,830)		53,497
Non-Farmed	21,944					
Total	37,628					

Table 18. 2020 Agricultural Crop Data

Crop	Total Acreage	ET crop (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requirement (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitation (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF/Ac)	Total Crop Water Needs (AF)
Almonds	4,709	3.97	0.28	(0.04)	4.21	19,828
Grapes	1,104	2.85	0.11	(0.04)	2.93	3,235
Pistachios	8,065	3.69	0.22	(0.04)	3.87	31,223
Pomegranates	1,937	3.79	0.23	(0.04)	3.98	7,714
Total Irrigated	15,815	58,920	3,659	(580)		61,999
Non-Farmed	21,813					
Total	37,628					

C. Annual Water Budget

Table 19. Water Budget Inflows (AF)

Inflow Component	AWMP Location for Supporting Calculations	How Quantified?	Uncertainty	How Quantified	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Effective Precipitation	Tables 14-18	Calculated	35%	Estimated	3,859	3,555	584	3,830	580
Surface Water Diversions	Tables 9-13	Farmgate Measured	5%	Per DWR	55,737	63,588	58,435	56,791	68,516
Total					59,596	67,143	59,019	60,621	69,096

Table 20. Water Budget Outflows (AF)

Inflow Component	AWMP Location for Supporting Calculations	How Quantified?	Uncertainty	How Quantified	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Evapotranspiration (Crop Consumptive Use)	Tables 14-18	Calculated	10%	Estimated	60,034	56,728	56,211	53,960	58,920
Leaching	Tables 14-18	Calculated	10%	Estimated	3,746	3,514	3,494	3,366	3,659
Deficit Irrigation	Tables 19-20	Calculated	30%	Estimated	-4,184	0	-686	0	0
Deep Percolation	Tables 19-20	Calculated	40%	Estimated	0	6,901	0	3,295	6,517
Total					59,596	67,143	59,019	60,621	69,096

D. Identify Water Management Objectives

The District's primary water management objective is to deliver reliable and affordable water. As the District's primary water supply is the SWP, water transfers are a critical element of the Plan. Transfers between the District and other SWP contractors (i.e., Kern County Water Agency, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Butte County, etc.) and non-Project agencies (i.e., Browns Valley Irrigation District, Merced Irrigation District, and various Feather River and CVP contractors and other water purveyors that have augmented the District's supply via Dry Year Water Programs, Westside Districts, etc.) have historically been, and continue to be, critical water management tools for the District to efficiently manage its water supplies (direct transfers or by exchanges); typical water management methods have included water deliveries:

- In and out of long-term District banking and exchange programs (i.e., Kern Water Bank Authority, Cawelo Water Regulation Program, Semitropic Water Exchange, San Gabriel Valley Water Banking/Exchange, Kern County Water Agency, Irvine Ranch Water District's Strand Ranch and Stockdale Integrated Banking Projects, etc.);
- In and out of short-term or spot market groundwater banking programs or exchanges (i.e., Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District, Central Coast Water Agency, Mojave Water Agency, Solano County Water Agency, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Central Coast Water Authority, etc.);
- Annual water purchases, including Dry Year Transfer Programs and purchases of non-Project (non-SWP) via the District or the Westside Districts;
- Multi-year water purchases of SWP or non-Project water via the District or the Westside Districts (i.e., Multi-Year Water Pool, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Western Hills Water District, etc.); and
- To or from other water districts that District landowners have agricultural landholdings, whereby annual water needs can be facilitated by transferring water within a common farming operation (located in multiple water districts) to balance their water supplies where it has the most economic benefit. Historically, common landowner transfers have occurred with member units of the Kern County Water Agency, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Green Valley Water District, Westlands Water District, and various non-Project water districts located on the eastside of the San Joaquin Valley. Future common landowner transfers may be anticipated in other water districts in Kings, Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Merced. and Madera counties where District landowners have landholdings and farming operations that involve SWP water or non-Project water.

The District intends to rely on these and similar transfers and exchanges with other water entities to provide the necessary flexibility to optimize beneficial use of the water supplies, exchanges, and storage facilities available to the District and its growers. With the recent implementation of the SWP Water Management Amendment, it is anticipated that more transfer programs between the District and/or Westside Districts and other SWP contractors will increase to alleviate some of the high variability in SWP supplies. These transfers and transfer packages (exchanges) include:

- Transfers to/from other SWP contractors (or their member units) for annual or multi-year transfers and transfer packages (exchanges);
- Transfers to/from non-Project water purveyors for annual or multi-year transfers and transfer packages (exchanges);
- Transfers to/from other SWP contractors (or their member units) with established water transfer, banking, or exchange programs;
- Transfers to/from CVP contractors (or their member units) with established water transfer, banking, or exchange programs for annual or multi-year transfers or exchanges; and
- Transfers to/from non-project (SWP or CVP) with established water banking or exchange programs for annual or multi-year transfers or exchanges.

E. Quantifying Efficiency of Agricultural Water Use

Table 21. Agronomic Water Use Fraction (AF)

Evapotranspiration of Applied Water (ETAW)	Agronomic Use (AU)	Applied Water (AW)	Agronomic Use Fraction (AUF)							
57,171 AF/year	4,847 AF/year	63,095 AF/year	98%							
Notes: Averages from 2016 through 2020 AWUF = (ETAW + AU) / AW										

Table 21 represents the average AWUF for the years 2016 through 2020, the individual year AWUF's range from a low of 92% in 2017 to a high of 109% in 2016. These results can be attributed to multiple factors: 1) crop water use estimates may be too high, particularly for pomegranates, 2) uncertainties in the crop coefficient values used to estimate crop evapotranspiration, 3) uncertainties in the salt tolerance threshold values used to estimate the leaching requirements, and 4) probability that the growers deficit irrigated in response to multiple years of insufficient water supplies.

Section VI: Climate Change

Within the five-year horizon of this Plan, the District is much more concerned regarding the current reliability (or lack thereof) of the SWP water supply than it is about climate change. However, the potential effects of climate change, which DWR projects to impact both the District's local area and result in statewide changes that could affect the SWP and its water supplies in the longer term, are a substantial concern beyond the planning horizon of this Plan.

DWR estimates indicate that by 2050 the Sierra Nevada snowpack, which provides 65 percent of California's water supply, will be significantly reduced. Much of the precipitation is expected to fall as rain instead of snow during winter and cannot be stored in our current water systems for later use. The climate is also expected to become more variable and extreme, bringing more droughts and floods. Thus, the District will need to be prepared to adapt to greater variability in weather patterns.

Potential Climate Change Effects

Within the next 20 years, DWR expects that water supplies, water demand, sea level rise, and the occurrence and increased severity of floods will be affected by climate change. Some of these potential changes are presented below. The District will need to consider these climate change effects, many of which are already documented in California and reviewed in the latest State Water Project Delivery Capability Report prepared by DWR.

- 1. Water Demand Shorter winters, more hot days and nights, and a longer irrigation season will increase water demand in the District and increase competition for water by others.
- 2. Water Supply and Quality Reduced snowpack, shifting spring runoff to earlier in the year, has the potential to impact water supply and quality.
- 3. Sea Level Rise The Delta, which is the current route the District's SWP water takes on its way southward in the Aqueduct to the District, will be at greater risk to increased salinity due to sea level rise. It is expected that sea level will continue to rise due to the warming of the oceans. This will result in more extreme tides affecting Delta levee stability in low-lying areas and increase flooding.
- 4. Disaster Disasters are predicted to become more frequent as climate change brings increased climate variability, resulting in more extreme droughts and floods.

Specific Points to Consider

Thus, out of prudence, as the District continues to address near-term periods of water deficiency from the SWP during this planning cycle, it also must factor the following climate change impacts projected by DWR in its longer-term plans and work with DWR and SWC in planning for:

- 1. Irrigation demand increasing as temperatures rise and rainfall becomes more variable.
- 2. Permanent crops, which make up the majority in the District, being adversely affected by climate change, are more difficult to shift to alternative crops, causing reduced flexibility for adapting to changing climatic conditions.
- 3. Expecting flooding risk to increase as a result of more severe rainfall patterns and warmer winter rains. This could affect water supply and conveyance of State and local water distribution facilities.
- 4. Snowpack significantly diminishing as the climate warms. Diminished snowfall in the mountains and earlier runoff will result in reduced SWP water supply and other sources derived from Sierra Nevada snowpack.
- 5. Vulnerability of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to impacts of climate change, most notably sea level rise. Higher sea levels will make it more difficult to export water from the Delta with the existing infrastructure which may result in reduced water deliveries over time.

Section VII: Water Use Efficiency Information

A. EWMP Implementation and Reporting

As previously reported, the District, landowners and/or growers have already implemented most of the listed EWMPs. Table 22 provides a brief summary of the EWMPs that the District has implemented. Details on each EWMP are provided in the section below.

Table 22. Report of EWMPs Implemented/Planned

EWMP								
No.	Description of EWMP	Status of EWMPs						
Critical EWMPs								
1	Water Measurement	Implemented						
2	Volume-Based Pricing	Implemented						
Additio	Additional Required EWMPS (locally cost-effective and technically feasible EWMPs							
1	Alternate Land Use	No action required						
2	Recycled Water Use	No action required						
3	On-Farm Irrigation Capital Improvements	Implemented						
4	Incentive Pricing Structure	Implemented						
5	Infrastructure Improvements	Implemented						
6	Order/Delivery Flexibility	Implemented						
7	Supplier Spill and Tailwater Systems	Implemented						
8	Conjunctive Use	Implemented						
9	Automated Canal Controls	No action required						
10	Customer Pump Test/Evaluation	No action required						
11	Water Conservation Coordinator	Implemented						
12	Water Management Services to Customers	Implemented						
13	Identify Institutional Changes	Implemented						
14	Supplier Pump Improved Efficiency	No action required						

<u>Critical EWMP 1 – Water Measurement</u>

Due to the small number of water users in the District (typically four) and negligible losses in the District's distribution system (estimated to be <0.5%), virtually all water delivered to the District from SWP turnouts is delivered to water users at individual farm turnouts. Minor losses (evaporation, weeping at construction joints, etc.) are charged on a pro rata basis to downstream users so that all water diverted from the Aqueduct is charged to the water users.

DWR calibrates the meters at the SWP turnouts on a regular basis; the Parshall flumes and Venturi tube meters at these locations are considered to be within the accuracy of 2% - 5%. District flowmeter readings are compared monthly to DWR readings and daily against water user orders. District flowmeters are calibrated when damaged meters are repaired or on-going discrepancies with DWR readings are recorded. This procedure

provides satisfactory assurances that water is accurately accounted for from the Aqueduct to the water user.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

<u>Critical EWMP 2 – Volume Based Pricing</u>

As previously discussed, the District's pricing structure is partially fixed and partially volumetric. SWP fixed costs are charged on a water allotment (Table A) basis, while variable costs are based on volumetric deliveries to each water user. This methodology mirrors the payment structure which DWR uses to charge its contractors. Full (unsubsidized) costs for constructing, maintaining, and operating the SWP are recovered by DWR by charges to all SWP contractors.

With the Monterey Amendment in 1995, an agricultural rate management fund was established to convert the relatively high SWP fixed costs, which are charged on a Table A basis, into more of a volumetric charge. A portion of agricultural contractors' payments is held in a trust account in years of full SWP deliveries; those funds may be used by a SWP ag contractor to pay fixed costs for the portion of water that is unavailable in years when Table A shortages are experienced. As an example, if the water supply allocation in a year is 60 percent of Table A, then the trust fund would pay the fixed costs for 40 percent of Table A (that portion not available for delivery) to the extent that the contractor has previously accumulated a sufficient amount in the trust account. Up until 2002, the trust fund had reduced the fluctuations in the unit cost (\$/AF delivered) associated with the SWP fixed costs and via the agricultural repayment system, converted SWP costs to more of a volumetric charge for both fixed and variable costs. In 2002, the trust fund balance was liquidated to offset the 65% Table A allocation, and since then, the trust fund withdrawals account for an offset of less than ten percent of the DWR charges.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 1 – Facilitate Alternate Land Uses

The District has no lands with exceptionally high shallow water levels or whose irrigation contributes to on-farm or recognized downstream drainage issues.

No action on this EWMP is required.

Conditional EWMP 2 – Facilitate Use of Recycled Water

The Kettleman City wastewater treatment plant is located near the northern tip of the District. The effluent from the plant is reclaimed and already contracted for use by agricultural lands located outside the District. The District has no urban water uses within its boundaries; therefore, no recycled urban wastewater is available.

No action on this EWMP is required.

<u>Conditional EWMP 3 – Facilitate Financing of Capital Improvements for On-Farm</u> Irrigation Systems

The District has in the past, and will continue to pursue, project financing for District projects that have landowner support. District management is knowledgeable with funding sources available to public agencies and structuring improvement districts, as evidenced by its distribution system improvements, most of which were financed by two DWR administered low-interest loan programs.

On-farm improvements have been financed in the past by landowners by their own means or private lending institutions. The on-farm irrigation systems are all low-volume drip/micro-sprinkler systems that are highly efficient. As future opportunities arise, District management can be expected to inform landowners of state and/or federal programs that could assist local growers with financing on-farm irrigation systems.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 4 – Implement an Incentive Pricing Structure

As previously discussed, the District's pricing structure is partially fixed and partially volumetric. SWP fixed costs are charged on a water contract amounts (Table A) basis, while variable costs are based on volumetric deliveries. This methodology mirrors the payment structure which DWR uses to charge its contractors. Full (unsubsidized) costs for constructing, maintaining, and operating the SWP are recovered by DWR by charges to all SWP contractors.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 5 – Line or Pipe Ditches and Canals

All District-owned conveyance facilities are concrete-lined canals or piped.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 6 - Increase Flexibility in Water Ordering and Deliveries

The District's water delivery system is classified as a fixed duration-restricted arranged demand system with deliveries arranged in advance and a normal duration in 24-hour time intervals. By contract with DWR and under the District's Operating Rules and Regulations (Exhibit 6), daily water requests for a continuous and constant rate are to be made at least 24 hours in advance, with adjustments made at 9:00 a.m. each day. In practice, the District and DWR attempt to accommodate adjusting water deliveries on a day-to-day basis and since 2003, DWR has allowed mid-day delivery reductions to minimize electrical use during peak periods.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

<u>Conditional EWMP 7 – Construct and Operate Spill and Tailwater Recovery Systems</u>

Operational spills rarely occur in the District and if spills occur, the water is generally recoverable by a downstream user. Pump failure, power outages or damaged distribution facilities are potential causes for operational spills. However, should a spill

occur, the responsible party (generally the water user who had ordered the water) is charged for the water spilled. This provides an on-going incentive to avoid and rapidly report operational spills.

Landowners are required by the District to maintain applied water on their lands—privately operated tailwater/spill recovery systems are in place to accomplish this element of water management, although these needs are minimized by the use of low-volume drip and micro-sprinkler systems on all irrigated lands.

The District has no discharge to any dry streams, which are contained to reduce flooding across farmlands. Flood flows do not flow to rivers, but to re-regulation areas where they are used for subsequent irrigation.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 8 - Optimize Conjunctive Use of Surface and Groundwater

No opportunities exist for groundwater recharge and conjunctive use within the District. However, the District is a participant in the Kern Water Bank, has a long-term agreement for in-lieu water banking with the Cawelo Water District, has a water banking agreement with Semitropic Water Storage District, and has an exchange agreement through 2020 with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. Additionally, the District has a long-term water exchange program with Kern County Water Agency that can be used for other conjunctive use opportunities.

The District relies on transfers and exchanges with these water entities to provide additional flexibility to optimize beneficial use of the water supplies and storage facilities available to the District.

No action on this EWMP is required.

Conditional EWMP 9 – Automate Canal Structures

District and on-farm canal systems experience minimal fluctuations in flow, primarily due to the uniformity of the Aqueduct deliveries provided by DWR. As only one of the five District turnouts is shared among more than one water user, the opportunities for automation are limited.

No action on this EWMP is required.

Conditional EWMP 10 – Facilitate Customer Pump Testing and Evaluation

As previously discussed, there are no agricultural water users in the District that have groundwater pumps that would require testing.

No action on this EWMP is required.

Conditional EWMP 11 - Designate a Water Conservation Coordinator

The District has designated Rick Besecker as water conservation coordinator.

Rick Besecker

Dudley Ridge Water District (559) 449-2700 (office) 286 W. Cromwell Ave. (559) 449-2715 (fax)

Fresno, CA 93711-6162 rbesecker@ppeng.com (email)

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 12 - Support Availability of Water Management Services to Water Users

The District staff have assisted water users with the development of water banking programs; exchange and transfer programs; dry year water purchase programs; the evaluation and facilitation of the construction of new turnouts, concrete-lined canals, and replacement of earthen canals with pipelines; and automated trash racks and provided chemical treatments for more efficient water deliveries. Staff remains available to investigate additional programs as they arise.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 13 – Evaluate the Need for Changes in Policies

The most significant institution to which the District is subject to outside policies is DWR. The relationship between District staff and DWR staff has always been good. Nevertheless, policy differences arise with respect to water supply and operations of the SWP. Generally, as policy issues arise, they are discussed either directly with DWR or among the SWC. Once agreement is reached by the SWC board (usually with input from DWR), then DWR management is requested to consider changes in the subject policies.

DWR and SWC policies and issues are reviewed regularly, generally on a case-by-case basis, or via committees with SWC and DWR representation.

During negotiations for what became the Monterey Agreement, a number of policy issues related to the SWC's water service contracts with DWR were reviewed. These included funding mechanisms for development of new SWP facilities as they relate to DWR's funding sources, groundwater storage outside a contractor's service area, reservoir storage flexibility, transport of market water, and other policy issues related to water management, allocations, and financing. The resolution of these policy issues has resulted in improved water management throughout the service areas of those SWP contractors that ultimately signed the Monterey Amendment, however, litigation related to CEQA is on-going which could potentially affect the long-term implementation of this amendment, including the District's participation in the Kern Water Bank.

The District and other SWP contractors have and will continue to work with DWR to develop a more efficient process for approving water transfers and exchanges among

SWP contractors. It is generally accepted that improvements can be made, particularly related to routine operational transfers (i.e., to/from established banking programs, common landowner transfers, and similar routine transfers/exchanges); the District is optimistic that DWR's approval process will be improved, hopefully for streamlining water transfer programs and providing additional water management tools in the near future. Part of the District's effort to assist DWR in their approval process has been to subject the District's AWMP to CEQA review of the District's water management strategies, including the historical and future water transfer and exchange practices discussed herein.

The District considers the existing arrangement for resolution of policy issues to be generally successful. DWR and SWC policies are debated and resolved as they arise, leading to a workable resolution process.

The District considers that it has adequately implemented this EWMP.

Conditional EWMP 14 – Evaluate and Improve Pump Efficiencies

The District does not own or operate groundwater or lift pumps; all of the District's supply turnouts are gravity fed from the Aqueduct.

No action on this EWMP is required.

Section VIII: Supporting Documentation

Agricultural Water Measurement Regulation Documentation (as applicable)

The District takes its water deliveries through five metered turnouts off of the California Aqueduct. Turnouts DR1, DR1-A and DR1-B each serve an individual customer and are the points where control of the water is turned over from the District to the water user (known as the "farm-gate"). Turnouts DR2 and DR3 can each serve multiple customers and the points where control of the water is turned over to the water user are discussed below. All water deliveries are scheduled in advance with the District, both duration and flow rate.

A. Legal Certification and Apportionment Required for Water Measurement— Lack of Legal Access to Farm-gate

Not applicable—the District has legal access to measure water at the farm-gate.

B. Engineer Certification and Apportionment Required for Water Measurement—Technically Infeasible

Not applicable—the District measures water at the farm-gate.

C. Description of Water Measurement Best Professional Practices

Collection of Water Measurement Data

The District takes its water deliveries through five metered turnouts off of the California Aqueduct. Turnouts DR1, DR1-A and DR1-B have totalizing Venturi meters and each turnout serves an individual customer. DR2 and DR3 are metered utilizing Parshall flumes and each turnout can serve multiple customers. These meters record instantaneous flow rates as well as total quantities delivered. Measurements for each of these deliveries are described below.

Turnouts DR1/DR1-A/DR1-B

Water deliveries through turnouts DR1, DR1-A and DR1-B are made directly to individual customers and are recorded daily by DWR. After the end of each month the daily totals are compared with beginning and end of month totalizer readings.

Turnout DR2

Gross water deliveries through turnout DR2 are recorded daily by DWR, and then distributed from a distribution box to four separate conveyance pipelines for delivery as needed to three canals and two pump stations. Deliveries to individual customers are measured as follows:

1. Canal 2-E—a slide gate at the distribution box regulates the amount of water that is conveyed via pipeline to the head end of a canal serving an individual customer. A propeller meter is utilized to confirm discharge rates into the canal.

- Pump Station—a slide gate at the distribution box regulates the amount of water that is conveyed via pipeline directly to the intake of a metered pump station serving an individual customer. A propeller meter is utilized to confirm discharge rates to the pump station.
- 3. Canal 2-E1—an ungated pipeline conveys water to a separate distribution box (downstream of the main distribution box) which contains the intake to a metered pump station serving an individual customer. In addition, a slide gate at the downstream distribution box regulates the amount of water that is conveyed via pipeline to the head end of a canal serving an individual customer. A propeller meter is utilized to confirm discharge rates into the canal.
- 4. Canal 2-S—a slide gate downstream of the distribution box regulates the amount of water that is conveyed via pipeline to the head end of a canal that serves an individual customer. Discharge rates into the canal are calculated by taking the turnout's instantaneous flow rate from DWR's Parshall flume and subtracting the metered canal and pump station readings.

Turnout DR3

Gross water deliveries through turnout DR3 are recorded daily by DWR, and although most of the time deliveries are made to a single customer, water can be diverted to two customers via Canal 3-S. Deliveries to individual customers are measured as follows:

- 1. Canal 3-S with one customer—gross deliveries through turnout DR3 are recorded daily by DWR. After the end of each month, the daily totals are compared with beginning and end of month totalizer readings.
- 2. Canal 3-S with two customers—a slide gate on Canal 3-S located downstream of turnout DR3 regulates the amount of water that is conveyed to a lateral serving an individual customer. A permanently installed calibrated staff gauge is utilized to confirm discharge rates into the lateral which is used infrequently; the difference between this flow rate and DWR's metered rate is allocated to the other landowner.

Frequency of Measurements

DWR continuously measures water delivered through each of the five turnouts off of the Aqueduct. District staff measures water delivered to individual customers from Turnouts DR2 and DR3 daily when setting the gates.

Method for Determining Irrigated Acres

The District is planted primarily to permanent crops, and as such, irrigated acreage remains relatively consistent. The District annually collects crop data from the landowners and makes adjustments to the irrigated acreage as needed.

Quality Control and Quality Assurance Procedures

Turnouts DR1, DR1-A, and DR1-B are measured with Venturi meters. Pressure differential across the Venturi is measured with a pressure differential transmitter in inches of water and is converted to a 4-20 ma signal sent to a flow recorder. The accumulative flow from the recorder is retrieved and downloaded by DWR once

monthly. At the end of the month the recorder data is downloaded and analyzed and volume is deducted for meter discrepancies or creep. Regular site visits occur twice a week to verify the meters are operating correctly and monthly to perform meter calibrations and routine maintenance. Routine maintenance consists of clearing Venturi lines and flushing the Venturi piping of silt and air for proper flow calculation.

Turnouts DR2 and DR3 are measured with twelve-foot Parshall flumes. Flow is calculated by measuring the depth of the water in feet and tenths of feet from the stilling well with an acoustic water level probe. The depth reading is then converted to a 4-20 ma signal and sent to a flow recorder. The accumulative flow from the recorder is retrieved and downloaded by DWR once monthly. At the end of the month the recorder data is analyzed and volume is deducted for meter discrepancies or creep. Routine maintenance of the Parshall flume consists of weekly cleaning of algae from the flume floor and removing silt from the stilling wells. Calibration of the water level measuring devices and flume staff gage occurs once a year.

The District's propeller meters are spot checked daily when setting the gates—the sum of the combined readings is compared with DWR's measured reading, and if there are discrepancies, the faulty meter is sent in for repair.

Records of Aqueduct turnout meter readings, recorder data, meter maintenance and calibrations, and deliveries reports are retained at DWR's operations office and archived to storage after 5 years.

D. Documentation of Water Measurement Conversion to Volume

Turnouts DR1, DR1-A and DR1-B have totalizing Venturi meters and each turnout serves an individual customer. Flow rates are measured to each customer at turnouts DR2 and DR3 and because they remain constant over a fixed duration, can be converted to daily volume.

E. Device Corrective Action Plan Required for Water Measurement

The propeller meters are sent in for repairs as required and are calibrated after they are rebuilt. Because there is a mechanical linkage between the propeller and the instantaneous readout/totalizer that tends to wear out prematurely, the District has decided to modify the meters in 2013 by replacing the mechanical linkage with an electronic upgrade. The cost was collected from each of the Service Areas through the maintenance portion of the District's Standby Charge.

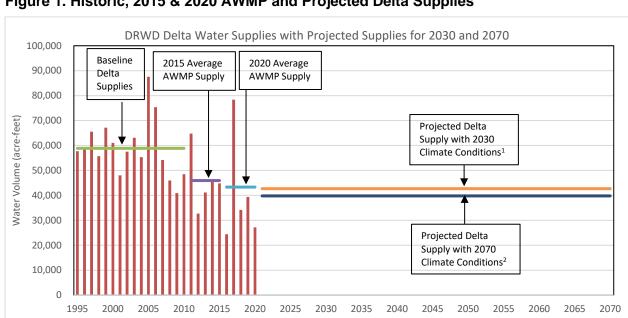
Delta Plan Consistency

To provide "the expected outcome for measurable reduction in Delta reliance", baseline historic Delta supplies delivered to DRWD were compared to supplies delivered over the past decade. Additionally, Delta supply reduction projections were made for comparison and future planning. For the purposes of comparison, the historic baseline

period selected begins in 1995 and ends in 2010 because it is consistent with the typical historic water budget reporting period included in the recently completed Groundwater Sustainability Plans. This period provides a reasonable time frame for assessing average current conditions and to demonstrate consistency with reduced Delta reliance after enactment of the Delta Reform Act (2009). The table below shows projected water supplies from the Delta. The California Water Commission CALSIM 2030 and 2070 climate change scenarios were used to project future water supplies under 2030 and 2070 climate change scenarios. The table and figure below demonstrate reduced Delta reliance. Over the 2015 AWMP period, a 22% reduction in Delta water supplies was observed when compared to the baseline condition discussed above. Over the past decade (combined 2015 and 2020 AWMP period), a 26% reduction was observed. Due to increasing environmental commitments and restrictions on Delta Flows, landowners in the District will continue to experience reductions in Delta supply, likely exceeding the 2030 and 2070 projections.

Table 23. Comparison of Historic Average Annual Delta Supplies vs. Projected Average Annual Delta Supplies

Value	Baseline Delta Supplies (1995-2010)	2015 Conditions Delta Supplies	2020 Conditions Delta Supplies	2030 Climate Conditions Delta Supplies	2070 Climate Conditions Delta Supplies
Average Annual Supplies	59,000	46,000	43,000	43,000	40,000
Percent of Baseline Supply	n/a	78%	74%	73%	68%
Percent Reduction in Supplies		22%	26%	27%	32%



1 - 2030 Delta Supply Projection = 73% of Baseline Average - 27% Reduction 2 - 2070 Delta Supply Projection = 68% of Baseline Average - 32% Reduction

Figure 1. Historic, 2015 & 2020 AWMP and Projected Delta Supplies

Exhibit 1. Public Notifications.

DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT

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KIMBERLY M. BROWN, PRESIDENT
LARRY RITCHIE, VICE PRESIDENT
STEVEN D. JACKSON, SECRETARY
JOHN VIDOVICH
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RICK BESECKER
LOAL-COUNSEL
JOSEPH D. HUGHES

February 1, 2021

Corcoran Journal PO Box 487 Corcoran CA 93212

VIA EMAIL

Gentlemen,

Enclosed please find "Notice of Preparation" by the Dudley Ridge Water District to be published in the Corcoran Journal weekly for two consecutive weeks, on February 4, 2021 and February 11, 2021.

Please send the billing and Affidavit of Publication to the above address.

Thank you,

Rick Besecker

Water Conservation Coordinator

Rick Beach

Enclosure

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT

2020 AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

NOTICE is hereby given that Dudley Ridge Water District prepared a draft of its 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan. Any person wishing to review a copy of the plan may telephone the office of the District at (559) 449-2700 and ask for Rick Besecker, Water Conservation Coordinator.

In addition, the District will be holding a public meeting to review and adopt the Plan on March 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the District office.

Rick Besecker, Water Conservation Coordinator Dudley Ridge Water District

Rick Besich

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DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT

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VIA Fax (408) 738-0231

VIA Fax (559) 992-3891

February 10, 2021

To:

Kings County Water Commission/

Planning Department/LAFCO

1400 W. Lacey Blvd. Hanford, CA 93230

Kettleman City Community Services District

110 General Petroleum Ave Kettleman City, CA 93239

Green Valley Water District

c/o DeAnza Properties 960 N San Antonio Rd Ste 114

Los Altos CA 94022

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

1001 Chase Ave Corcoran, CA 93212

Kern County Water Agency

3200 Rio Mirada Dr Bakersfield, CA 93302

VIA Fax (661) 634-1428

Subject: Notice of Preparation of the Dudley Ridge Water District 2020 Agricultural

Water Management Plan

Gentlemen:

Please be advised that the Dudley Ridge Water District has prepared a draft of its 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan. Any person wishing to review a copy of the plan may telephone the office of the District at (559) 449-2700 and ask for Rick Besecker, Water Conservation Coordinator.

In addition, the District will be holding a public meeting to review and address the plan on March 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the District office.

Respectfully,

Rick Besecker

Water Conservation Coordinator

Rich Beachin

Exhibit 2. Resolution of Plan Adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE 2020 AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, an Agricultural Water Management Plan for the District ("Plan") has been developed to comply with from the 2018 Water Conservation Legislation (AB 1668 and SB 606); and

WHEREAS, this Board fixed March 10, 2021, at the hour of 2:00 P.M., at the District Office, 286 West Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, California, as the time and place where the public was invited to review and discuss the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of this Board caused publication of notice of preparation of the Plan and of the time and place of said public meeting in the Corcoran Journal, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Kings, State of California, posted such notice in the District Office, and faxed such notice to various local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, this Board met as scheduled on March 10, 2021, at 2:00 P.M. to receive public comments on the Plan; and

WHEREAS, no public comments on the Plan were provided; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Plan and considers its adoption to be in the best interest of the District and its landowners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this District adopts the 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan and directs its President and/or Manager to submit the Plan to the Department of Water Resources and other interested parties as described in the Plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of March 2021.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

The undersigned hereby certifies that I am the Secretary of Dudley Ridge Water District and that the foregoing Resolution was authorized by the Board of Directors of said District at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly held on March 10, 2021, at which meeting a quorum of the Board of Directors was at all times present and acting.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand this 10th day of March 2021.

(DISTRICT SEAL)

Steven D. Jackson, Secretary Dudley Ridge Water District

Exhibit 3. District Location Map.

Location Map

Dudley Ridge Water District

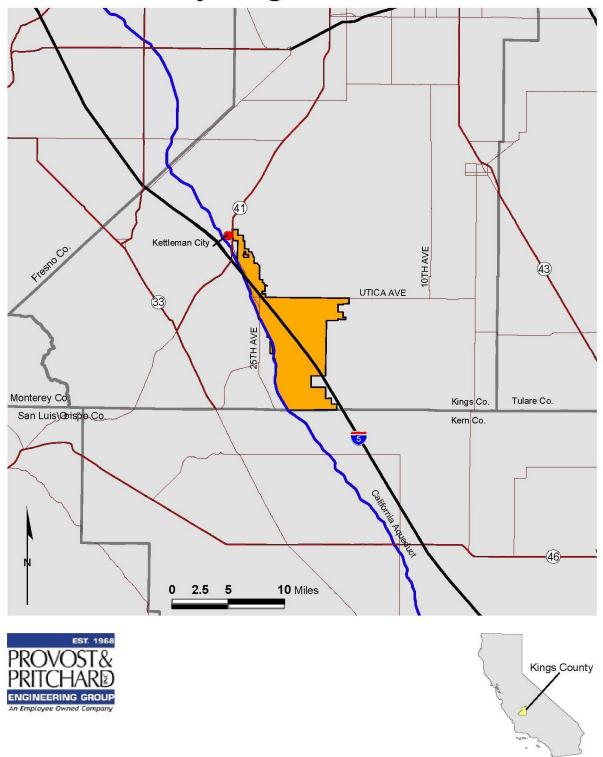


Exhibit 4. District Distribution System Map.

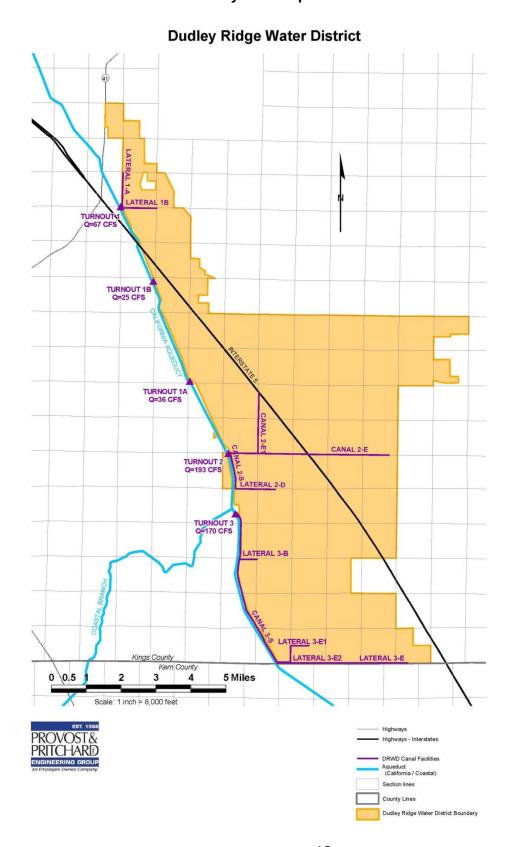


Exhibit 5. District Soils Map.

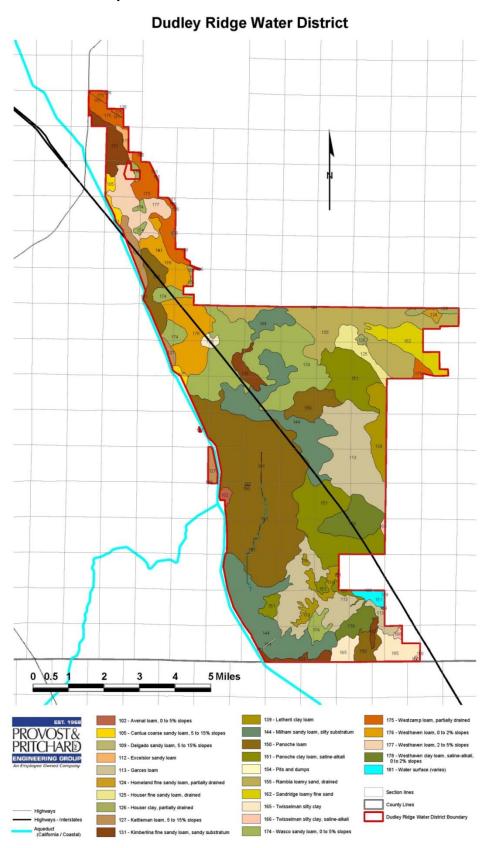


Exhibit 6. District Operating Rules and Regulations.

RULES AND REGULATIONS Governing the Use, Distribution, and Charges for Water Service in Dudley Ridge Water District

Adopted by the Board of Directors December 12, 2018

RULE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
1.	Control of District Facilities	3
2.	Use of District Facilities	3
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RULES AND REGULATIONS Governing the Use, Distribution, and Charges for Water Service in Dudley Ridge Water District

These Rules and Regulations are adopted pursuant to Section 35423 of the Water Code of the State of California, are intended to assist the Board of Directors in providing economic management to effect orderly, efficient, and equitable distribution and use of water within the District, and may be amended or repealed at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors or at any special meeting called for that purpose.

The Board of Directors requests cooperation of all Landowners and Water Users in compliance with these Rules and Regulations to permit water to be distributed in an orderly manner, so that Water Users can be served with some regularity and receive equivalent benefits from water service.

As used in these Rules and Regulations, the following terms have the meanings set forth:

District's Water Service Area: Those parcels of land within the District which have an allocation for State Water Project ("SWP") Table "A" water for which water from the District has been requested and approved at any time. Land for which a water allocation has been requested and approved in any previous year will be considered inside the District's Water Service Area even if no water has been requested or applied for with respect to that land for the current year. Subordinately annexed lands are excluded from the District's Water Service Area, except subordinately annexed lands which, by virtue of a contract with the District, receive an annual allocation for SWP Table "A" water as the result of an approved transfer.

Table "A" Contract Water: The water provided to the District pursuant to the District's Water Supply Contract with the State of California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") which is allocated to the District and identified on Table "A" of such Water Supply Contract.

Landowner: Any individual or legal entity owning real property within the District.

Water User: Any individual or entity eligible for and properly requesting or applying for water from the District, whether or not such individual or entity is a Landowner.

SWP Fixed Costs: All SWP annual costs imposed on the District by the DWR related to the Districts' Table "A" Water Supply Contract, excluding charges associated with water delivery quantities (i.e., Variable OMP&R and Off-Aqueduct charges) and excluding credits derived from the Agricultural Rate Management Trust Fund.

Rule 1. CONTROL OF DISTRICT FACILITIES

The operation and maintenance of the facilities of the District shall be under the exclusive management and control of the Board of Directors, the Manager, or a duly appointed representative. The District shall have control of all diverting gates, pumps, weirs, and private ditches up to and including the point of measurement, to such extent as may be necessary to regulate and measure the flow of water, but the District shall not assume or incur any liability for the maintenance or repair or privately-owned gates, pumps, weirs, or other appurtenances. No unauthorized person(s) shall interfere with District facilities in any manner, including, but not limited to, the opening, closing, or regulating of any of the District's valves, gates, or turnouts unless so directed by the Board of Directors or the Manager.

Any damage to District facilities or property resulting from such unauthorized action by the Water Users shall be the responsibility of the Water User or Landowner making such use of the property or facilities. If satisfactory repairs are not made promptly by the responsible individuals, the District will make the necessary repairs and appropriately charge the responsible individual.

An emergency condition exists when there is risk of damage to the District's distribution system, life, or property. The District reserves the right to terminate water service to any Water User during an emergency condition.

Rule 2. USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES

The District owns, operates, and maintains service roads along its canals for access to canal check gates, distribution laterals, and mainline valves. These roads shall not be used by anything but pickup trucks and automotive-type traffic. Landowners and Water Users are requested to refrain from using the service roads during rainy periods when traffic may make the road impassable or damage the roads. In addition to the canal service roads, the District has obtained a right-of-way (easement) for access along each of the District's pipelines and distribution laterals. Access to District facilities on pipelines and laterals is essential. All rights-of-way along District pipelines shall be kept open and free of obstructions, fences, or buildings. Water Users shall also insure that irrigation water or tailwater is not applied or allowed to collect on the District's access roads or rights-of-way.

It is the responsibility of each Water User to prudently manage the water supply received from the District or through District-operated facilities. Water (tailwater, wastewater, drainage, groundwater, and/or filter backwash water) shall be maintained on the Water User's lands and not be discharged to the District's rights-of-way or facilities or to another Landowner's lands without written authorization from the appropriate party (the District and, if appropriate, the affected Landowner(s)). Any and all discharges onto District rights-of-way or facilities must be requested and approved in advance by the District. If the Water User requesting the discharge of water to the District's facilities is the only Water User downstream of said discharge, it is the intent of the District to authorize such requests. Authorization may be revoked by the District if

the District, other Water Users, and/or other Landowners are determined to be adversely impacted by the discharge.

Water Users shall not be allowed to discharge chemicals onto the District's rights-of-way or facilities or onto another Landowner's lands. Water Users' or Landowners' chemical feed systems shall be installed and operated to avoid such discharges.

The facilities of the District distribution system shall not be used for the application of fertilizers, pesticides, or chemicals. All Water Users shall use utmost caution in applying airborne pesticides and chemicals to lands adjacent to the District's canals to ensure that the materials being applied by air do not drift into the canals.

No rubbish, garbage, manure, refuse, waste excavation, or foreign material of any type shall be placed or allowed to be placed in any District canal or along any of the District's rights-of-way.

Failure to comply with this rule shall be sufficient cause for immediate termination of water deliveries until the District is satisfied that adequate measures have been made to remedy the violation. The District's enforcement of this rule and the interruption of water deliveries pursuant hereto shall not result in any liability to the District, its officers, agents, or employees.

Rule 3. ACCESS TO PREMISES OF LANDOWNERS

The authorized agents of the District shall have free access at all times to all lands irrigated from District facilities, and to all canals, laterals, pipelines and ditches, for the purposes of the District.

Rule 4. REQUESTS TO ENTER INTO THE WATER SERVICE AREA

Landowners with lands within the District boundaries, but not currently within the District's Water Service Area, may request to enter into the District's Water Service Area in accordance with the "Policy for Approving Landowner Requests for Land to Enter the Standby Charge Service Area" adopted by the Board of Directors on August 13, 1997, or as subsequently amended or restated.

Rule 5. APPLICATIONS FOR WATER

Each acre of land in the District's Water Service Area (excepting those subordinately annexed lands which, by virtue of a contract with the District, receive an annual allocation for SWP Table "A" water as a result of an approved Table "A" transfer) shall be allocated the same quantity of Table "A" Contract Water such that the total is equal to Table "A" Contract Water which is available to the District. Any other water available to the District, including water not needed by Water Users, shall be offered to the other Water Users as it becomes available; if requests for such other water exceed the supply for water available, the water shall be allocated in proportion to the Water Service Area acreage attributed to each requesting Water User, up to the Water User's request.

If a Water User or Landowner acquires additional water through temporary or permanent water transfers, above the water otherwise available to the District through its Water Supply Contract, said Water User or Landowner shall have full use of that water subject to any terms and conditions associated with the additional water.

On or before October 1 of each year, the District shall, on behalf of its Landowners and Water Users, submit in writing to the DWR a preliminary delivery schedule of Table "A" Contract Water based on information available to the District at the time based on the District's full Table "A" amount, previous delivery records, and/or other pertinent information provided by the Landowners and Water Users.

Upon receipt of the District's initial SWP water allocation in December of each year, the District shall notify all Water Users in the Water Service Area of their initial allocation. Following subsequent changes to the SWP water allocation by the DWR, the District shall notify Water Users of such updated information. As the annual SWP Table "A" allocation firms up, the District will coordinate with Water Users to determine the Water Users' water use plans for the current year relating to (a) scheduling the delivery of the water for use within the District, (b) requesting Supplemental Water that may be available to the District (i.e., SWP Article 21 Water, SWP Turnback Pool Water, Dry Year Water Purchase Programs, and similar), (c) releasing all or a portion of their water for purchase by or transfer to other District Water Users, and/or (d) requesting a temporary transfer of water in to or out of the District.

If a Water User has not informed the District of their intentions as described above or has not scheduled all of their water allocation by April 1, the Landowner's water allocation that has not been scheduled for the year ("Unscheduled Water") will be made available for purchase by District Water Users at the SWP fixed cost (based on the current year's budget and the water allocation at the time of the purchase request) prior to April 20. Landowners whose water has been unscheduled and subsequently purchased by other Water Users, shall be reimbursed the SWP fixed cost paid by the purchaser(s).

Any Unscheduled Water remaining after April 20 will be made available for purchase by District Water Users as determined by the Board, which may include implementing options that may be available at the time, including (but not limited to) banking water for use in a future year(s), exchanges with other water districts or Water Users, and/or making water available at a minimal cost, on a first-come basis, to any District Water User that is not delinquent on any District charges. The District shall have no obligation to make any reimbursements to Landowners for Unscheduled Water remaining after May 1.

Rule 6. TRANSFERS OF WATER

Temporary Transfers

Internal transfers between Landowners shall be allowed to meet in-District demands, providing that the transfers do not conflict with the District's Rules and Regulations and District policies. The District must receive written confirmation of the transfer signed by each affected Landowner, and each Landowner shall remain responsible for their respective payments of standby charges, improvement district charges, water toll charges, benefit assessments, and other charges levied by the District.

The District allows for temporary transfers of in to and out of the District under the conditions described in the "Policy for the Temporary Transfer of Water to or from the Dudley Ridge Water District" adopted by the Board of Directors on December 8, 2010, or as subsequently amended or restated.

In the case of an exchange to an unrelated party outside of the District, District Landowners shall have the option of "first right-of-refusal" to the water made available at the same terms and conditions offered to the unrelated party. All District charges associated with the water transferred as part of such an exchange outside the District must be paid prior to District authorization to release the transferred water except if the water is transferred to a District-approved banking or exchange program.

Permanent Transfers

The District allows for permanent transfers of Table "A" amounts to a non-District water purveyor under the conditions described in the "Policy for the Permanent Transfer of SWP Table "A" Water Outside of Dudley Ridge Water District" adopted by the Board of Directors on April 8, 2009, or as subsequently amended or restated.

Rule 7. SUPPLEMENTAL WATER

In the event the District has opportunities to obtain supplemental water (non-SWP water that is not generally available to all SWP contractors) via District agreements or through a consortium of other water districts (e.g., the five Westside districts collaborating on supplemental water purchases since 2008), District staff will email each Water User requesting the Water User to update their water needs (quantities) and pricing limits (maximum price) for supplemental water. Both District staff and Water Users should continue to maintain periodic informal communications to verify or revise estimated needs (quantities) and pricing limits (maximum price) for supplemental water purchases. District staff will either include or exclude a Water User(s) from pending water acquisitions based on the most recent information available to staff at the time a decision is needed for a specific acquisition. If time allows for Water User's responsible representative for a quick (1-3 days typical) response. If no response is received within the needed timeframe, the default would be to include or exclude a non-responsive Water User's needs (quantities) and

pricing limits (maximum price). Once the District's obligation is made to acquire supplemental water, each Water User is obligated to purchase and pay for their portion of the acquired water unless the Water User is able to transfer that water to another Water User within the District.

Rule 8. WATER USE PRIORITIES

Water Users have the flexibility to use their allocated water supplies for delivery to District lands (including subordinate lands and lands outside the Water Service Area) and/or transfers of water to outside the District (including banking programs, Landowner transfers, and exchanges), subject to these Rules and Regulations. Such allocated water supplies may include Table "A" Contract Water, SWP Article 21 water, SWP Turnback Pool water, supplemental water purchase programs such as dry year water purchases, other water supplies made available by the District, or other supplies acquired by a Landowner or Water User, subject to the terms and restrictions associated with such supplies, if any.

It is the District's intent to maximize the delivery of water that is available to and can be beneficially used by District Water Users. Accordingly, when SWP Carryover Water is available as of January 1 of any given year, the District will temporarily allocate said Carryover Water, to the extent Carryover Water remains available, to all Water Users taking delivery of SWP water, whether within the District or delivered via an approved transfer or exchange outside the District. After all Carryover Water has been used or lost, the District will reallocate an equivalent quantity of the current year's Table "A" Contract Water from Water Users who were temporarily allocated Carryover Water (from another Water User's Carryover Water account) to the Table "A" allocation of the Water Users whose Carryover Water was used by others.

The reallocation process occurs each month that Carryover Water remains in storage and is detailed as follows:

Step 1. Account for carryover participants' individual Carryover Water use.

At the end of each month, water used directly by the carryover participants is subtracted from their Carryover Water amount at the beginning of that month.

Step 2. Allocate water used by non-carryover participants.

Water used by non-carryover participants is proportionally allocated, up to the carryover participants' remaining carryover amount, by the carryover participants' proportionate share of Table "A" allocation.

Step 3. Reallocate remaining water.

If the reallocated amount exceeds an individual carryover participant's remaining carryover, the amount remaining is reallocated again, up to the remaining carryover participants' carryover amount, by the remaining carryover participants' proportionate share of Table "A" allocation. This process continues until all the carryover has been delivered or is displaced in San Luis Reservoir (spills) and is lost.

The following table illustrates the allocation process.

Illustration of Carryover Wat			Al		
With Reallocations Based on Table "A	" Alloc	ation P	ercent	tages	
	Water User A	Water User B	Water User C	Other Water Users	Total
Current year allocation, af	19,546	17,823	4,081	1,900	43,350
Percent of Table "A" (among District Water Users)	43.1	39.3	9.0	8.6	100.0
January					
Step 1. Account for Individual Use.					
Carryover from previous year, af	2,000	1,000	500		3,500
Percent of Table "A" (among carryover participants)	47.2	43.0	9.8		100.0
Water use by carryover participants, af	1,000	0	0		1,000
Water User's remaining carryover, af	1,000	1,000	500		2,500
Step 2. Allocate Use by Non-Carryover Participants.					
Table "A" use by non-carryover participants, af				100	100
Reallocation from non-carryover participants, af	47	43	10	(100)	0
Water User's remaining carryover (subject to spill), af	953	957	490		2,400
Water User's remaining allocation (if carryover spills), af	19,593	17,866	4,091	1,800	43,350
February and Beyond.					
Step 1. Account for Individual Use.					
Carryover from previous month, af	953	957	490		2,400
Percent of Table "A" (among carryover participants)	47.2	43.0	9.8		100.0
Water use by carryover participants, af	0	0	450		450
Water User's remaining carryover, af	953	957	40		1,950
Step 2. Allocate Use by Non-Carryover Participants.					
Percent of Table "A" (among carryover participants)	47.2	43.0	9.8		100.0
Table "A" use by non-carryover participants, af				1,000	1,000
Reallocation from non-carryover participants, af	472	430	98	(1,000)	0
Water User's remaining carryover, af	481	527	(58)		950
Water User's remaining allocation, af	20,065	18,296	4,189	2,800	45,350
Step 3. Reallocate Remaining Water.					
Percent of Table "A" (among carryover participants)	52.3	47.7			100.0
Reallocation from non-carryover participants, af	31	28	(58)		0
Water User's remaining carryover (subject to spill), af	451	499	0		950
Water User's remaining allocation (if carryover spills), af	20,095	18,324	4,131	2,800	45,350

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Rule 9. REVISIONS OF WATER SCHEDULE

Revisions in the monthly amounts of water to be delivered to any Water User must be submitted to the District on or before the 25th of the month preceding the month in which the water is to be delivered. All such revisions shall be subject to approval of the Manager of the District in accordance with the policies of the Board of Directors then in effect and applicable conditions imposed by DWR.

The monthly total of the water used shall not differ from the approved schedule of such an amount which will result in additional charges to the District as provided in the Water Supply Contract with DWR, except that the District may approve a change in water delivery schedule which may be conditioned upon payment of any added cost.

Rule 10. DAILY WATER ORDERS

All requests for water delivery shall be subject to the approval of the Manager of the District in accordance with applicable conditions imposed by DWR. Daily water orders must be made to the District no later than 8:30 a.m. for the next day's delivery (i.e. 24-hour notice for daily water deliveries), and weekly water schedules must be made to the District by 8:30 a.m. on the Wednesday of each week for the following week's (Thursday through Wednesday) deliveries. Monthly water schedules must be provided to the District as periodically requested. Water may be delivered on shorter notice in emergencies.

If scheduled in accordance with the previous paragraph, turn-on and/or turn-off orders may be scheduled at anytime. Unless other turn-on and/or turn-off orders have been scheduled, water must be used continuously and at a constant rate for each twenty-four hours beginning and ending at 9:00 a.m., except in the case of an emergency or where approved by the Manager.

All shut-off orders must be made to the District no later than twenty-four (24) hours before shut-off is desired. Shorter notice of shut-off is acceptable in emergencies. In the event of an emergency shut off, the District must be notified as soon as possible thereafter.

Except in the case of an emergency, as determined by the Board of Directors, Water Users who turn off water without notice or before shut-off time will be charged for the use of the amount of water requested or applied for and for all costs incurred by the District as the result of the shut-off of water by the Water User, unless, another Water User on the same distribution system has agreed to accept the additional water made available from the unscheduled shut-off.

Rule 11. WATER CHARGES

The District may from time to time establish and levy a standby charge to Landowners and other Water Users in the Water Service Area and for providing for the delivery of that available water. The standby charge, per acre of land in the Water Service Area, may be in an amount up to that needed to pay for District administration and distribution system maintenance, and

any other costs which the Board of Directors may deem necessary for the proper operation of the District.

In the event the Board of Directors determines that an amount should be included in the standby charge to pay costs which are only to benefit a specific area of the District, the District shall be subdivided into distribution system sub-areas so that the standby charges more accurately reflect the costs to the District of each sub-area, and the standby charges for each sub-area may differ accordingly. The standby charges for each sub-area and the payment date and deposits (if any) with respect to standby charges shall be established by the Board of Directors.

The District may from time to time establish and levy an improvement district charge to Landowners in areas served by District funded distribution systems. The improvement district charge, per acre of land in the improvement district area, may be in an amount up to that needed to pay for the annual debt service associated with the construction cost of capital facilities. The improvement district charges and the payment date and deposits (if any) with respect to improvement district charges shall be established by the Board of Directors.

The District may from time to time establish and levy a water toll charge to Landowners and other Water Users for all types and classifications of water made available to Water Users, including without limitation, Table "A" Contract Water. Water toll charges levied per acre-foot of water scheduled for delivery, by the District shall be sufficient to pay the SWP Variable OMP&R and Off-Aqueduct charges to the District and the District's cost of delivery to a Water User of the water subject to a water toll charge. The amount of water toll charges for any water supply made available to Water Users by the District, and the payment date and deposits (if any) with respect to water toll charges, shall be established by the Board of Directors.

The District may annually establish and levy benefit assessments on a per acre basis to all lands in the District. The benefit assessments shall be in an amount up to that needed to pay SWP Fixed Costs and a minimal amount of District administrative costs. The benefit assessment and the payment date(s) shall be established by the Board of Directors.

Rule 12. DELINQUENT CHARGES

In the event any assessments, standby charges, improvement district charges, water toll charges, or other charges for water or services levied by the District become delinquent, the Board of Directors may authorize the officers and employees of the District to take any or all actions permitted by law in order to secure and/or collect such delinquencies. The Board of Directors may also add to the amount of any such delinquency up to the maximum penalty permitted by law, and may charge up to the maximum interest rate permitted by law on any such delinquencies. The Board of Directors may refuse water service to any lands on which assessments or other charges are delinquent and/or unpaid. In the event the Board of Directors elects to commence action in a court of competent jurisdiction in order to collect such

delinquent assessments or charges, all costs and attorneys' fees incurred by the District in such action shall be added to the delinquent assessments or charges and shall be recovered by the District in any such action.

Rule 13. CREDITS AND REFUNDS

The Board of Directors, giving due regard to the District's reserves and financial condition, may from time to time approve refunds and credits to Landowners and/or Water Users.

In any year in which a Landowner or other Water User has some or all of their allocation of Table "A" Contract Water used by other Landowners or Water Users in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, a credit or refund shall be given to such Landowner or Water User to the extent their allocation of Table "A" Contract Water is actually so used by other Landowners or Water Users. The amount of any such credit or refund shall be determined by the Board of Directors in any such year.

In any instance in which a penalty and/or interest has been imposed or charged against a Landowner or other Water User and in which a credit or refund is to be given, the penalty shall be based on the original delinquent amount and interest shall be calculated by accumulating interest on the outstanding amount (original amount up until any credit is issued, then on the adjusted charge) at rates as determined by the Board of Directors.

Rule 14. COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR AUTHORIZED IMPROVEMENTS TO DISTRICT FACILITIES

The District encourages Landowner improvements made to the District's distribution system and will allow for reimbursement to Landowners constructing and dedicating such improvements to the District as described in the "Agreement Regarding Improvements" adopted by the Board of Directors on April 12, 1995, or as subsequently amended or restated.

Rule 15. NON-LIABILITY OF DISTRICT

The District will not be liable for damages of any kind or nature resulting directly or indirectly from any private ditch or pipeline or the water flowing therein or by reason of lack of capacity therein, or of negligent, wasteful, or other use of handling water by the users thereof, and the District's responsibility shall cease absolutely when the water is delivered to the Water User. The District will not be liable for shortage of water, either temporary or permanent, or for failure to make water available to any delivery turnout. The District is subject to the terms and conditions of its Water Supply Contract with DWR and all laws, policies, and regulations affecting deliveries to the SWP and the District.

The District assumes no responsibility with respect to the quality of project water. All Water Users are advised that project water, as delivered by the District, is unfit for human consumption. All complaints concerning the quality of water should be referred to the Manager.

Rule 16. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES

Refusal to comply with each and all of these Rules and Regulations, or any violation of any of the foregoing Rules and Regulations, or any interference with the proper discharge of duties of any person employed by the District, shall be considered sufficient cause for termination of water service; water service will not again be furnished until, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, full compliance has been made with all requirements herein set forth. In no event shall any liability accrue against the District or any of its officers, agents or employees, for damage, direct or indirect, arising from such temporary discontinuance or reduction of water deliveries.

Exhibit 7. Policy for Temporary Transfer of Water.

POLICY FOR THE TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF WATER TO OR FROM THE DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT (adopted by the Board of Directors on December 8, 2010)

This policy modifies and supersedes the prior water transfer policy (adopted December 13, 2000). This policy has been developed by the District to promote good water management of the District's State Water Project allocations and provide flexibility to the District's landowners.

For purposes of this policy, temporary transfers are defined as water transfers, banking, or exchanges from the District to areas outside the District that are requested annually or for a short-term period that do not create a long-term (greater than ten years) or permanent obligation or commitment for the District to continue such transfers.

Therefore, the following conditions state the District's policy for temporary water transfers.

- 1. Requests to transfer of water out of the District shall be allowed for the following:
 - a. District-approved water banking or exchange programs;
 - b. Transfers to the same landowner's or water user's lands outside the District where substantially the same landowner or water user business affiliation and use exists as exists within the District; and/or
 - c. Non District-approved banking or exchange programs where at least 50% of the water (after reasonable losses) is returned to the District within a ten year period, or other period as allowed by the California Department of Water Resources.
- Temporary transfers proposed under Paragraph 1, may be administratively approved by the Manager-Engineer, provided that the transfer does not take specific action by the Board related to CEQA compliance.
- For temporary transfers proposed under Paragraph 1b or 1c, all District charges must be paid prior to District authorization to release the transferred.
- Requests to transfer <u>water into the District</u> may be administratively approved by the Manager-Engineer, provided that the transfer does not take specific action by the Board related to CEQA compliance.
- 5. Any State or third party charges or fees related to temporary transfers into the District or to outside of the District shall be payable by the transferor(s). District staff time to assist with the transfer shall not be charged to the transferor. An exception to this rule occurs in the case of programmatic transfers where the program was initially offered to all landowners or water users, but not all water users are participating (such as Kern Water Bank and Dry Year Water Program), in

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- which staff time shall be accounted for separately and charged only to program participants.
- 6. The Manager shall report any transfers administratively approved to the Board at the District Board meeting following the receipt of the request(s) for the transfer.
- 7. Temporary transfers not eligible for administrative approval by the Manager-Engineer in accordance with this policy, or other requests for temporary transfers not described in Paragraphs 1 or 4, shall be brought to the Board for consideration on a case-by-case basis.

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POLICY FOR THE PERMANENT TRANSFER OF SWP TABLE A WATER OUTSIDE OF DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT

REVISED FOR CONSIDERATION 12-8-2010

(for new transfers requested after adoption of a revised policy)

Introduction

The following policy was adopted by the Dudley Ridge Water District Board of Directors on April 8, 2009 and revised on December 8, 2010 and effective January 1, 2011. It is the intent of this policy to facilitate the voluntary permanent transfers of State Water Project ("SWP") Table A contract amounts ("Table A water") by District landowners while protecting non-transferring landowners and water users. Accordingly, it is the express intent of the Board in adopting this policy to allow proposed permanent transfers to the maximum extent permitted by law, provided that such transfers do not create unmitigated material adverse impacts on other District landowners. ²

Policy

- 1. This policy shall apply whether the permanent transfer of Table A water is specifically for the benefit of a District landowner's lands in another district or to a third party, either of which is referred to as a "third party" herein.³
- Proposals to transfer Table A water will be brought before the Board whether the District receives unsolicited offers or proposed transfers are brought to the District by individual landowners.
 - a. <u>Third party Table A inquiries received by District</u>: Upon adoption of this policy, the District will mail this policy to all landowners with a District Table A water allocation and request interested landowners to notify the District in writing if they

¹ "Permanent" transfers are defined as transfers of a portion of the District's Table A contract associated with a transferring landowner's land within the District to a non-District water purveyor as allowed by Articles 41 & 53 of the District's Water Supply Contract with the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") for State Water Project water.

² Such impacts include, without limitation, increased cost of water, decreased water supplies, or adverse impacts to land values caused by transfers governed by this Policy.

³ This transfer policy contemplates that DWR will require that Table A water transferred outside of the District must be to another water entity, even if for the benefit of an individual within the water entity's service area.

are interested in selling Table A water in accordance with this policy; the District shall maintain a current list of interested landowners and their contact information. Subsequently, if the District receives third party inquiries to purchase Table A water, the District shall simultaneously notify all listed landowners with the name and contact information of the inquiring third party; the District Board will be copied. The District will not be directly involved in negotiation of the basic terms of the transfer proposal developed between landowners and prospective third party buyers of Table A water.

- b. <u>Table A sales offers from landowners</u>: Landowners interested in permanent Table A water transfers shall provide the District a written proposal for transfer, signed by the landowner and prospective third party transferee.
- c. Board review. With the advice of District staff and legal counsel, the Board shall review each transfer proposal and determine if it is consistent with this policy. If deemed by the Board to be consistent with this policy, the Board will direct staff to proceed with the following process: (i) provide current District landowners and other SWP contractors located primarily within Kings County⁴ a 30-day period to review and execute a first right-of-refusal to accept all or a portion of the Table A amount proposed to be transferred on the same terms and conditions as being proposed in the third party transfer⁵, (ii) initiate the applicable environmental review process, (iii) initiate requests for regulatory reviews and approvals, and (iv) subject to the completion of i. ii. and iii. the Board will then promptly consider approval of the proposed for transfer. The Board's approval shall not be unreasonably withheld if the proposed transfer conforms with this policy and has obtained all applicable environmental and regulatory reviews and/or approvals, unless the Board determines that the proposed transfer would result in an unmitigated material adverse impact to the District or to District landowners. The Board may condition approval of any transfer to mitigate any adverse impacts it identifies to the District or District landowners.

⁴ Kings County, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, and Empire West Side Irrigation District.

⁵ If the proposed transfer includes non-monetary consideration (that is, consideration other than cash or indebtedness, or a common landowner transfer to its lands in another district), it may not be possible for District landowner(s) and/or a local SWP contractor(s) to exercise their first rights-of-refusal. Substitution of cash in an amount equal to the fair market value of the Table A water to be transferred or the non-cash consideration being offered will not be permitted. The first right-of-refusal may only be exercised if the landowner(s) and/or a local SWP contractor(s) seeking to exercise this right can provide the same consideration to the selling landowner(s) as is proposed by the intended transferee. In the event both a District landowner(s) and a SWP contractor(s) in Kings County exercise a first right-of-refusal for more than the Table A amount available, first priority will be given to the District landowner(s).

- 3. Financial requirements for a permanent transfer shall include the following:
 - a. Prior to the transfer, the transferring landowner shall pay the District a lump sum representing the present worth⁶ of the following:
 - Any outstanding District bonds or loans and associated administrative costs (<u>Improvement District Charge</u>) associated with the District land that will be stripped of Table A water as a result of the transfer.
 - ii. Estimated District administration costs for the eight-year period following the effective date of the transfer (<u>Standby Charge</u> less line items for Special Studies and Litigation) associated with the land that will be stripped of Table A water as a result of the transfer.
 - b. The money collected by the District shall be placed in an interest bearing restricted account; annual withdrawals will be made to offset the costs to remaining landowners and water users. No other compensation to other District landowners shall be required of the transferring landowner.
- 4. Except as expressly provided below, a transferring landowner's capacity in the San Gabriel Valley MWD exchange program, the Cawelo Water District conjunctive use program, and other District-wide storage or exchange programs⁷ will be reduced in proportion to the reduction in Table A water.⁸
- 5. If the transferring landowner is a District participant in the Kern Water Bank, the transferring landowner will also be required to relinquish its Kern Water Bank rights and obligations once the landowner's acreage in the District's Standby Charge area is reduced to less than the acreage originally removed from the Standby Charge area or the landowner's Table A amount is reduced to less than the Table A amount

⁶ Present worth shall be calculated at an interest rate of 5%; future costs shall be projected based on information available from DWR and a forecasted rate of inflation not less than 5%.

⁷ The Kern Water Bank is not considered a District-wide program for purposes of this policy.

⁸ Per District policy (adopted 9-10-03), capacity in these programs is allocated based on the percentage of a landowner's Table A water. Note that the total District capacity would not be reduced as a result of a Table A water transfer, but the percentage of each water users' capacity in these programs would be adjusted.

⁹ "Original" or 'originally" is defined as the landowner's Table A water and/or percentage of Kern Water Bank participation as associated with the landowner's remaining interest in the Kern Water Bank.

originally relinquished by that landowner or its predecessor to participate in the Kern Water Bank. 10

- a. The Kern Water Bank rights and obligations may be relinquished either by:
 - . Sales to another District landowner(s) or
 - ii. Sales to the District.
- b. In the event the transferring landowner has stored water remaining in the Kern Water Bank, the inventory may be relinquished either by:
 - i. Sales to another District landowner(s) or
 - ii. Sales to the District.
- 6. The transferring landowner shall enter into a reimbursement agreement with the District to pay the District for all associated costs in facilitating the permanent transfer of Table A water, including without limitation, conducting special meetings, administration, legal, CEQA, outside counsel or consultants, and/or litigation.
- 7. If Table A water is transferred out of the District, the water allocation shall be fully removed from individual parcels to the extent possible. The transferring landowner(s) shall designate which parcels from which the water is to be transferred. These lands will not receive a Table A water allocation; a notice satisfactory to the Board will be recorded on the property to this effect, as a condition to final Board approval of the transfer.
- 8. Final Board approval of any transfer under this policy will be further conditioned on the execution and (if appropriate) recordation of an agreement satisfactory to the Board memorializing the terms and conditions of this policy and such other terms as the Board determines to be necessary or appropriate in connection with the transfer. However, such agreement shall include, at a minimum, a binding commitment by the transferring landowner(s) and the transferee to jointly and severally indemnify, defend and hold the District and its directors, officers, landowners, agents and affiliates harmless from and against any and all liabilities, claims, demands, losses, costs, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), damages or recoveries of

¹⁰ As of the date of this policy, the participants in the Kern Water Bank are Paramount Farming Company ("PFC"), Irvine Ranch Water District ("IRWD"), Don Jackson, Hillside Orchards ("Hillside") and Sandridge Partners ("Sandridge"). The acreage originally removed by each participant or its predecessor from the District's Standby Charge area to participate in the Kern Water Bank was 2,201.36 acres (1,984.75 for PFC, 444.85 for IRWD, 57.46 for Don Jackson, 7.15 for Sandridge, and 7.15 for Hillside). The Table A water originally relinquished by each participant or its predecessor to participate in the Kern Water Bank was 4,330 acre-feet (3,904 for PFC, 285 for IRWD, 113 for Don Jackson, 14 for Sandridge, and 14 for Hillside).

