Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Water Management Plan
2008 Criteria

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Index

Section 1: Description of the District

District Name: Lower Tule River Irrigation District

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A. History

1. Date district formed: 1950 *Date of first Reclamation contract*: 1951
Original size (acres): 103,086 *Current year (last complete calendar year)*: 2010

The Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID or District) was organized pursuant to the California Irrigation District Law (Division 11, California Water Code) in 1950. Formation was for the purposes of promoting flood control on the Tule River and to secure a supplemental irrigation supply from the Central Valley Project to sustain and enhance the irrigated agriculture that had developed in the area.

The development of irrigated agriculture in the District started in about 1870. The irrigated area was mainly along the Tule River, Porter Slough and small areas served by the Stockton and Poplar ditches. The central portion of the District was the scene of a "bonanza" wheat farming development during the 1880's. Two attempts were made during this period to form irrigation districts. One attempt was made in what is now the northeastern portion of the present district. This district, known as the Tule River Irrigation District, failed because the farmers along the Tule River and the Porter Slough, who had adequate water, did not support formation. Those farmers away from the streams and had to engage in dry land farming, conversely, did support formation.

The second attempt at formation was in an area around the present community of Tipton. The attempt to form the Tipton Irrigation District failed because of the lack of availability of a firm water supply from the Tule River. Remnants of the canal system serving the Tipton Irrigation District are still evident in the area today. The earliest reliable crop survey record indicates a net irrigated area of 27,327 acres in 1924. The principal crops have historically been cotton and alfalfa.

Currently, the water supply for landowners within the District is derived from the use of groundwater, water rights on the Tule River and surface water diversions from the Friant-Kern Canal under two separate long term surface water contracts for Central Valley Project water with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers completed Success Dam on the Tule River in 1962 which provided much needed flood control and water conservation for the flows of the Tule River. The District owns or controls through agreements, approximately 50 percent of the water rights on the Tule River. These rights yield an average annual supply of approximately 70,000 acre-feet to the District. The District originally entered into a forty-year repayment contract for its share of the cost of the conservation

storage space provided by Success Dam and reservoir. The final payment of the capital was made to Reclamation in 2006.

In May, 1951, the District entered into a long-term forty-year water service contract with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation to provide 61,200 acre-feet of Class 1 water and 238,000 acre-feet of Class 2 water from the San Joaquin River via Friant Dam and the Friant-Kern Canal. This CVP contract has provided the District with a highly variable water supply averaging approximately 164,000 acre-feet per year.

In 1975, the District sold bonds to purchase a share of the Cross Valley Canal, located in Kern County. The District then entered into a three-party contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the State of California (for wheeling) to provide an additional water supply from CVP supplies available in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers delta (delta) in the amount of 31,102 acre-feet. The contract supply was initially made available on the east-side through an exchange with the Arvin-Edison Water Storage District, identified as the Cross Valley Canal Exchange Program. This contract provided an additional average water supply of approximately 29,000 acre-feet average per year until 1992. Implementation of CVPIA and environmental constraints related to the delta has significantly impacted the quantity of water available for diversion and subsequent beneficial use. These constraints led to modifications to the original exchange and ultimately, to termination of the exchange.

In 2010, the District entered into a Reclamation Law Section 9d repayment contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for the repayment of capital under Contract No. 175r-2771D (effective date 11/17/2010).

2. Current size, population, and irrigated acres

	2010
Size (acres)	103,086
Population served	0
Irrigated acres	84,169

3. Water supplies received in current year

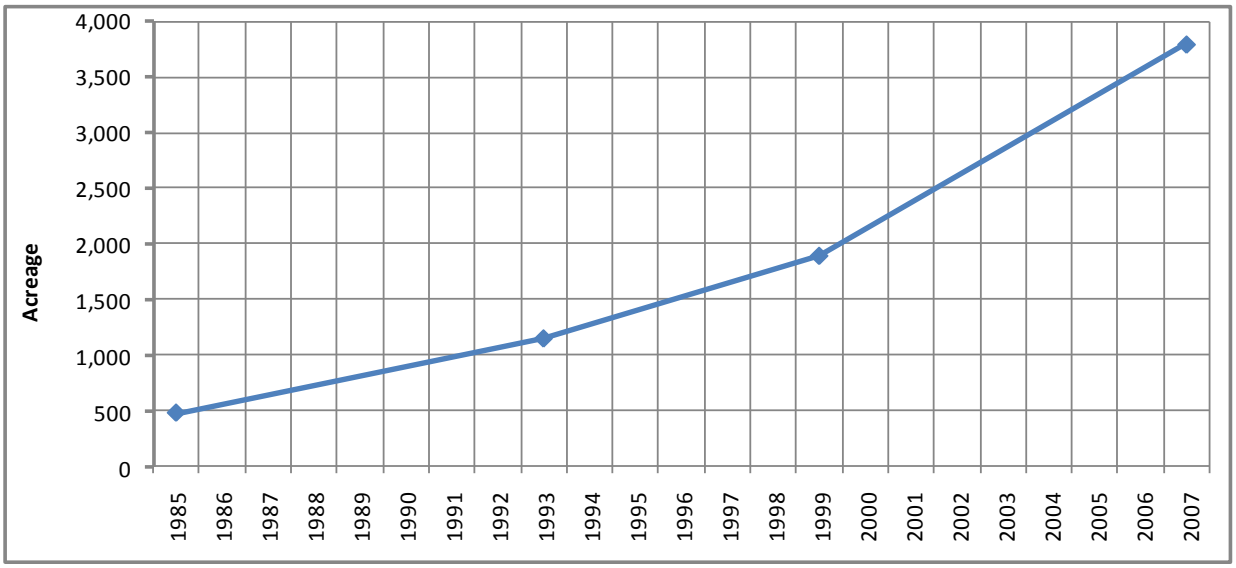
Water Source	*AF*
Federal urban water (Tbl 1)	
Federal agricultural water (Tbl 1)	171,428
State water (Tbl 1)	
Other Wholesaler (define) (Tbl 1)	
Local surface water (Tbl 1)	89,215
Upslope drain water (Tbl 1)	
District ground water (Tbl 2)	
Banked water (Tbl 1)	
Transferred water (Tbl 6)	(8,111)
Recycled water (Tbl 3)	
Other (define) (Tbl 1)	
Total	252,532

4. Annual entitlement under each right and/or contract

	AF	*Source*	*Contract #*	*Availability period(s)*
Reclamation Urban AF/Y	0			
Reclamation Agriculture AF/Y	61,200 Cl. 1	CVP	175r-2771D	
Reclamation Agriculture AF/Y	238,000 Cl. 2	CVP	175r-2771D	
Reclamation Agriculture AF/Y	31,102	CVP	14-06-200-8238A	No CVP Wheeling
Other AF/Y	70,000[1]	Tule River Rights	Pre-1914 Tule River Rights	

[1] The water received from Lake Success is associated with District's Tule River Rights. The average annual yield of those combined rights is approximately 70,000 AF per year. However, these water rights are currently impaired by limited storage conditions behind Success Dam which are limited by the Army Corps of Engineers due to concerns about the safety of the earthen dam.

5. Anticipated land-use changes



Graph of Dairy\Ag Related Acreages for Lower Tule River ID

There has been a general trend over the last few decades of increased dairy development in the District. This has reduced the irrigable acres within the District because of the development of dairy facilities, but has also increased the number of irrigable and cropped acres within the District as some new ground has been put into ag production due to dairy development and many dairies double crop their land.

6. Cropping patterns (Agricultural only)

List of current crops (crops with 5% or less of total acreage) can be combined in the „Other' category.

Original Plan (2003)		*Previous Plan (enter date)*		*Current Plan*	
Crop Name	*Acres*	*Crop Name*	*Acres*	*Crop Name*	*Acres*
Alfalfa hay	23,049			Corn	53,502
Silage	33,954			Alfalfa	20,556
Cotton	11,045			Wheat	18,509
				Cotton	4,853
				Almonds	3,106

Original Plan (2003)		*Previous Plan (enter date)*		*Current Plan*	
				Walnuts	3,088
				Pistachios	2,064
				Vineyards	2,025
				Prunes	1,447
Other (<5%)		*Other (<5%)*		*Other (<5%)*	2,788
Total	68,048	*Total*		*Total*	111,939

(See Planner, Chapter 2, Appendix A for list of crop names)

Although there is a large difference in cropped acres between the current plan and the plan in 2003, the actual increase in the District is not as drastic. The District's method of data collection changed around 2010. Prior to 2010 the method was to ask growers their cropped acreage information thinking that growers would reliably provide the requested information. Not all growers reported cropped acreage back to the District during this time, so information in the 2003 report reflects only a partial reporting of cropped acres. 2010 information is based on land use surveys completed by the California Department of Water Resources, includes double cropping and provides a more complete view of the cropping in the District.

7. Major irrigation methods (by acreage) (Agricultural only)

Original Plan (2003)		*Previous Plan (enter date)*		*Current Plan*	
Irrigation Method	*Acres*	*Irrigation Method*	*Acres*	*Irrigation Method*	*Acres*
Micro-sprinkler	12,665			Furrow	59,209
Furrow	50,655			Boarder Strip	49,514
Flood	12,655			Sprinkler	500
				Low Volume	2,716
Other	8,441	*Other*		*Other*	
Total	84,426	*Total*		*Total*	111,939

(See Planner, Chapter 2, Appendix A for list of irrigation system types)

The value for irrigated acres in 2003 is noticeably larger than the value of cropped acres in 2003, the reason for this is unknown as values were copied from the previous report. Initially it was thought this discrepancy was due to grower double cropping. Double cropping, however does not account for this large difference in acreages. There was a note in the 2003 report that irrigated acres came from the 1996 report. As previously mentioned, 2010 information is based on land use surveys completed by the California Department of Water Resources, includes double cropping and provides a more complete view of the cropping in the District.

B. Location and Facilities

See Plate 1 for a map that shows the general location of the District within Tulare County, CA. See Plate 2 for a map of District surface water conveyance facilities (creeks, canals and basins). The District has measurement facilities at diversions from the Friant-Kern Canal (North Ditch, Wood-Central Ditch, Tipton Ditch, and Casa Blanca Canal) and the Tule River (Wood-Central Canal, North Ditch). On the west side of the District, the Tule River continues past the Turnbull Weir, which is the location where the District views surface water is past their ability to divert.

See Plate 3 for a map of NRCS Soils within the District. See Plate 4 for a map of District control structures and measurement locations. The District does not own or operate any groundwater wells; however they do regularly monitor groundwater levels in privately owned wells. See Plate 5 for a map of the District groundwater level monitoring network. The District does not have any water quality monitoring locations.

The Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District) includes approximately 103,086 acres of land, situated in the southwestern part of Tulare County on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley. State Highway 99 bisects the District in a north-south direction and the Tule River flows westerly through the entire length of the District. The Friant-Kern Canal is located five to six miles east of the District's boundary on the northeast and adjoins the southeast portion of the District between Avenue 136 and Avenue 128. The unincorporated communities of Woodville, Poplar and Tipton (site of the District office) lie within the boundaries of the District, but are for the most part excluded from the District.

The District has approximately 610 farm service outlets. Water delivery measurements are performed by means of calibrated slide gates (meter gates).

The District does not have any groundwater extraction facilities; therefore, each landowner must provide his own well(s) to sustain irrigation during periods when the District does not have surface water available.

The District's entire distribution system is unlined earth canals with reinforced concrete control structures. Improvement districts were formed to provide local financing for the construction of the distribution systems. After completion, the facilities were turned over to the District for operation and maintenance. Collectively, the District owns or controls approximately 163 miles of canals and approximately 47 miles of river channel. The District has five (5) main canals originating at the Friant-Kern Canal with capacities ranging from 25 cfs to 600 cfs. The main canals run from east to west. The capacity of the sub-laterals branching out from the main canals range from 5 cfs to 100 cfs. The District's distribution system is shown on Plate 3.

In wetter years, the District operates its groundwater recharge/regulating reservoirs and distribution system to recharge the groundwater reservoir. The District maintains and operates eighteen (18) recharge and regulating basins, covering over 3,700 acres. The basins are graded and are compartmentalized into multiple cells for maximum efficiency and flexibility.

1. Incoming flow locations and measurement methods

Location Name	*Physical Location*	*Type of Measurement Device*	*Accuracy*
Friant-Kern Canal	MP 92.13R	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Friant-Kern Canal	MP 95.78R	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Friant-Kern Canal	MP 96.87R	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Friant-Kern Canal	MP 97.35R	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Friant-Kern Canal	MP 98.62R	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Tule River	Porter Slough	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Tule River	Poplar Ditch	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Tule River	Woods Central Ditch	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Tule River	#4 Cross Ditch	Parshall Flume	± 4 %
Tule River	McCarthy Diversion	Parshall Flume	± 4 %

Location Name	*Physical Location*	*Type of Measurement Device*	*Accuracy*
Tule River	Creighton Ranch	Parshall Flume	± 4 %

2. Current year Agricultural Conveyance System

The District's entire distribution system is unlined earth canals with CMP pipe or reinforced concrete control structures. Local financing by District landowners has been used for the construction of the distribution system. Collectively, the District owns or controls approximately 163 miles of canals in addition to the Tule River channel. The District delivers water from the Friant-Kern Canal through five major conveyance facilities and from the Tule River through six major conveyance facilities. The District's distribution system is shown on Plate 2. The additional 47 miles noted in the "Other" category accounts for the Tule River channel that is used outside the District to deliver surface water. Currently the District facilities provide surface water delivery to approximately 103,086 acres within the District.

Miles Unlined - Canal	*Miles Lined - Canal*	*Miles Piped*	*Miles - Other*
163	None	None	47 – Tule River

3 Current year Urban Distribution System

Miles AC Pipe	*Miles Steel Pipe*	*Miles Cast Iron Pipe*	*Miles - Other*
N/A			

4. Storage facilities (tanks, reservoirs, regulating reservoirs)

In wetter years, the District maintains and operates its groundwater recharge/regulating reservoirs and distribution system to recharge the groundwater reservoir. The District maintains and/or operates eighteen (18) recharge and regulating basins covering approximately 3,700 acres. The larger basins are divided into multiple cells for maximum efficiency and flexibility of operation.

Name	*Type*	*Capacity (AF)*	*Distribution or Spill*
Koslov Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	200	Spill Capture
Hare Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	60	Spill Capture
Lapadula Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	150	Spill Capture
County Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	100	Spill Capture
State Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	150	Spill Capture
Hershey Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	400	Spill Capture
Boswell Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	450	Spill Capture
Dennis Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	25	Spill Capture
Faure Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	50	Spill Capture
Baird Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	400	Spill Capture
Huddleston Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	200	Spill Capture
Gin Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	10	Spill Capture
School Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	50	Spill Capture
Creighton Ranch(E)	Earth Embankment	9,000	Spill Capture
Terry Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	150	Spill Capture
Hewett Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	400	Spill Capture
Keith Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	50	Spill Capture
Toledo Pit (E)	Earth Embankment	800	Spill Capture

(E) = Existing; (P) = Proposed

5. Outflow locations and measurement methods (Agricultural only)
Provide this information in Section 2 F.

6. Description of the agricultural spill recovery system
The District employs terminal basins in some location to capture spill from the District's distribution system, but these facilities then recharge the spill to local groundwater. In other words the water that enters these facilities cannot be delivered back to other parts of the system.

7. Agricultural delivery system operation (check all that apply)

On-demand	*Scheduled*	*Rotation*	*Other (describe)*
	100%		

8. Restrictions on water source(s)

Source	*Restriction*	*Cause of Restriction*	*Effect on Operations*
CVP	Availability	Pumping from Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers Delta	Increase in groundwater pumping and purchases from other contractors
CVP	Availability	Reduced available surplus water supplies due to San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement	Increase in groundwater pumping and purchases from other contractors
Tule River	Availability and Storage	Success Dam is viewed by the Army Corps of Engineers as seismically at risk	Less flood protection to land owners around the Tule River, Reduced ability to store wet season water, Increased in groundwater pumping,.

9. Proposed changes or additions to facilities and operations for the next 5 years

Facility	Description	Schedule
Tule River Intertie	Tule River supplies available to southeastern portion of the District.	2012-2017
Avenue 116 Lateral System	This project is a partnership with PIXID. The benefit to LTRID is improved capacity in the existing Casa Blanca Canal, from 200 to 335 CFS.	2012-2014

The District recently completed construction of new Tule River Intertie facility on the east side of the District's delivery system. The District will be modifying their operations over the next several years to incorporate this new flexibility in the system. This facility provides the District the ability to deliver Tule River surface water supplies to the southeastern portion of the District.

The Avenue 116 Lateral Project would be a cooperative project with Lower Tule River ID and would utilize LTRID's Casa Blanca Canal to deliver water to a new service area in PIXID through a connecting intertie and a new earthen lateral canal. A five mile section of the existing Casa Blanca Canal would be modified to increase its conveyance capacity from 200 to 335 CFS. LTRID anticipates that surface water deliveries to this previously unserved service area in PIXID will reduce groundwater pumping in an area adjacent to the District and in turn benefit District groundwater levels and resource reliability.

In an over-arching sense, the District continues to need access to additional conservation storage space in order to "level out" a highly variable water supply. This storage space can either be surface (on-stream or off-stream storage) or can be provided through an enhanced conjunctive use (groundwater storage) program.

C. Topography and Soils

1. Topography of the district and its impact on water operations and management

The Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District) occupies part of the eastern floor of the San Joaquin Valley, approximately 6 miles west of the Sierra Nevada foothills. The District area includes: (1) remnants of the original Pleistocene aggraded alluvial surface; (2) floodplain and alluvial fan surfaces built by the present streams; and (3) a portion of the Tulare Lake basin. The surface slopes gently westward from 8 feet per mile on the east to 5 feet per mile near its western boundary. The maximum and minimum elevations within the District are 415 feet and 195 feet, respectively.

Remnants of an old alluvial surface in the eastern portion of the District form isolated outcrops at a slightly higher elevation than the floodplains and alluvial fan surfaces of the present streams.

The Tule River enters the valley floor near Springville and extends west through the central part of the District, a distance of 22 miles. Porter Slough follows a parallel course north of the Tule River. Very little Tule River water passes the City of Porterville in the main river channel, as most of it is diverted for irrigation purposes.

Topographic features cause cold air to drain into the District from two sides. There is little thermal protection for citrus fruits or for truck crops that mature very early or very late, and for that reason groundwater supplies are sometimes used to moderate extreme temperatures in fields.

2. District soil association map (Agricultural only)

Soil Association	Estimated Acres	Effect on Water Operations and Management
Colpien loam	*22,040.4*	Moderately well drained, moderately slow permeability
Akers loam	*19,380.2*	Well drained, neg. runoff, saline-sodic phases moderately slow permeability
Nord loam	*13,042.0*	Well drained, moderate permeability, moderately slow in saline-sodic phases
Gambogy-Giggriz	*9,737.3*	Poorly drained, moderately slow permeability
Tagus Loam	*8,756.4*	Well drained, moderate permeability
Biggriz loam	*7,907.6*	Somewhat poorly drained, moderately slow permeability
Crosscreek-Kai loam	*5,020.5*	Well drained, moderately slow permeability above duripan, very slow below
Gambogy Loam	*4,633.1*	Poorly drained, moderately slow permeability
Flamen loam	*3,931.3*	Moderately well drained, moderate permeability above duripan slow permeability in duripan
Yettem sandy loam	*2,366.0*	Well drained, moderately rapid permeability
Grangeville sandy loam	*1,738.4*	Somewhat poorly drained, moderately rapid permeability and moderate permeability in saline-sodic phases
Exeter loam	*1,302.9*	Moderately well drained; moderately slow permeability above the duripan. Permeability of the duripan is very slow.

Soil Association	Estimated Acres	Effect on Water Operations and Management
Armona sandy loam	*708.7*	Poorly drained, moderately slow to slow permeability due to sodicity and stratification
Tujunga loamy sand	*651.1*	Excessively drained, rapid permeability
Calgro loam	*475.0*	Moderately well drained, moderate permeability above duripan, very slow in duripan, rapid below duripan
Hanford sandy loam	*359.5*	Well drained, neg. runoff, moderately rapid permeability
Quonal-Lewis loam	*103.4*	Moderately well drained; permeability is slow above the duripan and very slow in the duripan.
San Joaquin sand	*14.2*	Well and moderately well drained; very slow permeability.

See Plate 3 for a map of NRCS Soils within the District.

The soils located on gently sloping flood plains in the east central part of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District) and along the Tule River channels, are deep, permeable and are predominately sandy loams and loams. Some lands within the District have slight to moderate alkali problems. These lands have been and continue to be improved through land reclamation activities such as leveling, leaching and the application of amendments. A detailed land classification of the District was completed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 1952. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has an ongoing process of reclassifying all of the District's lands in order to quantify the improved soil conditions as a result of the extensive reclamation activities. The land classes assigned to the District lands represent varying degrees of suitability for irrigation and were determined by evaluation of the factors of soil, topography, and drainage in relationship to adapted crops, productivity and land management. The table in Section 1 C2 presents the original land classification data for the District.

The soil survey for the District area is included in the Soil Survey of the Pixley Area, California, issued April, 1942, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. An updated study was undertaken by the Soil Conservation Service, however, has never been published.

The soils were developed under distinctly semiarid climatic conditions and therefore have characteristics that are different from those of soils developed where rainfall amounts are higher. With few exceptions, the soils are low in organic matter and distinctly basic in reaction. A large proportion of them effervesce when tested with dilute hydrochloric acid, indicating a high content of lime. As a general rule, the soils of the area are well supplied with most of the principal mineral plant nutrients. Nitrogen is generally low, owing to the low organic matter content. This content can be built up by the incorporation of manure or the plowing under of cover crops. The location and distribution of each soil series is shown on Plate 4, Soil Associations Map.

Soils of the area have the potential to fall into four major soil groups based on development of the soil profile, in which a definite relationship exists between the soil profile and the physiographic landscape. The four major soil groups are: (1) soils with bedrock substrata; (2) soils with permeable subsoils; (3) soils with slightly to moderately dense subsoils; and (4) soils with hardpan substrata. The first soil group is not represented within the District boundary.

The second soil group can be described as alluvial deposits of the valleys that have been washed from the mountains and foothills and accumulated on alluvial fans, in stream bottoms, or on flat areas of the valley plain. These deposits have given rise to soils unmodified by environmental conditions, or that

represent very youthful stages in profile development and are characterized by permeable subsoils. They occupy gently sloping recent and young alluvial fans and flood plains.

District soils of the Hanford, Tujunga, Cajon and Foster series are of recent deposition and undeveloped profile. They differ in parent material, color and lime content. The Hesperia and Chino soils have slightly modified or more mature profiles with profiles with slightly more compact or slightly heavier textured subsoils. These soils are indicated under the second group. In general, they are good to excellent soils, well adapted to a wide range of crops, especially cotton, alfalfa, deciduous fruits, vines and general farm crops.

The third soil group contains soils of the alluvial fans or flood plains that have undergone further development, with the formation of fairly compact to moderately dense heavier textured subsoils. Represented within the District are the Pond, Traver and Tulare series.

The Pond soils occupy the flat alluvial plains in association with Fresno soils in the western part of the area. They are light gray or light brownish gray and have moderately compact subsoils stratified with heavy-textured materials. The surface soils and subsoils are highly calcareous and micaceous. They generally contain alkali and differ from the Fresno soils in the absence of the cemented calcareous hardpan layer.

The Pond soils have light brownish-gray or light-gray compact and somewhat platy surface soils to an average depth of about 8 inches. The material in the topmost 2 or 3 inches is generally vesicular and very fluffy when dry. The organic-matter content is very low. When dry the material is very compact and hard to penetrate. It is not firmly cemented and therefore is penetrated by a few plant roots. The subsoils are relatively impervious to water and have a low water-holding capacity. The land is almost flat with a slope to the west ranging from 5 to 10 feet to the mile. All Pond soils, especially the finer textured types, contain injurious accumulations of alkali.

The surface soils of the Traver series are light gray when dry and become light grayish brown or brown when moist. They are calcareous and micaceous. When dry, they bake and become hard, and they have a vesicular and platy structure in the upper few inches. The Traver soils are developed on broad gently sloping or nearly flat valley plains and old alluvial fan deposits mainly of granitic origin. Surface drainage is rather slow and subdrainage is impaired. Excessive accumulations of salts occur in many places.

The Tulare soils have gray calcareous surface soils. The subsoils are of silty clay texture, fairly compact and highly calcareous. Stratified layers of sandier material contains shells or fragments of shells of fresh-water mollusks. The soils of this series occupy smooth flat lake beds consisting of sediments of mixed origin. The subsoils have a moderate to high content of alkali. Reclamation of these soils is difficult, owing to the heavy and rather impervious subsoils, although not so difficult as that of the Fresno and Pond soils.

The fourth soil group contains soils that occupy higher terraces and old valley plains above the flood plains of the stream bottoms and are remnants of brown soils with a hardpan. These terraces slope gently toward the west. Included in this group are the soils of the San Joaquin, Madera and Fresno series, which are present within the District. All are characterized by a hardpan layer at a depth ranging from 1 to 4 feet below the surface.

The surface soils of the San Joaquin soils are reddish brown and have a redder heavy-textured subsoil overlaying hardpan. The members of the Madera series have brown surface soils with calcareous subsoils and hardpan that is browner, softer and more calcareous than that of the San Joaquin soils. The San Joaquin and Madera soils are derived from coarse-textured igneous parent material that was laid down originally as alluvial fan and flood plain deposits, but that has been materially weathered and altered since that time.

In the western part of the area and extending between the alluvial fans in flat or shallow basin like areas, soils of the Fresno series occur. They have a calcareous hardpan and normally high content of alkali. The Fresno soils are light gray, are high in lime and have silty cemented calcareous hardpan lenses or thin layers occurring at a depth ranging from 1½ to 3½ feet. The Fresno soils have little value for agriculture because of their content of soluble salts.

3. Agricultural limitations resulting from soil problems (Agricultural only)
Growers within the District do not report limitations from soil problems.

Soil Problem	*Estimated Acres*	*Effect on Water Operations and Management*
Salinity	0	N/A
High-water table	0	N/A
High or low infiltration rates	0	N/A
Other (define)	0	N/A

Although historic documents for the District note that there were saline and alkaline lands within the District, much successful reclamation of these lands has taken place and currently there are no lands in the District that are viewed as being impaired. It would appear that with proper reclamation the soils in the District are now well drained and that there is not a shallow confining clay layer that causes shallow groundwater. This geologic feature appears to the west of the District and does not limit the use of lands within the District.

D. Climate

1. General climate of the district service area

	Jan	*Feb*	*Mar*	*Apr*	*May*	*Jun*	*Jul*	*Aug*	*Sep*	*Oct*	*Nov*	*Dec*	*Annual*
Avg Precip.	1.47	1.37	0.91	0.95	0.47	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.49	0.80	1.93	8.48
Avg Temp.	44.3	48.7	54.4	57.8	66.8	73.6	79.4	76.5	71.4	61.1	50.4	44.9	60.9
Max. Temp.	58	65	75	77	91	92	98	96	92	84	70	60	98
Min. Temp	28	33	38	40	46	53	61	57	52	45	33	32	28
ETo	1.15	1.90	3.59	4.74	6.79	7.63	7.90	7.13	5.31	3.35	1.76	1.11	52.36

Weather station ID CIMIS Porterville 169 *Data period: Year* 2000 *to Year* 2011

Average wind velocity 3.0 *Average annual frost-free days:* 225

The climate in the area served by the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District) is representative of that of the entire San Joaquin Valley. During the summer months the days are generally hot and dry with daytime temperatures typically exceeding 90 degrees Fahrenheit and during the winter months the days are generally mild and damp with daytime temperatures typically averaging 45 degrees Fahrenheit. The mean annual temperature at Porterville, located approximately 10 miles east of the District, is 60.9

degrees Fahrenheit. The average minimum and maximum temperatures are 44.3 degrees and 79.4 degrees Fahrenheit, respectively.

The average seasonal rainfall for the District area is 8.48 inches, based on records published by the California Irrigation Management Information System for the recording station in Porterville. The rain falls principally during the November through April period. The average annual evaporation for the area is 52.4 inches with the greatest evaporation occurring during the months of May, June, July and August.

2. Impact of microclimates on water management within the service area
Microclimates are not a significant factor in the LTRID.

E. Natural and Cultural Resources

1. Natural resource areas within the service area

Name	*Estimated Acres*	*Description*
None	None	Not applicable

2. Description of district management of these resources in the past or present
None.

3. Recreational and/or cultural resources areas within the service area

Name	*Estimated Acres*	*Description*
None	None	Not applicable

F. Operating Rules and Regulations

1. Operating rules and regulations
See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

2. Water allocation policy (Agricultural only)
See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

As per the California State Water Code, the District allocates water to growers based on irrigated acreage. However, in this allocation there is always consideration of the federal Reclamation Reform Act given that much of the surface water delivered by the District is from Federal projects and through Federal facilities. Generally there is greater demand for surface water than the District can supply, so requests for water are provided on a first come first serve basis. Allocation of water is made uniformly throughout the District's surface water service area, except where capacity constraints occur. In some cases, canal prorate requirements may apply.

3. Official and actual lead times necessary for water orders and shut-off (Agricultural only)
See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

Water orders for both turn on and off must be placed 24 hours in advance with the District office. Water orders need to be placed by 9:00 a.m. to be effective for the following day. Water orders for Sunday or Monday by 9:00 a.m. need to be placed on the preceding Saturday.

4. Policies regarding return flows (surface and subsurface drainage from farms) and outflow (Agricultural only)

See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

Tailwater recovery systems are encouraged. The District will discontinue delivery of water if wasteful use occurs. Growers are not allowed to pump tailwater back into the LTRID canal system. District staff has regularly communicated this policy to growers over the last several years through regular mailers. However, in order to be consistent, this existing policy will be added to the water information and operating policy document from the District shown in Appendix B by the next annual update (2013).

5. Policies on water transfers by the district and its customers

See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

The District policy on water transfers within the District is that water may be transferred within the District from one landowner to another and from once parcel of land to another. Any landowner may assign for use within the District his right to the whole or any portion of the water apportioned to him per Section 22251 of the California Water Code.

The District's policy on water transfers between districts is that exchanges of water with other Friant districts are permitted with Board approval. The District has and will participate in beneficial transfers that promote sound water management.

The District's policy on transfers by individual growers to non-District parties is that such transfers are not permitted. District staff has regularly communicated this policy to growers over the last several years through regular mailers. However, in order to be consistent, this existing policy will be added to the water information and operating policy document from the District shown in Appendix B by the next annual update (2013).

G. Water Measurement, Pricing, and Billing

1. Agricultural Customers

a. Number of farms 209

b. Number of delivery points (turnouts and connections) 610

c. Number of delivery points serving more than one farm 27

d. Number of measured delivery points (meters and measurement devices) 610

e. Percentage of delivered water that was measured at a delivery point 100

f. Delivery point measurement device table (Agricultural only)

Measurement Type	*Number*	*Accuracy (+/- %)*	*Reading Frequency (Days)*	*Calibration Frequency (Months)*	*Maintenance Frequency (Months)*
Orifices					
Propeller meter					
Weirs					
Flumes					

Measurement Type	*Number*	*Accuracy (+/- %)*	*Reading Frequency (Days)*	*Calibration Frequency (Months)*	*Maintenance Frequency (Months)*
Venturi					
Metered gates	610	± 4	Daily	12	12
Acoustic doppler					
Other (define)					
Total	610				

2. Urban Customers **(This Section not applicable)**

a. *Total number of connections* None.

b. Total number of metered connections None.

c. Total number of connections not billed by quantity None.

d. Percentage of water that was measured at delivery point None.

e. Percentage of delivered water that was billed by quantity None.

f. Measurement device table

Meter Size and Type	*Number*	*Accuracy (+/-percentage)*	*Reading Frequency (Days)*	*Calibration Frequency (Months)*	*Maintenance Frequency (Months)*
5/8-3/4"					
1"					
1 ½"					
2"					
3"					
4"					
6"					
8"					
10"					
Compound					
Turbo					
Other (define)					
Total	N/A				

3. Agriculture and Urban Customers

a. Current year agriculture and /or urban water charges - including rate structures and billing frequency

See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

The District charges for water by quantity (acre-foot), at a uniform rate. The charges are set on an annual basis by resolution of the Board of Directors. The primary considerations by the Board of Directors in setting water charges are hydrologic conditions, seasonal considerations, status of District reserves, and price of available waters. In the current year the District set a rate of $45 per acre-foot in February - March, a rate of $55 per acre-foot in April and a summer rate of $65 per acre-foot.

The District assesses growers on a per acre basis based on the estimated value of their land according to Bureau guidelines. Based on this valuation, the District assesses an annual rate of 0.8% which is billed in two portions through the year.

b. Annual charges collected from customers (current year data)

Fixed Charges			
Charges ($ unit)	*Charge units ($/acre), ($/customer) etc.*	*Units billed during year (acres, customer) etc.*	*$ collected ($ times units)*
$14.58	Average assessment rate for whole District /acre	97,904 acres	$1,427,546
$12	Per lot or parcel charge	317 lots	$3,804

Volumetric charges			
Charges ($ unit)	*Charge units ($/AF), ($/HCF), etc.*	*Units billed during year (AF, HCF) etc.*	*$ collected ($ times units)*
$45	Feb – March Sales $/AF	7,485 AF	$336,825
$55	April Sales $/AF	14,761	$811,855
$65	Summer Rate Sales $/AF	127,422	$8,282,430

See Appendix C for an example of a District Sample Bill. The bill clearly shows how much water was used and that it is billed on a volumetric basis. LTRID can provide extra copies of the bills for the past several years upon grower request.

c. Water-use data accounting procedures

Water measurements are taken on a daily basis by each water systems operator (ditchtender). They are relayed to District office staff, summarized and billed to each water user on a monthly basis. Any discrepancy must be addressed with the District. The District currently uses TruePoint water accounting software.

H. Water Shortage Allocation Policies

1. Current year water shortage policies or shortage response plan - specifying how reduced water supplies are allocated

See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

The District does not have sufficient surface water resources to deliver amounts close to what crops require throughout the year. Therefore all growers in the District also have groundwater wells and rely heavily on groundwater resources. The primary component of the District's water shortage response plan is its method of communication with District growers regarding the developing surface water supplies through the year and the reliability of groundwater resources.

2. Current year policies that address wasteful use of water and enforcement methods

See Appendix B for the District's 2010 Water Policy and Operations document.

The District has no current year policy that supplements the general policy. Based on the general policy, it is the responsibility of the farm operator to manage their water supply after it is taken from the District facilities. The District encourages consideration of neighboring landowners and responsible management of tailwater. According to Section 22255, of the California Water Code, persons wasting water may be refused water delivery until such conditions are remedied.

Section 2: Inventory of Water Resources

A. Surface Water Supply

1. Acre-foot amounts of surface water delivered to the water purveyor by each of the purveyor's sources

See Appendix A - Water Inventory Tables, Table 1

2. Amount of water delivered to the district by each of the district sources for the last 10 years

See Appendix A - Water Inventory Tables, Table 8

B. Ground Water Supply

1. Acre-foot amounts of ground water pumped and delivered by the district

See Appendix A - Water Inventory Tables, Table 2.

2. Ground water basin(s) that underlies the service area

Name	*Size (Square Miles)*	*Usable Capacity (AF)*	*Safe Yield (AF/Y)*
Tule Sub-basin	733	14.6 M	Unknown

3. Map of district-operated wells and managed ground water recharge areas

See Plate 5 for a map of Groundwater Monitoring facilities within the DCTRA

The District does not own any groundwater extraction wells used for supply water to growers. See Table 2 in Appendix A.

4. Description of conjunctive use of surface and ground water

Within the LTRID, it had been recognized by the Bureau of Reclamation in the LTRID, Chapter IV, Water Supply report of February, 1955, that "Utilization of both local and supplemental waters as they occur is very necessary so that a hydrologic balance is maintained. Historical hydrologic data indicates that dry cycles are long and every effort should be made in wet years to percolate available surface water not required for crop use into the groundwater reservoir for use in the below-normal years. It is recommended that the District attempt to increase its percolation capacity by providing additional sinking basins and, if necessary, to consider over-irrigation and out-of-season irrigation as further methods of conservation."

The District overlays two extensive and usable groundwater aquifers. The upper unconfined aquifer is above the well documented Corcoran "A" Clay layer and is very receptive to recharge from locations throughout the District and extending east into the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The lower aquifer is confined under the Corcoran Clay and can most effectively be recharged from areas east of Highway 99.

Approximately 200,000 acre-feet of water per year have been brought into the District's service area since the beginning of District operations. These highly variable supplemental water supplies have, however, required the District to develop and operate a very successful groundwater conjunctive use

program. The District owns, or has access by agreements, to approximately 3,700 acres of sinking/re-regulation basins. Most are located within the District boundaries, with some located up slope to the east of the District. These basins, along with the river channels and the District's canals, are used for direct groundwater recharge when surface water supplies are available. The depth to groundwater for the past ten years has averaged 64.5 feet over the District. It is estimated that a third of the water imported by the District has been directly recharged into the underground reservoir by District operations since the District's inception.

The Tule River is the major source of groundwater replenishment within the District. Recharge is accomplished primarily by seepage from the Tule River channels and from distribution canals, by deep percolation from irrigation and by artificial percolation from spreading basins.

5. Ground Water Management Plan
The District is a participant in the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (DCTRA). This seven member joint powers authority collectively has a groundwater management plan to which all members agencies are a part. See Appendix D for the DCTRA Ground Water Management Plan.

The DCTRA's Groundwater Management Plan was originally developed and adopted in March 1995 under the provisions of California State Assembly Bill (AB) 3030. This plan was later updated to be compliant with California State Senate Bill (SB) 1938 in July 2006.

6. Ground Water Banking Plan
The District does not have a formal groundwater banking plan at this time

C. Other Water Supplies

1. "Other" water used as part of the water supply
See the Appendix A - Water Inventory Tables, Table 1

D. Source Water Quality Monitoring Practices

1. Potable Water Quality (Urban only)
The current groundwater quality within the District is understood to be of excellent quality. However, the District does not own any groundwater wells and only delivers agricultural water so it therefore does not collect groundwater quality information.

2. Agricultural water quality concerns: *Yes* _____ *No* X
(If yes, describe)

3. Description of the agricultural water quality testing program and the role of each participant, including the district, in the program
LTRID does not have its own surface-water-quality monitoring-program. However, one (1) separate water quality monitoring program has historically been in place. This program has developed a history of water quality sampling events and test results and is still conducted by specific water contractors. As the conducting entity is a public agency, the developed information is a part of the public domain and is thus available to each of the contractors diverting water from the Friant-Kern Canal. While this program is principally designed to address domestic water quality program issues, the generated data covers all of the constituents of concern related to agricultural uses. This information is available upon request

through the Friant Water Authority (FWA). The District directs growers to the FWA if they ask for water quality information.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) has approved a monitoring program specific to four (4) permitted water systems diverting raw water from the Friant-Kern Canal. The testing frequency is designed to assure compliance with state and federal drinking water quality programs and thus is more than sufficient to insure an adequate testing frequency for agricultural concerns.

The District participated in the Southern San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition on behalf of its growers for compliance with State Water Resource Control Board's agricultural discharge permitting. This coalition tests water quality in a monitoring network across a large area to develop information to show that there are no issues of concern in smaller local areas.

4. *Current water quality monitoring programs for surface water by source (Agricultural only)*

Analyses Performed	*Frequency*	*Concentration Range*	*Average*
Title 22 Standard Compliance	Monthly	As per state requirements	Well below State MCLs

Current water quality monitoring programs for groundwater by source (Agricultural only)

Analyses Performed	*Frequency*	*Concentration Range*	*Average*
None.			

E. Water Uses within the District

1. Agricultural

See Appendix A - Water Inventory Tables, Table 5 - Crop Water Needs

2. Types of irrigation systems used for each crop in current year

Crop name	*Total Acres*	*Level Basin - acres*	*Furrow - acres*	*Boarder Strip*	*Sprinkler - acres*	*Low Volume - acres*	*Multiple methods - acres*
Corn	53,502	0	53,502	0	0	0	0
Alfalfa	20,556	0	0	20,056	500	0	0
Wheat	18,509	0	0	18,509	0	0	0
Cotton	4,853	0	4,853	0	0	0	0
Almonds	3,106	0	0	3,106	0	0	0
Walnut	3,088	0	0	3,088	0	0	0
Pistachios	2,064	0	0	0	0	2,064	0
Vineyard	2,025	0	0	2,025	0	0	0
Prunes	1,447	0	0	1,447	0	0	0
Other (<5%)	2,788	0	854	1,283	0	652	0
Total	111,939	0	59,209	49,514	500	2,716	0

3. Urban use by customer type in current year

Customer Type	*Number of Connections*	*AF*
Single-family	0	0
Multi-family	0	0
Commercial	0	0
Industrial	0	0
Institutional	0	0
Landscape irrigation	0	0
Wholesale	0	0
Recycled	0	0
Other (specify)	0	0
Other (specify)	0	0
Other (specify)	0	0
Unaccounted for	0	0
Total	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

4. Urban Wastewater Collection/Treatment Systems serving the service area – current year

Treatment Plant	*Treatment Level (1, 2, 3)*	*AF*	*Disposal to / uses*
Not applicable		0	
	Total	0	
Total discharged to ocean and/or saline sink			

5. Ground water recharge/management in current year (Table 6)

Recharge Area	*Method of Recharge*	*AF*	*Method of Retrieval*
See Table 2 in Appendix A	Recharge Basins	23,044	
Conveyance System	Channel Losses	104,569	
	Total	127,613	

6. Transfers and exchanges into or out of the service area in current year (Table 6)

From Whom	*To Whom*	*AF*	*Use*
Shafter-Wasco ID	LTRID	1,980	Irrigation
Madera ID	LTRID	2,000	Irrigation
Teapot Dome WD	LTRID	158	Irrigation
Terra Bella ID	LTRID	12,500	Irrigation
LTRID	City of Orange Cove	1,129	Irrigation
LTRID	Fresno County Water Works	7	Irrigation
LTRID	Saucelito ID	1,032	Irrigation
LTRID	Pixley ID	13,292	Irrigation
LTRID	Kern-Tulare WD	6,347	Irrigation
LTRID	Alpaugh ID	2,942	Irrigation

7. Trades, wheeling, wet/dry year exchanges, banking or other transactions in current year (Table 6)

From Whom	*To Whom*	*AF*	*Use*
N/A			

8. Other uses of water in current year

Other Uses	*AF*
N/A	

F. Outflow from the District (Agricultural only)

Districts included in the drainage problem area, as identified in "A Management Plan for Agricultural Subsurface Drainage and Related Problems on the Westside San Joaquin Valley (September 1990)," should also complete Water Inventory Table 7 and Appendix B (include in plan as Attachment L)

See Plate 2, Map of District Boundary and Distribution Facilities, for the location of District facilities. The District's only surface water outflow point is where Tule River flows past the Turnbull Weir on the west edge of the District. The District does not have subsurface outflow points or outflow water-quality testing locations (see Appendix A – Water Inventory Tables, Table 7).

In reference to Appendix B, the District acknowledges that it is listed as a drainage problem area within the listed Tulare subarea. However, the area identified in "A Management Plan for Agricultural Subsurface Drainage and Related Problems on the Westside San Joaquin Valley (09/'90)", being the far west edge of the District has not been viewed as a drainage problem area by the District. These lands are currently in agricultural production, without drainage water collection systems, and are producing consistently with other lands in the District. No drainage water is being produced by these lands and therefore it also does not flow from these lands. The District's belief is that historically this area had soils that did not drain well and they were identified as potentially problematic if they were ever irrigated. However, as this area has been developed and reclaimed soil amendments have increased the permeability of the soils and growers have found that there is not a confining clay layer in this area that would cause shallow groundwater. Instead the depth to water in the area is more than 100 feet. For this reason the District will not be implementing any of the six recommended water conservation programs

to improve conditions in identified drainage problem area. The District does not collect any groundwater quality information.

1. Surface and subsurface drain/outflow in current year

Tule River is a natural channel that flows from east to west through the northern third of LTRID. Water rights on the Tule River are managed by a Water Master. In instances where there are no deliveries to be made downstream of the District, LTRID does not allow water in the Tule River to flow passed them. Generally this scheduled delivery of purchased surplus surface water is the only regular outflow from the District. In very wet years there is the possibility that Tule River runoff may exceed LTRID's irrigation and recharge demand. In these rare times excess water in Tule River make it past District diversion points and can be diverted by downstream water purveyors or may eventually flow into the Tulare Lake Bed.

Outflow point	*Location description*	*AF*	*Type of measurement*	*Accuracy (%)*	*% of total outflow*	*Acres drained*
	Tule River at Turnbull Weir	8,750	Chart Recorder over weir	4	100	N/A

Outflow point	*Where the outflow goes (drain, river or other location)*	*Type Reuse (if known)*
	Tule River flow to downstream Tule and Kaweah River rights holders	Irrigation
	Tule River flow to Tulare Lake Bed	Floodwater (rare)

2. Description of the Outflow (surface and subsurface) water quality testing program and the role of each participant in the program

The District does not test the water quality of water flowing out the District. As was described in the previous section, the waters that flow past the District in the Tule River channel are either run-off from the Tule River watershed beyond the District's ability to divert or it is scheduled Friant Division CVP water for downstream water purveyors. These supplies are not surface drainage, subsurface drainage or spill.

3. Outflow (surface drainage & spill) Quality Testing Program

Analyses Performed	*Frequency*	*Concentration Range*	*Average*	*Reuse limitation?*
Not applicable				

Outflow (subsurface drainage) Quality Testing Program

Analyses Performed	*Frequency*	*Concentration Range*	*Average*	*Reuse limitation?*
Not applicable				

4. Provide a brief discussion of the District's involvement in Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board programs or requirements for remediating or monitoring any contaminants that would significantly degrade water quality in the receiving surface waters.

The District is not responsible for groundwater remediation or contaminant plume management, and therefore they are not involved directly in any Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board programs. Those responsibilities are assigned to other agencies such as cities, counties, the USEPA or California Department of Toxic Substances Control. The District is a part of the Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Coalition (SSJVWC). This coalition's efforts are to monitor surface water quality and report to the Regional Board. Although the District is a part of the coalition, it does not do any groundwater quality monitoring nor does it receive the data collected by the coalition. Also, the District is not involved with the Regional Board's ag waiver program as that is viewed as the responsibility of individual landowners. LTRID tries to stay informed of contaminant plumes and their management and remediation within District boundaries. Surface water quality information for a few testing locations in local rivers is summarized in an annual report generated by the SSJVWC and can be requested from the SSJVWC Coordinator. Appendix H includes a table of water quality data for monitored locations from the 2010 annual report.

Contact information by which the SSJWQC Coordinator can be reached:
Kings River Conservation District
4886 East Jensen Avenue
Fresno, CA 93725
(559) 237-5567
http://www.krcd.org/

G. Water Accounting (Inventory)

The tables listed below can be found in Appendix A – Water Inventory Tables.

1. *Water Supplies Quantified*
   a. *Surface water supplies, imported and originating within the service area, by month (Table 1)*
   b. *Ground water extracted by the district, by month (Table 2)*
   c. *Effective precipitation by crop (Table 5)*
   d. *Estimated annual ground water extracted by non-district parties (Table 2)*
   e. *Recycled urban wastewater, by month (Table 3)*
   f. *Other supplies, by month (Table 1)*

2. *Water Used Quantified*
   a. *Agricultural conveyance losses, including seepage, evaporation, and operational spills in canal systems (Table 4) or*
      Urban leaks, breaks and flushing/fire uses in piped systems (Table 4)
   b. *Consumptive use by riparian vegetation or environmental use (Table 6)*
   c. *Applied irrigation water - crop ET, water used for leaching/cultural practices (e.g., frost protection, soil reclamation, etc.) (Table 5)*
   d. *Urban water use (Table 6)*
   e. *Ground water recharge (Table 6)*
   f. *Water exchanges and transfers and out-of-district banking (Table 6)*
   g. *Estimated deep percolation within the service area (Table 6)*

h. Flows to perched water table or saline sink (Table 7)
i. Outflow water leaving the district (Table 6)
j. Other

3. Overall Water Inventory
a. Table 6

H. Assess Quantifiable Objectives:

Identify the Quantifiable Objectives that apply to the District (Planner, chapter 10) and provide a short narrative describing past, present and future plans that address the CALFED Water Use Efficiency Program goals identified for the District.

QO #	*QO Description*	*Past, Present & Future Plans*
1	Decrease flows to salt sinks to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – All affected lands	LTRID currently has little information on the extent, severity and causes of saline waters in the District.
2	Provide long-term diversion flexibility to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – Pixley NWR	The Pixley NWR chooses not to contract for District supplies because the seasons when they want water generally oppose when irrigation supplies are available. Also, this refuge is generally focused on upland habitat that requires very little water. For these reasons the Pixley NWR has chosen to depend on a groundwater well for water to support refuge habitat.
3	Provide long-term diversion flexibility to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – Salt Affected Soils	The District is not aware of any salt affected lands within the District. However, the District maintains the ability to divert both Tule River run-off and Friant Division CVP supplies.

QO #	QO Description	Related BMP	Interest in Funding
1	Decrease flows to salt sinks to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – All affected lands	Optimize Conjunctive Use	Yes
2	Provide long-term diversion flexibility to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – Pixley NWR	Automate Canal Structures	Yes
3	Provide long-term diversion flexibility to increase the water supply for beneficial uses – Salt Affected Soils	Automate Canal Structures	Yes

It should be noted that the vast majority of the District does not have to deal with salt affected soils. In fact, in the eastern half of the District growers apply gypsum to add salt to the soil as a cultural practice.

Section 3: Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Agricultural Contractors

A. Critical Agricultural BMPs

1. *Measure the volume of water delivered by the district to each turnout with devices that are operated and maintained to a reasonable degree of accuracy, under most conditions, to +/- 6%*

Number of turnouts that are unmeasured or do not meet the standards listed above: 0

Number of measurement devices installed last year: 0

Number of measurement devices installed this year: 0

Number of measurement devices to be installed next year: replacements only

Types of Measurement Devices Being Installed	*Accuracy*	*Total Installed During Current Year*
Differential Gates	± 4 %	0

Differential gates are added when a gate cannot be rehabilitated or a new turnout is installed. In 2010 no differential gates were installed as replacement or in addition to the existing system. The District operates and maintains all the differential gates in the district boundaries.

At turnouts that serve multiple customers, District policy is that only one customer can be served at a time through these facilities. At these locations, one turnout from District conveyance facilities delivers to a pipeline owned by landowners that can deliver to multiple delivery points. Times when deliveries are switched from user to another are scheduled and coordinated by District staff and landowners. This allows for the existing gates to be used as measuring facilities, satisfying the requirements of Section 3404 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. This policy will be added to the District's water policy document for clarity in the next annual update (2013).

2. *Designate a water conservation coordinator to develop and implement the Plan and develop progress reports*

Name: Daniel G. Vink *Title:* General Manager

Address: 357 East Olive Avenue, Tipton, CA 93272

Telephone: (559) 686-4716 *E-mail:* dvink@ltrid.org

3. *Provide or support the availability of water management services to water users*

See Appendix E, Notices of District Education Programs and Services Available to Customers.

a. On-Farm Evaluations

1) On farm irrigation and drainage system evaluations using a mobile lab type assessment

	Total in district	*# surveyed last year*	*# surveyed in current year*	*# projected for next year*	*# projected 2nd yr in future*
Irrigated acres	None				
Number of farms	209	5%	5%	5%	5%

The District will actively advertise to make growers aware of available mobile lab resources for on-farm efficiency evaluations through their website and regular communications with their growers (newsletter, email service, fliers in direct mailings, etc.). However, the District understands that many growers currently have irrigation and groundwater well consultants that regularly provide this service to growers in the District. For this reason the District will survey growers within the next year to determine what percentage of them have consultants that provide them with regular evaluations of their irrigation efficiency.

The District has been made aware, by North West Kern Resource Conservation District (NWKRCD), that the average price for a typical irrigation system evaluation is approximately $1,000. The District will to make some funds available to increase the availability of these services to growers. LTRID will make $250 per evaluation (25% of typical cost) available for growers with economic hardships up to a total of $2,750 per year. This would equate to contributions to 11 potential irrigation system evaluations (5% of District farms).

The criteria for economic hardship will be generated by the District and included in next year's annual update. The District will inform growers of the availability of these funds and the criteria after it is established on the District's website. When economic hardship criteria are met by growers, funding would be provided to NWKRCD. The District will also request that system evaluation information be shared with the District to help better inform the District on local irrigation efficiencies.

2) Timely field and crop-specific water delivery information to the water user

The District refers growers to the Kings River Conservation District website for local timely field and crop-specific water delivery information.

The District's metering of delivered water is at the turnouts from the conveyance system, but private growers systems then convey water to multiple fields owned by the same landowner from that turnout location. The District's conveyance system can be seen in Plate 4 and provides growers access to surface water conveyance facilities, with the distance between these facilities being generally one mile apart. Private conveyance to each field is not reported to the District.

The District has evaluated deliveries by turnout from the District conveyance system to evaluate areas where surface water is being used within the District. This information was evaluated using the District's GIS system.

Also, the District recently undertook a study of the estimated crop water use within the District between 1985 – 2007. This retrospective effort was an effort to evaluate the changing crop conditions within the District over time and gauge where the crop water use for the District was increasing or staying relatively the same. During this effort interviews with growers were conducted to better understand irrigation practices within the District. This effort used GIS based crop maps from DWR within the District's service area and calculated optimum crop water use based on published crop ET information

for this region and accounting for effective precipitation. This study and the topic of irrigation by crop has been discussed several times in the regular public meetings held by the Board of Directors.

The District offers a service to growers that they can submit water orders over the internet, check their water delivery accounts from the District website, and get email water supply update notices from the District.

b. Real-time and normal irrigation scheduling and crop ET information

As per this BMP the District has developed and sponsors a local CIMIS station which was constructed with the assistance of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority members. Before the next annual update the District will update their website with the CIMIS station information and also provide growers with links to the available information on the DWR CIMIS network for crop ET calculations and crop specific irrigation scheduling. With this information growers have the necessary information to convert the real-time ETo information from the local CIMIS station into real-time crop ET and irrigation scheduling information.

Also, normal year crop ET adjusted for effective precipitation is available through reports at the District office, on the District website and on Cal Poly ITRC's website. At the Cal Poly ITRC's website there is information on dry, normal and wet years for varying regions within the state including one covering the District.

The Kings River is approximately 30-40 miles north of the District, but has the same regional climate as the District. An inspection of reference ETo maps published by CIMIS (http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/images/etomap.jpg) shows that zone 12 covers an area that is common to the Kings River contractors and the District. Also, rainfall totals between these two areas are historically very similar. For these reasons it is understood that the real-time ET information published by Kings River Conservation District is valid for use in the District's service area. A link to the real-time ET information for the Kings River Contractors on the KRCD website will be included in the District website update and its use will be discussed in further detail in the next Ag Water Management Plan.

Farmers have reported other sources they use to gain ET information as well, complicating the process for the District to meet this BMP. These other sources range from using soil moisture probes (see Appendix I), receiving daily crop ETc values from on-farm services such as John Deer tractor dealerships, local chemical companies, or contracted Pest Control Advisors.

c. Surface, ground, and drainage water quantity and quality data provided to water users

The District provides regularly email updates on surface water supplies to District growers, allow District growers to submit water orders on-line and allow growers to access their current water account information using a secure password on the District website.

The District provides current surface water supply information from the Bureau of Reclamation and the Friant Water Authority for Friant Division CVP contract supply availability. The District also provides a water supply calculator on the District website for Tule River water right holders as well as current information on storage behind Success Dam.

d. Agricultural water management educational programs and materials for farmers, staff, and the public

Program	*Co-Funders (If Any)*	*Yearly Targets*

Friant Water Authority - "Friant Waterline"	Friant Division Contractors	Monthly Mailings
District Newsletter – "Legend	None	Periodic Email Distribution

The District provides information on weather, crop ET, soil moisture holding capacity, crop characteristics, irrigation scheduling and water-use planning on the District website.

- Links to Cal Poly's ITRC and Fresno States's Center for Irrigation Technology websites provide farmers and the public with technical reports and other articles on efficient irrigation techniques employed in this area.
    - http://www.itrc.org/reports/index.php;
    - http://cit.cati.csufresno.edu/research_publications/.
- Local weather conditions are reported through the District and DCTRA sponsored CIMIS station.
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/frontStationDetailInfo.do?stationId=169&src=info;
- Crop ET information is available through links to the DWR CIMIS network and the available documents at this location on how to calculate crop ET. Also links to normal, wet and dry year crop ET information for the District's region are available on Cal Poly's ITRC website.
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/infoEtoCropCo.jsp;
    - http://biomet.ucdavis.edu/irrigation_scheduling/bis/BIS.htm;
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/pdf/21427-KcAgronomicGrassandVeg.pdf;
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/pdf/21428-KcTreesandVines.pdf;
    - http://www.itrc.org/etdata/irrsched.htm.
- Links to the DWR CIMIS network make farmers and the public aware of a variety of ag water software that is available to help irrigators with data management and irrigation scheduling.
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/infoIrrSoftware.jsp
- Also, links to Cal Poly's ITRC website and the DWR CIMIS network provide farmers and the public with information on crop water budgets and irrigation scheduling techniques.
    - http://www.itrc.org/irrevaldata/isedata.htm;
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/infoIrrOverview.jsp;
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/infoIrrSchedule.jsp;
    - http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/cimis/infoIrrBudget.jsp;
- Also the District links ACWA's Water Event's and Water Education Foundation's webpages on its website to inform growers and the public about available conferences, webinars, tours and classes on water issues, environmental concerns, existing and developing regulations, as well as irrigation methods and technologies.
    - http://www.acwa.com/category/event-type/external-meeting;
    - http://www.watereducation.org/doc.asp?id=1070.

The District took on a District-wide water balance study that addressed irrigation efficiencies, cultural practices, and other water issues. Also the District undertook a System Optimization Review Study in partnership with the Bureau of reclamation. Both reports were discussed by staff, the Board of Directors and they were open to the public at public Board meetings. Additional joint Board meetings were held for significant discussions focused on calculated crop water use, irrigation efficiency and conservation.

Discussion on calculated crop water use covered the comparison between ETc and irrigation efficiency fraction and reported applied water from District growers.

Some staff members regularly attend conferences such as the Bureau's Water Users Conference and Association of California Water Agencies where there are seminars on efficient irrigation techniques and after these conferences these individuals share this information with other staff members as well as the Board of Directors.

The District is a member of ACWA and this agency supports a regular program of education with grade school teachers throughout the state, bringing them to agricultural areas like the District and explaining to them how agriculture supports our society and how farmers efficiently use available water supplies to produce our Nation's food supply.

e. other

4. Pricing structure - based at least in part on quantity delivered
Describe the quantity-based water pricing structure, the cost per acre-foot, and when it became effective.

There are a number of factors that go into determining the price of water to the farmer operator in the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District). These factors, including such things as water availability, canal side price, District operating costs and costs of competing supplies are all considered by the Board of Directors when they annually set the price of water for sale to the farmer operators.

The pricing policy of the District is based on allowing for the delivery of surface water on a price basis which is competitive with groundwater pumping costs. This encourages the use of surface water to meet irrigation demands, when available, thereby preserving the groundwater resource for times when little or no surface water is available. Farm operators have amply indicated and demonstrated that the incentive to decrease the cost of applied water, when applied water does not result in increased yield, is the primary element of cost control. This parallels the farm operators' desire to improve on-farm efficiency through reduced labor and groundwater pumping costs.

Water pricing policies established by the District are based on a recouping of the costs of securing and delivering the water.

The supply is priced and billed in a fashion that is indicative of the delivered nature of the supply. That is, the District has policies which apply to water which is made available for direct delivery to farm operators with separate policies associated with deliveries for groundwater recharge. As the basic goal for direct surface deliveries is to optimize the conjunctive use capabilities of the District and to deliver in-lieu pumping water when same is available, verification by the District is accomplished on a periodic basis to assure that the price for delivered water is competitive with power costs associated with pumping groundwater within the District. The District tracks by way of external inquiries, as well as farm operator input, the costs associated with groundwater pumping and utilizes this input to verify the competitiveness of the established price for District supplies. The principal mechanism which the District utilizes to price the cost of actual surface deliveries is the annual assessment. The assessment rate is a per acre charge established following adoption of the annual budget. The assessment is divided into four (4) components, each related to District budget items. The billing process is fashioned in such a manner that, for delivered supplies, the farm operators are charged for water on a metered basis and

billed following deliveries. In this fashion, farm operators are encouraged only to utilize that water which they need and are not penalized for unused water which may be available.

Water which is not delivered for consumptive purposes, principally due to the non-storable nature of the District's surface supply, is delivered for groundwater recharge. The costs of the water associated with this recharge program are not borne by the water delivery charge income, but by a percentage of the assessment. As previously noted, the District sought and received considerable input with respect to the development of this policy and with further respect to the level of assessment which is established in order to insure that recharge programs are maintained and contributions to the groundwater reservoir are maximized.

With increases in the costs of operation and those associated with water acquisition, the assessment rate has been increased substantially over time. The current level of assessment income is in excess of $1,427,500 per year, as compared to a mid-1970's level of less than $300,000.

5. Evaluate and describe the need for changes in policies of the institutions to which the district is subject

The Board of Directors and the District Manager review, at least on an annual basis, the policies of the District to insure consistency with the then current rules and regulations impacting the District.

6. Evaluate and improve efficiencies of district pumps

Describe the program to evaluate and improve the efficiencies of the contractor's pumps.

Not applicable. The District does not have any pumps.

B. Exemptible BMPs for Agricultural Contractors

(See Planner, Chapter 2, Appendix C for examples of exemptible conditions)

1. Facilitate alternative land use

Drainage Characteristic	*Acreage*	*Potential Alternate Uses*
High water table (<5 feet)	0	Not Applicable
Poor drainage	0	Not Applicable
Ground water Selenium concentration > 50 ppb	0	Not Applicable
Poor productivity	0	Class 6 lands not eligible

Describe how the contractor encourages customers to participate in these programs.

Although the District was listed in September 1990 document titled "A Management Plan for Agricultural Subsurface Drainage and Related Problems on the Westside San Joaquin Valley", there are no perched groundwater areas within the District. It is the District's understanding that a small area on the far west side of the District was included in this report only because it is adjacent to drainage impaired lands west of Highway 43. Consistent with this the District is not aware of any subsurface drainage systems within the District. Also, consistent with this understanding, the District does not encourage customers to participate in any programs to facilitate alternative land use.

2. Facilitate use of available recycled urban wastewater that otherwise would not be used beneficially, meets all health and safety criteria, and does not cause harm to crops or soils

Sources of Recycled Urban Waste Water	*AF/Y Available*	*AF/Y Currently Used in District*
Tipton Community Service District	Amounts recycled to growers in lieu of District water	
Poplar Public Utility District		

Tipton CSD and Poplar PUD are under requirements by state agencies to land apply the treated waste stream on property that they control at agronomic rates. Some District growers near Tipton CSD's and Poplar PUD's facilities can contract for this water and therefore it can be used in lieu of District water. It is the responsibility of Tipton PUD and Tipton CSD to ensure that all state standards are met in the land application of this supply. The water from Tipton CSD and Poplar PUD is not a district supply, does not flow through District facilities and for those reasons the District has no records of its delivery. This water is delivered to only one or two growers in the District.

3. Facilitate the financing of capital improvements for on-farm irrigation systems

Funding source Programs	*How provide assistance*
Natural Resource Conservation Service Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) or Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Available Information

The District maintains a listing of potential funding sources and makes staff available to provide assistance in completing funding application documents. District farmers are notified about potential funding sources by public Board Meetings, information posted on the District's website, and regular email updates. The District will include an example of this information made available to growers in the next annual update.

4. Incentive pricing

Structure of incentive pricing	*Related goal*

The District prices water to be competitive with the average District cost to pump groundwater in normal to wet year intentionally. The goal of this pricing structure is to encourage surface water use and maximize the replenishment of local groundwater through in-lieu recharge. In dry years the District prices surface water in such a way that those with the most usable groundwater will access that first thus leaving the available surface water for those growers with less reliable groundwater (District goal for dry year). Both of these efforts are done under conjunctive use operations that make up the Districts overarching water operation.

5. a) Line or pipe ditches and canals

Canal/Lateral (Reach)	*Type of Improvement*	*Number of Miles in Reach*	*Estimated Seepage (AF/Y)*	*Accomplished/ Planned Date*
There are no plans to line or pipeline any of the District channel facilities.				

The District uses its earthen channel system as a recharge facility during wet times. Given that all growers in the District must in some way rely on groundwater resources, the seepage from the earthen conveyance system is viewed as beneficial recharge to the local groundwater aquifer. For this reason there are no plans to line or pipeline portions of the District conveyance system.

b) Construct regulatory reservoirs

Reservoir Name	*Annual Spill in Section (AF/Y)*	*Estimated Spill Recovery (AF/Y)*	*Accomplished/ Planned Date*
None			

6. Increase flexibility in water ordering by, and delivery to, water users

The District's water order process is managed by a staff member that is available by phone or by email. Also the District has developed the ability for growers to submit their water orders on-line at the District's website if they wish. The District continues to look for new ways to serve their growers and provide flexible, timely and consistent water delivery service. Please see Appendix F District Water Order Form, for an example of the District's water order form.

7. Construct and operate district spill and tailwater recovery systems

Distribution System Lateral	*Annual Spill (AF/Y)*	*Quantity Recovered and reused (AF/Y)*
There are no District Spills	All supply is contained within the Distribution System	
Total		

The District has a few terminal basins used to capture water at the end of a conveyance system. These facilities recharge this water to the local groundwater aquifer. However, the District does not suffer from spills. Also, the District does not allow tailwater recovery systems to be diverted into District conveyance systems. Private tailwater return systems within the District are used on farms to allow growers to apply large heads of water to fields, thereby increasing the irrigation efficiency, and tailwater is then recirculated back to the head of the field for a second longer application after the field is uniformly wetted up.

Drainage System Lateral	*Annual Drainage Outflow (AF/Y)*	*Quantity Recovered and reused (AF/Y)*
There are no District Drainage Systems		
Total		

As was previously mentioned, there are no perched groundwater areas within the District and no known subsurface drainage systems within the District. Also, surface drainage in this area is not collected through any systems, as it is the responsibility of landowners to manage stormwater on their own properties. Therefore there are no District Drainage Systems and no Drainage Outflow or Quantity Recovered.

8. Plan to measure outflow.

Total # of outflow (surface) locations/points 1
Total # of outflow (subsurface) locations/points 0
Total # of measured outflow points 1
Percentage of total outflow (volume) measured during report year 100

Identify locations, prioritize, determine best measurement method/cost, submit funding proposal

Location & Priority	*Estimated cost (in $1,000s)*				
	2009	*2010*	*2011*	*2012*	*2013*

As was previously discussed, the only outflow from the District is through Tule River, and waters that flow through Tule River past the District are either floodwater or schedule irrigation supplies by downstream water purveyors. For this reason the District measures one location to gather information on flows past their diversion locations and that covers all of the outflow locations. There are no plans to measure any other locations.

9. Optimize conjunctive use of surface and ground water

The nature of the contract water supply of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (District) is based on the maintenance of the groundwater resources of the service area. Historically, the District has supplied water to its farm operators utilizing a long-term Class 1 and Class 2 contract for water from the Friant-Kern Canal. The water pricing policies of the District associated with delivery of this supply are designed to recover the costs associated with obtaining the supply and the maintenance and enhancement of available groundwater resources within the boundaries of the District. The goal of the water pricing policy is to maximize the use of surface water to support the planned conjunctive use of groundwater and Class 2 contract supplies. This is consistent with the goals of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority groundwater management plan of which the District is a member.

The water supply allocation and pricing procedures of the District have historically been established on an annual basis by the Board. The district conveys water usage, price and payment terms and conditions associated with its water deliveries in its monthly water billing forms.

The pricing procedures of the District are consistent with the adopted conjunctive use/management goals. The District uses two pricing mechanisms to optimize its groundwater resources and send appropriate incentives to irrigators. The two mechanisms are (1) wet vs. dry year variation in pricing and (2) the association of District costs of fixed and variable nature to insure that the volumetric water prices are consistent with farm operators groundwater pumping costs. These mechanisms are described as follows:

1. The blending of the cost elements associated with the water supply and the variable nature of the contract supply, leads to a mix where the cost of the supply decreases as the non-storable water

supply allocation increases. The decrease in surface water costs during wet years creates incentive for farm operators to use surface water as a substitute for groundwater, thus minimizing overdraft. Conversely, the cost of the delivered supply increases as the supply decreases. The delivery of a declared supply of less than the Class 1 contract amount reflects the highest cost per acre-foot. Farm operators are sent a price signal which encourages them to utilize less surface water and more groundwater, optimizing the groundwater resource; and

2. The District uses cost allocation of District operations on fixed charges to adjust surface water volume prices to compete with groundwater pumping costs. In addition, the District, by special District vote, has approved a groundwater assessment of $5.00 per acre to further adjust surface water prices to be in line with groundwater costs. The average price of surface water for the District, depending on the blend of Class 1 and Class 2 is approximately $35 per acre-foot (2002 water prices) versus an average cost of $42 per acre-foot for individual groundwater pumping. This pricing adjustment, in conjunction with wet/dry priced variation described above, encourages farm operators to make optimal use of both surface and groundwater resources.

In addition to using incentive pricing to manage conjunctive water use goals, the District encourages intra-district water trading among landowners, further optimizing the District water resources. Internal trading is a formal policy of the District, and is facilitated by District water accounting procedures. Negotiated prices on these trades are an internal matter between the landowners and/or farm operators and are not recorded by the District. The trades are most prevalent in dry years.

10. Automate canal structures

There are no planned projects to automate canal structures in the near-term. The District has not studied the potential for automating canal structures, but is using District facilities at the Tule River Weir and the Wood Central Ditch diversion from the Tule River as pilot projects to gage their water management improvement potential. This effort will be reported on in future annual updates.

11. Facilitate or promote water customer pump testing and evaluation

The District provides information to the farm operators relative to the availability of pump testing and efficiency services provided by the serving utility or local pump companies. The involvement of the District with private pump efficiencies is related to water conservation and overall resource management. The fact that a farmer may apply a given amount of water to a field with a pump which is operating at a less than optimum efficiency does affect the application time and the total quantity of water which is being demanded by the crop. This information can be found in the District's Water Information & Operating Policy in Appendix B. The third paragraph below the numbered list references available services. This policy is sent to all growers each year.

12. Mapping

GIS maps	*Estimated cost (in $1,000s)*				
	2009	*2010*	*2011*	*2012*	*2013*
Layer 1 – Distribution system	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Layer 2 – Drainage system	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Suggested layers:					
Layer 3 – Ground water information	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Layer 4 – Soils map	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
Layer 5 – Natural & cultural resources	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Layer 6 – Problem areas	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15

The District's current GIS system is very developed. It was developed by a consultant and has transitioned into a usable tool that District staff employs in water management. The current system is populated with information on parcels within the District, the District's conveyance system, the District's SCADA monitoring locations, the District's measurement locations, NRCS soils information in the area and the District's groundwater monitoring network. District staff now regularly uses the GIS System to develop groundwater contour maps of District seasonal groundwater conditions. The GIS system is not currently viewed as having any significant deficiencies and therefore there is no plan to expand capabilities.

C. Provide a 3-Year Budget for Implementing BMPs

1. Amount actually spent during current year.

BMP #		BMP Name	Actual Expenditure (not including staff time)	Staff Hours
A	*1*	*Measurement*	*$1,500*	*150*
	2	*Conservation staff*	*$600*	*12*
	3	*On-farm evaluation /water delivery info*	*$300*	*6*
		Irrigation Scheduling	*$0*	*0*
		Water quality	*$0*	*0*
		Agricultural Education Program	*$0*	*0*
	4	*Quantity pricing*	*$300*	*6*
	5	*Policy changes*	*$300*	*6*
	6	*Contractor's pumps*	*$0*	*0*
B	*1*	*Alternative land use*	$0	0
	2	*Urban recycled water use*	N/A	N/A
	3	*Financing of on-farm improvements*	$0	0
	4	*Incentive pricing*	$450	12
	5	*Line or pipe canals/install reservoirs*	$0	0
	6	*Increase delivery flexibility*	$210	6
	7	*District spill/tailwater recovery systems*	$0	0
	8	*Measure outflow*	*$0*	*0*
	9	*Optimize conjunctive use*	$105	3
	10	*Automate canal structures*	$0	0
	11	*Customer pump testing*	$75	0
	12	*Mapping*	$0	*0*
		Total	$3,840	201

2. Projected budget summary for the next year.

BMP #		*BMP Name*	*Budgeted Expenditure (not including staff time)*	*Staff Hours*
A	*1*	*Measurement*	*$1,500*	*150*
	2	*Conservation staff*	*$600*	*12*
	3	*On-farm evaluation /water delivery info*	*$300*	*6*
		Irrigation Scheduling	*$0*	*0*
		Water quality	*$0*	*0*
		Agricultural Education Program	*$0*	*0*
	4	*Quantity pricing*	*$300*	*6*
	5	*Policy changes*	*$300*	*6*
	6	*Contractor's pumps*	*$0*	*0*
B	*1*	*Alternative land use*	$0	0
	2	*Urban recycled water use*	N/A	N/A
	3	*Financing of on-farm improvements*	$0	0
	4	*Incentive pricing*	$450	12
	5	*Line or pipe canals/install reservoirs*	$0	0
	6	*Increase delivery flexibility*	$210	6
	7	*District spill/tailwater recovery systems*	$0	0
	8	*Measure outflow*	*$0*	*0*
	9	*Optimize conjunctive use*	$105	3
	10	*Automate canal structures*	$0	0
	11	*Customer pump testing*	$75	0
	12	*Mapping*	$0	*0*
		Total	$3,840	201

3. Projected budget summary for 3rd year.

BMP #		BMP Name	Budgeted Expenditure (not including staff time)	Staff Hours
A	*1*	*Measurement*	*$1,500*	*150*
	2	*Conservation staff*	*$600*	*12*
	3	*On-farm evaluation /water delivery info*	*$300*	*6*
		Irrigation Scheduling	*$0*	*0*
		Water quality	*$0*	*0*
		Agricultural Education Program	*$0*	*0*
	4	*Quantity pricing*	*$300*	*6*
	5	*Policy changes*	*$300*	*6*
	6	*Contractor's pumps*	*$0*	*0*
B	*1*	*Alternative land use*	$0	0
	2	*Urban recycled water use*	N/A	N/A
	3	*Financing of on-farm improvements*	$0	0
	4	*Incentive pricing*	$450	12
	5	*Line or pipe canals/install reservoirs*	$0	0
	6	*Increase delivery flexibility*	$210	6
	7	*District spill/tailwater recovery systems*	$0	0
	8	*Measure outflow*	*$0*	*0*
	9	*Optimize conjunctive use*	$105	3
	10	*Automate canal structures*	$0	0
	11	*Customer pump testing*	$75	0
	12	*Mapping*	$0	*0*
		Total	$3,840	201

Section 4: Best Management Practices for Urban Contractors

(Due to the adoption of revised BMPs in December 2008, this section will be updated in Spring 2009.)

A. Urban BMPs

1. *Utilities Operations*
   - *1.1 Operations Practices*
   - *1.2 Pricing*
   - *1.3 Metering*
   - *1.4 Water Loss Control*

2. *Education*
   - *2.1 Public Information Programs*
   - *2.2 School Education*

3. *Residential*

4. *CII*

5. *Landscape*

B. Provide a 3-Year Budget for Expenditures and Staff Effort for BMPs

1. Amount actually spent during current year.

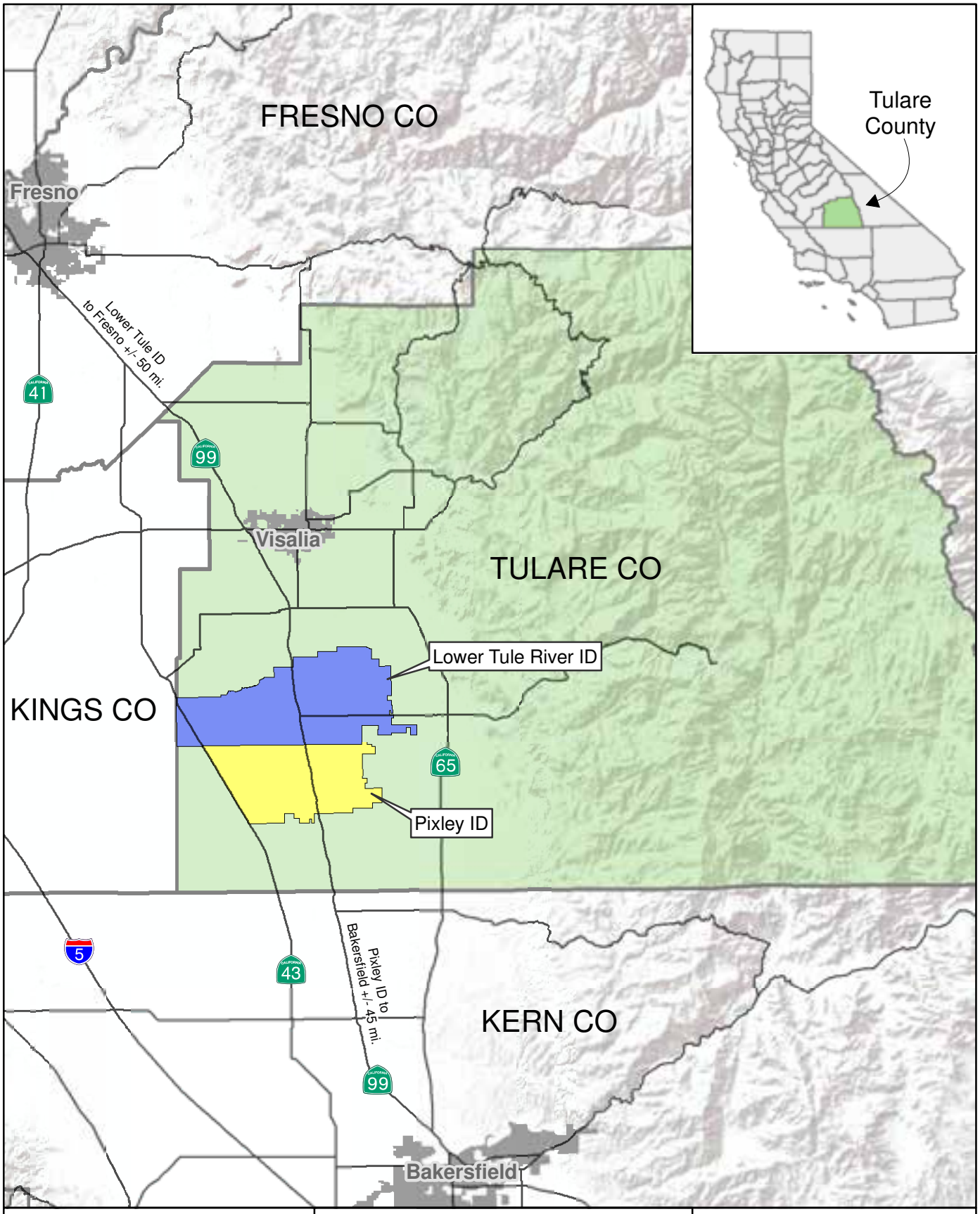
Year 2010 BMP #	BMP Name	Projected Expenditures (not including staff hours)	Staff Hours
1.	Utilities Operations		
	1.1 Operations Practices	$150	225
	1.2 Pricing	$0	15
	1.3 Metering	$750	150
	1.4 Water Loss Control	$0	0
2.	Education		
	2.1 Public Information Programs	$150	38
	2.2 School Education	$0	0
3.	Residential	n/a	0
4.	CII	n/a	0
5.	Landscape	$0	0
		Total $1050	*428*

2. Projected budget summary for 2nd year.

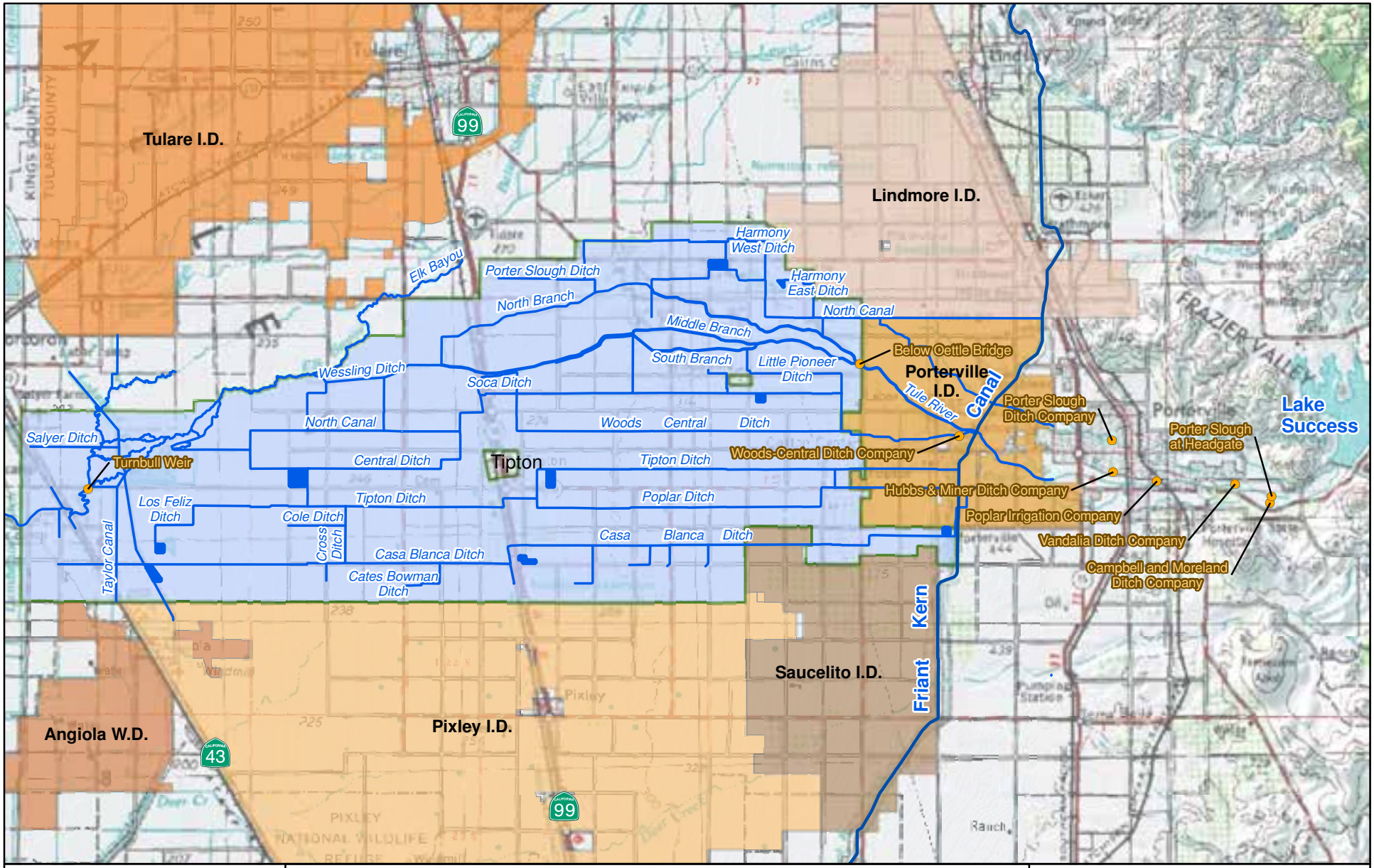
Year 2011 BMP #	BMP Name	Projected Expenditures (not including staff hours)	Staff Hours
1.	Utilities Operations		
	1.1 Operations Practices	$150	225
	1.2 Pricing	$0	15
	1.3 Metering	$750	150
	1.4 Water Loss Control	$0	0
2.	Education		
	2.1 Public Information Programs	$150	38
	2.2 School Education	$0	0
3.	Residential	n/a	0
4.	CII	n/a	0
5.	Landscape	$0	0
		Total $1050	*428*

3. Projected budget summary for 3rd year.

Year 2012 BMP #	BMP Name	Projected Expenditures (not including staff hours)	Staff Hours
1.	Utilities Operations		
	1.1 Operations Practices	$150	225
	1.2 Pricing	$0	15
	1.3 Metering	$750	150
	1.4 Water Loss Control	$0	0
2.	Education		
	2.1 Public Information Programs	$150	38
	2.2 School Education	$0	0
3.	Residential	n/a	0
4.	CII	n/a	0
5.	Landscape	$0	0
		Total $1050	*428*



EST. 1968
PROVOST & PRITCHARD
CONSULTING GROUP
An Employee Owned Company
286 W. Cromwell Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711-6162
(559) 449-2700



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

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Fresno, CA 93711-6162
(559) 449-2700

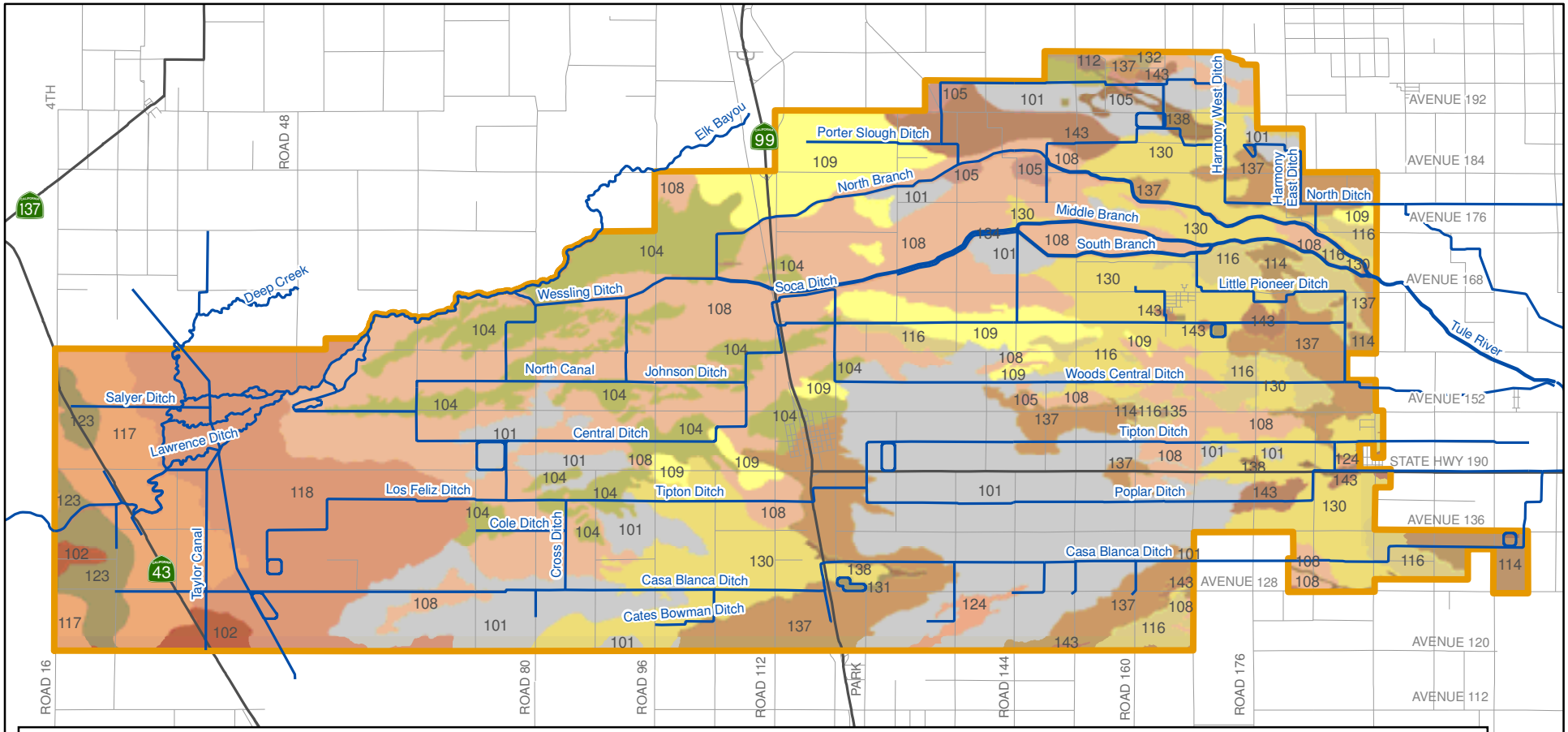
Legend

- Diversion Headgates & Gaging Stations
- Lower Tule River I.D.

Lower Tule River ID Facilities

PLATE 2

5/25/2011 \\pineflat\dwg_dgn\Clients\Pixley I.D. - 3159\315908V2\GIS\Map\ReportFigures\ltrid_facilities.mxd



Tulare Co. Soils

- 101 AKERS-AKERS, SALINE-SODIC, COMPLEX, 0-2 % SL.
- 102 ARMONA SANDY LOAM, PARTIALLY DRAINED, 0-1 % SL.
- 104 BIGGRIZ-BIGGRIZ, SALINE-SODIC, COMPLEX, 0-2 % SL.
- 105 CALGRO-CALGRO, SALINE-SODIC, COMPLEX, 0-2 % SL.
- 108 COLPIEN LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 109 CROSSCREEK-KAI ASSOCIATION, 0-2 % SL.
- 112 DUMPS
- 114 EXETER LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 116 FLAMEN LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 117 GAMBOGY LOAM, DRAINED, 0-1 % SL.
- 118 GAMBOGY-BIGGRIZ, SALINE-SODIC, ASSN, DRAINED, 0-2 % SL.
- 123 GRANGEVILLE FINE SANDY LOAM, SALINE-SODIC, 0-1 % SL.
- 124 HANFORD SANDY LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 130 NORD FINE SANDY LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 131 PITS
- 132 QUONAL-LEWIS ASSOCIATION, 0-2 % SL.
- 134 RIVERWASH
- 135 SAN JOAQUIN LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 137 TAGUS LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 138 TUJUNGA LOAMY SAND, 0-2 % SL.
- 143 YETTEM SANDY LOAM, 0-2 % SL.
- 145 WATER-PERENNIAL

0 1 2 3 Miles

LTRID Facility

Road

PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP
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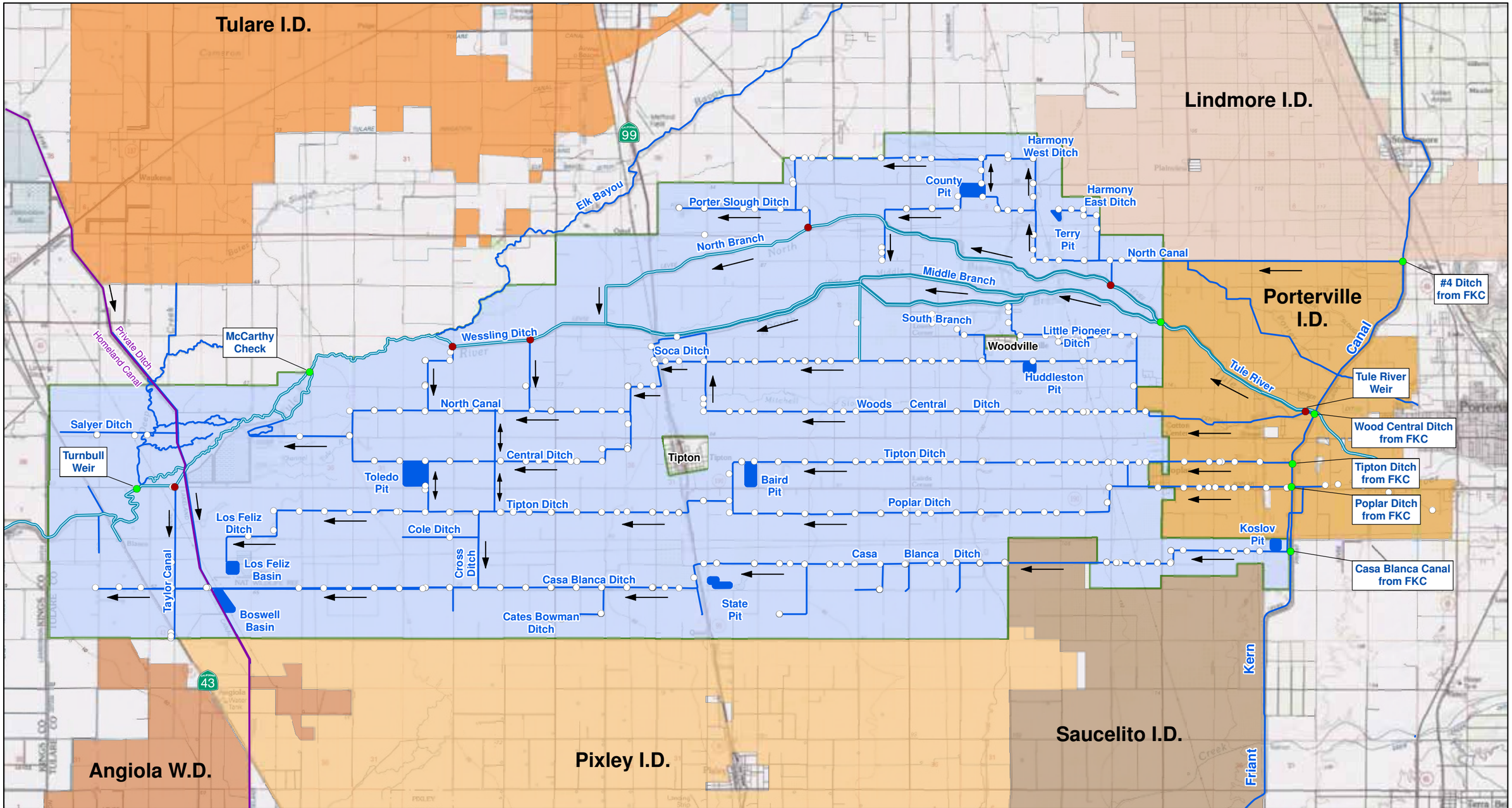
Fresno, CA 93711-6162
(559) 449-2700

Lower Tule River Irrigation District

Soil Survey Map

PLATE 3

\\pineflat\dwg_dgn\Clients\Lower Tule River ID - 1477\GIS\Map\SoilsMap.mxd



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

EST. 1968
PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP
An Employee Owned Company

286 W. Cromwell Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711-6162
(559) 449-2700

Legend

- Existing Canal
- Existing Canal - Private
- River
- Diversion and Measurement Station
- Weirs in Tule River
- Drop Check
- Existing Basin
- Flow Direction

Lower Tule River ID

PLATE 4

Water Control Structures

Well Water Levels

Elevation of Water Spring 2010

PLATE 5

Spring 2010 Wells

Elevation- 10 ft intervals

Elevation- 100 ft intervals

Roads

Water Surface Elevation

Feet Above sea level

High : 504.266

Low : -24.7591

Appendix A Water Inventory Tables

Year of Data	2010	Enter data year here

Table 1

Surface Water Supply

2010 Month	Federal Ag Water (acre-feet)	Federal non-Ag Water. (acre-feet)	State Water (acre-feet)	Local Water (acre-feet)	Water (define) (acre-feet)	Upslope Drain Water (acre-feet)	Total (acre-feet)
Method	M1			M1			
January	0	0	0	3,812	0	0	3,812
February	3697	0	0	0	0	0	3,697
March	0	0	0	23,424	0	0	23,424
April	28327	0	0	480	0	0	28,807
May	42509	0	0	9,640	0	0	52,149
June	27254	0	0	14,457	0	0	41,711
July	20514	0	0	15,681	0	0	36,195
August	38342	0	0	11,623	0	0	49,965
September	10785	0	0	566	0	0	11,351
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	9,532	0	0	9,532
TOTAL	171,428	0	0	89,215	0	0	260,643

Table 2

Ground Water Supply

2010 Month	Groundwater (acre-feet)	Groundwater *(acre-feet)
Method		E2
January	0	275
February	0	4,607
March	0	8,362
April	0	9,369
May	0	4,355
June	0	22,969
July	0	46,507
August	0	39,551
September	0	37,819
October	0	11,025
November	0	4,332
December	0	3,013
TOTAL	0	192,184

*normally estimated

Table 3

Total Water Supply

2010 Month	Surface Water Total (acre-feet)	Groundwater (acre-feet)	M&I Wastewater (acre-feet)	District Water (acre-feet)
Method				
January	3,812	0	0	3,812
February	3,697	0	0	3,697
March	23,424	0	0	23,424
April	28,807	0	0	28,807
May	52,149	0	0	52,149
June	41,711	0	0	41,711
July	36,195	0	0	36,195
August	49,965	0	0	49,965
September	11,351	0	0	11,351
October	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0
December	9,532	0	0	9,532
TOTAL	260,643	0	0	260,643

*Recycled M&I Wastewater is treated urban wastewater that is used for agriculture.

Table 4

Distribution System

2010 Canal, Pipeline, Lateral, Reservoir	Length (feet)	Width (feet)	Surface Area (square feet)	Precipitation (acre-feet)	Evaporation (acre-feet)	Spillage (acre-feet)	Seepage (acre-feet)	Total (acre-feet)
Tule River	248,160	12	2,977,920	92	290	0	22,859	(23,058)
Unlined Canals	887,040	8	7,344,691	226	716	0	81,711	(82,201)
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL			10,322,611	317	1,006	0	104,570	105,259

Table 5

Crop Water Needs

2010 Crop Name	Area (crop acres)	Crop ET (AF/Ac)	Leaching Requiremen (AF/Ac)	Cultural Practices (AF/Ac)	Effective Precipitatio (AF/Ac)	Appl. Crop Water Use (acre-feet)
Corn	53,502	2.29	0.00	0.57	0.00	153,149
Alfalfa	20,556	4.60	0.00	1.15	0.29	112,184
Wheat	18,509	1.35	0.00	0.34	0.19	27,671
Cotton	4,853	2.56	0.00	0.64	0.00	15,517
Almonds	3,106	3.42	0.00	0.85	0.14	12,828
Walnuts	3,088	3.63	0.00	0.91	0.06	13,841
Pistachios	2,064	3.51	0.00	0.35	0.04	7,885
Vineyard	2,025	2.58	0.00	0.65	0.03	6,471
Prunes	1,447	3.42	0.00	0.85	0.14	5,976
Other (<5%)	2,788	3.42	0.00	0.85	0.14	11,515
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Crop Acres	111,938					367,038

Total Irrig. Acres 111,938 (If this number is larger than your known total, it may be due to double cropping)

Table 6

2010 District Water Inventory

Water Supply	Table 3		260,643
Riparian ET	(Distribution and Drain)	minus	0
Groundwater recharge	intentional - ponds, injection	minus	23,044
Seepage	Table 4	minus	104,570
Evaporation - Precipitation	Table 4	minus	689
Spillage	Table 4	minus	0
Transfers/exchanges/trades/wheel	(into or out of the district)	plus/minus	(8,111)
Non-Agri deliveries	delivered to non-ag customers	minus	0
Water Available for sale to agricultural customers			124,229
Compare the above line with the next line to help find data gaps			
2005 Actual Agricultural Water Sales	From District Sales Records		177,821
Private Groundwater	Table 2	plus	192,184
Crop Water Needs	Table 5	minus	367,038
Drainwater outflow	(tail and tile not recycled)	minus	0
Percolation from Agricultural Land	(calculated)		2,967

Table 7

Influence on Groundwater and Saline Sink

2010

Agric Land Deep Perc + Seepage + Recharge - Groundwater Pumping = District Influence	127,614
Estimated actual change in ground water storage, including natural recharge)	(11,340)
Irrigated Acres (from Table 5)	111,938
Irrigated acres over a perched water table	0
Irrigated acres draining to a saline sink	0
Portion of percolation from agri seeping to a perched water table	0
Portion of percolation from agri seeping to a saline sink	0
Portion of On-Farm Drain water flowing to a perched water table/saline sink	0
Portion of Dist. Sys. seep/leaks/spills to perched water table/saline sink	0
Total (AF) flowing to a perched water table and saline sink	0

Table 8

Annual Water Quantities Delivered Under Each Right or Contract

Year	Federal Ag Water (acre-feet)	Federal non-Ag Water. (acre-feet)	State Water (acre-feet)	Local Water (acre-feet)	Water (define) (acre-feet)	Upslope Drain Water (acre-feet)	Total (acre-feet)
2001	76,942	0	0	26,373	0	0	103,315
2002	78,511	0	0	46,876	0	0	125,387
2003	131,470	0	0	61,354	0	0	192,824
2004	71,472	0	0	20,063	0	0	91,535
2005	247,595	0	0	112,596	0	0	360,191
2006	196,658	0	0	130,141	0	0	326,799
2007	30,535	0	0	19,847	0	0	50,382
2008	71,872	0	0	41,614	0	0	113,486
2009	125,173	0	0	30,835	0	0	156,008
2010	171,428	0	0	89,215	0	0	260,643
Total	1,201,656	0	0	578,914	0	0	1,780,570
Average	120,166	0	0	57,891	0	0	178,057

Appendix B LTRID & PIXID 2010 Water Information & Operating Policy

PRORATE OR CANAL ALLOCATION

The need for prorating water use on canals occurs when demand exceeds the design capacity of specific canals. This problem typically occurs only in the summer months and only for short periods. During prorate periods the water users in the affected areas are given an allocation of water to be used within a two-week time frame. Prorates are designed to provide equitable water allocation to all water users. Cooperation when prorate is necessary will greatly assist in providing equal treatment to all District water users. If you have any questions, please contact the District office.

WATER MEASUREMENTS

The Water Systems Operator using one of following three methods take water measurements at the numbered turnout:

1. Pump test rating
2. Gravity Measurement
3. Meter

Pumps will be rated once each season without charge upon request or if any changes are made to the pump station.

Any discrepancy regarding the quantity of water charged to an account must be reviewed with the District prior to the 15th of the month following the date of billing. All charges will be considered correct and final after that date.

Emergency Phone Numbers:

559-686-4716 / 559-752-5050

Follow the instructions to be transferred to the attendant on call.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I want to thank you for your cooperation in providing equitable, reliable water service to the water users of the Lower Tule River & Pixley Irrigation District.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please feel free to contact the District office at the numbers indicated.

DAN VINK

GENERAL MANAGER

Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Pixley Irrigation District

357 E OLIVE AVE
TIPTON CA 93272
Phone (559) 686-4716
Fax (559) 686-0151
Email: ltrid@ltrid.org
www.ltrid.org

Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Pixley Irrigation District

357 E OLIVE AVE

TIPTON CA 93272

559-686-4716

559-686-0151 FAX

WATER INFORMATION & OPERATING POLICY

Working together to meet your water needs now and into our future

WATER OPERATING POLICY

In an effort to provide an affordable and reliable water supply, the following guidelines have been adopted by the Board of Directors of the Lower Tule River & Pixley Irrigation District, and are implemented by the staff of the District to insure equitable distribution of water to all water users within the District.

The District's contract water supply is supplemental only and therefore does not provide the sole supply for District wide crop irrigation requirements in all years. Elements of the Districts water supply program include:

- In years when water is available above the amount to meet irrigation demand the District actively recharges the groundwater aquifers through numerous sinking basins and river channels in the District.
- In water short years, the District's surface water supply is intended to supplement grower owned wells.
- In certain years water runs may be scheduled at different times throughout the year in order to maximize available supply and to coordinate with irrigation deliveries.

WATER RATES & WATER RUNS

The Board of Directors determines the water rate and establishes water runs. Water rates and water runs are based on the most current information available. The District endeavors to keep water-users notified in advance of any changes. Changes in water runs may occur on short notice due to uncontrollable conditions that affect water supply. Additional information regarding water rates and water runs can be found on the District's web site: www.ltrid.org

WATER ORDERS

- All turnouts are numbered either on the gate or on the pump apparatus. Orders for water should be made referencing the turnout number.
- Water orders for both turn on and turn off must be placed 24 hours in advance with the District office.
- Water orders need to be placed by 9:00 a.m. to be effective for the following day.
- Please place water orders for Sunday or Monday by 9:00 a.m. on or before the preceding Saturday.
- Water orders may be placed in the office during normal office hours from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during the weekdays and 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays and Holidays during water runs.
- In order to provide for consistency and accountability, water systems operators cannot take water orders in the field either verbally or through written notes.

It may be necessary for the District to establish specific on/off times by turnout due to operational constraints of the canal system. District canals and check structures are to be operated by District personnel only unless an extreme emergency exists. Turnouts are to be operated by the water user. Please contact the District office for specific turnout numbers and on/off times or if turnout numbers are not present or are illegible.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

There is a 24-hour answering service for emergencies that occur outside of regular business hours. The emergency telephone numbers are listed on the back page.

Please do not place water orders with the answering service.

When calling the answering service please leave a name and telephone number along with other pertinent information. An example of an emergency would be a ditch break or anything that alters the flow of water that might cause property damage.

WATER USE STATEMENT

A monthly water statement will be mailed to each water user during the first ten days of each month. The statement will include water use and account balance as of the end of the preceding month.

Delinquency Charge. Payment for water is due upon receipt of the statement. A penalty will be added if payment is not received by the end of the month in which the statement was generated. Penalties will be assessed at 1.5% of the unpaid balance or $2.50 whichever is greater.

Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Pixley Irrigation District

Updated: February 2007

Deposit Requirements for Water Deliveries to Rented/Leased Property

Water deliveries to land rented by those who do not own more than 20 acres within the District shall be secured according to the following formula and procedures:

A deposit consisting of the below formula shall be made prior to the delivery of any water:

(Acres Rented) x (1.0) x (Published Water Rate)

Example: If the water rate is $50 per a/f and a renter is renting 100 acres then the District will require a deposit of $5,000.

(100) x (1.0) x ($50)

When the deposited amount falls below 20% of the total deposit, the user will receive one verbal reminder from the District to reinstate the required deposited amount as per the formula. When the deposited amount falls below 10% of the total required deposit, water deliveries to the user will be terminated. Any unused deposit will be refunded to the user within 45 days of the completion of the water run, or by September 15th, whichever is later.

Water deliveries secured through a landowner guarantee are not subject to this policy.

Board Action January 7th 2007.

Updated: February 2007

Appendix C District Sample Bill

CUSTOMER BILL

Customer # [redacted] Bill # 42289
Bill Date 11/30/2011

FERN OAK FARMS
23135 ROAD 148
TULARE, CA 93274-9647

Lower Tule River ...
357 E Olive Ave
Tipton, CA 93272
(559) 752-5050 or
(559) 686-4716
ltrid@ltrid.org

Billing Summary

Account Balance	
Previous Balance	$10,906.53
Payments/Credits	$10,906.53
Penalties	$0.00
Charges	$353.10
Adjustments	$0.00
Total Due	**$353.10**

Water Usage	
Billing Period (November)	11/1/2011 To 11/30/2011
Billed Usage	6.42 Af

Summary

Turnout	Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
04-1470.0	04-1470.0 - 103.0000ac - Riparian - Lower Tule Regular TI	6.42 Af	$55.00	$353.10
	Total	**6.42 Af**	**$55.00**	**$353.10**

Detach and return top portion with payment

Customer # [redacted] Bill # 42289

Delinquent Date	12/31/2011
Previous Balance	$10,906.53
Payments/Credits	$10,906.53
Penalties	$0.00
Charges	$353.10
Adjustments	$0.00
Total Due	**$353.10**

FERN OAK FARMS
23135 ROAD 148
TULARE, CA 93274-9647

Amount Enclosed $

Unmetered Turnouts

Date	Turnout	CFS	Hours	Consumed AF
10/31/2011	04-1470.0	2.10	24.00	4.200
11/1/2011	04-1470.0	2.16	12.00	2.140
Total For Turnout	04-1470.0		36.00	6.42
	Total		36.00	6.42

Appendix D DCTRA July 2006 Groundwater Management Plan

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

JULY 2006

DENNIS R. KELLER / JAMES H. WEGLEY
CONSULTING CIVIL ENGINEERS

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GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 1
PURPOSE
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

PLAN OBJECTIVE

The members of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (Authority) desire to formalize their existing groundwater management practices for the continuance of local management and to enhance existing monitoring activities in a coordinated manner. Through this Groundwater Management Plan (Plan) the Authority will identify and implement modifications to ongoing practices in order to preserve and enhance groundwater resources. The Authority will organize existing and expanded groundwater management activities to facilitate the implementation of the Plan.

Preservation and enhancement of the groundwater resource is vital to sustaining the local economics which have been built up in reliance, in whole or in part, on this resource. The Authority's objective is to preserve the utility of the groundwater resource, both in terms of quantity and quality at the least possible cost. Enhancement or augmentation of the resource is necessary to mitigate the present level of overdraft and the attendant long-term decline in groundwater levels in the overall groundwater basin. The Plan objectives can be accomplished, at least cost, by joint implementation of the Plan through the Authority as opposed to individual implementation by the Authority members.

AUTHORITY

The Authority is organizing current and proposed groundwater management activities

under provision of Part 2.75 of Division 6 of the California Water Code commencing with Section 10750, otherwise known as AB3030, the Groundwater Management Act of 1992. The 1992 Act was amended in 2002 and 2004 to describe specific requirements for the Plan.

For the purpose of groundwater management, powers granted to an entity which adopts a Plan include the powers of a water replenishment district (Part 4, Division 18, California Water Code), to the extent not already possessed by the entity, but not limited to the following:

1. Acquire and operate facilities, waters and rights needed to replenish the groundwater supplies;
2. Store water in groundwater basins, acquire water rights, import water into the Authority and conserve water;
3. Participate in legal proceedings as required to protect and defend water rights and water supplies and to prevent unlawful exportation of water from the Authority.
4. Under certain conditions to exercise the right of eminent domain;
5. Act jointly with other entities in order to economically perform required activities;
6. Carry out investigations required to implement the Plan;
7. Fix rates for water for replenishment purposes; and
8. Fix the terms and conditions of contracts for use of surface water in-lieu of groundwater.

PLAN ELEMENTS

Part 2.75. Groundwater Management, of the Water Code establishes required (§10753.7) and recommended (§10753.8) elements of a groundwater management plan. Bulletin 118 prepared by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) also provides recommendations for groundwater management plans.

The Authority's Plan has been prepared to address the requirements and recommendations for groundwater management plans. Table 1-1 summarizes these elements and their respective location within the Authority's Plan.

TABLE 1-1
PLAN SUMMARY
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION REFERENCE	SUBJECT	PLAN LOCATION
REQUIRED PLAN ELEMENTS (Water Code §10753.7 (a))		
(1)	Basin management objectives	Section 4
(1)	Monitoring and Management: – groundwater levels – groundwater quality – land surface subsidence – changes of surface water flow and quality	 Section 5, Section 6 Section 5, Section 6 Section 5, Section 6 Section 5, Section 6
(2)	Plan to involve other agencies	Section 2, Section 5, Section 7
(3)	Map of groundwater basin and local agencies	Section 2
(4)	Monitoring protocols	Section 6
RECOMMENDED PLAN ELEMENTS (Water Code §10753.8)		
a.	Saline Water Intrusion	Section 5
b.	Wellhead Protection (Recharge Areas)	Section 5
c.	Migration of Contaminated Water	Section 5
d.	Well Abandonment/Destruction	Section 5
e.	Overdraft Mitigation	Section 5
f.	Groundwater Replenishment	Section 5
g.	Groundwater Extractions	Section 5
h.	Groundwater Monitoring	Section 5, Section 6
i.	Conjunctive Use	Section 5
j.	Well Construction Policies	Section 5
k.	Operation of Facilities	Section 5, Section 7
l.	Relationships with Other Agencies	Section 5
m.	Land Use Planning	Section 5

TABLE 1-1 (cont'd)
PLAN SUMMARY
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

ADDITIONAL PLAN ELEMENTS (DWR Bulletin 118, Appendix C) (1)		
(4)	Advisory Committee of Stakeholders	Section 7, Appendix A
(5)	Groundwater basin description: – physical features and characteristics – historical data – issues of concern – historical and project water demands and supplies	Section 2
(8)	Existing and planned management actions	Section 5, Section 6
(10)	Monitoring program features: – map of monitoring sites – type and frequency of monitoring	Section 6
(12)	Groundwater Management Reports	Section 7
(13)	Plan re-evaluation	Section 7

Note: (1) DWR Bulletin 118, Appendix C outlines 14 required and recommended components for groundwater management plans. Required elements have been documented.

PLAN CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions or requests for additional information regarding the Authority's Plan should be directed to the Program Manager at the following address:

Deer Creek and Tule River Authority
357 East Olive Ave.
Tipton, CA 93272
Phone: 559/686-4716 FAX: 559/686-0151

Business Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

The Authority meets on the 3rd Friday of each odd-numbered month. Authority meetings are held at above address and are open to the public.

SECTION 2
GENERAL
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 2
GENERAL
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

DESCRIPTION OF AUTHORITY

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (Authority) is a joint powers Authority comprised of the following members: Lower Tule River Irrigation District, Pixley Irrigation District, Porterville Irrigation District, Saucelito Irrigation District, Stone Corral Irrigation District, Tea Pot Dome Water District and Terra Bella Irrigation District (Districts). The Authority's primary purpose is the joint exercise of the powers of the Authority members in order to facilitate more efficient operations and management of their activities. Integral to this purpose is the joint conjunctive management of the Authority members surface and groundwater supplies. The Authority will work with its members and other water entities to insure an adequate water supply.

The Districts were originally organized to provide a reliable water supply to their landowners. AB 3030 provides a means for local districts to jointly manage their individual supplies. In order to preserve local management and enhance existing groundwater management programs operated over many years by the Districts, the Board of Directors of the Authority on March 24, 1995, adopted a Groundwater Management Plan (Plan) under provisions of AB 3030. The 1994 Plan enabled the Authority to establish policies that served to enhance the overall management of the water supplies available to the Authority members.

In 2002 and 2004, Senate Bill (SB) 1938 and Assembly Bill (AB) 105, respectively, amended the requirements of groundwater management plans. This Plan incorporates the necessary elements to update the Authority's original 1994 Plan.

AB 3030 provides for the development of a groundwater management plan within the boundaries of the Authority members. The underlying groundwater basin is part of the larger Tulare Lake Basin as identified in State of California Bulletin 118. The management area for the Authority's Plan may include, by agreement, adjacent entities whose activities would influence the common groundwater resource. The Authority's member Districts and the Plan area is shown on Figure 2-1.

Plan Participants

The Authority will be responsible for the implementation of the Plan. The Authority's member Districts comprise the primary Plan Participants. The identification and involvement of additional Plan Participants will result from Plan activities.

The Plan Participants are presented in Appendix A. This Appendix will be revised accordingly to reflect the Plan's current participants.

Stakeholders

For the purposes of the Plan, a stakeholder will be defined as any individual, group, or entity located within the Plan Area that may be affected by the implementation of the Plan. Stakeholders can be Plan Participants.

An initial compilation of groundwater basin stakeholders is presented in Appendix A. Additional stakeholders may be identified through Plan activities.

Advisory Committee

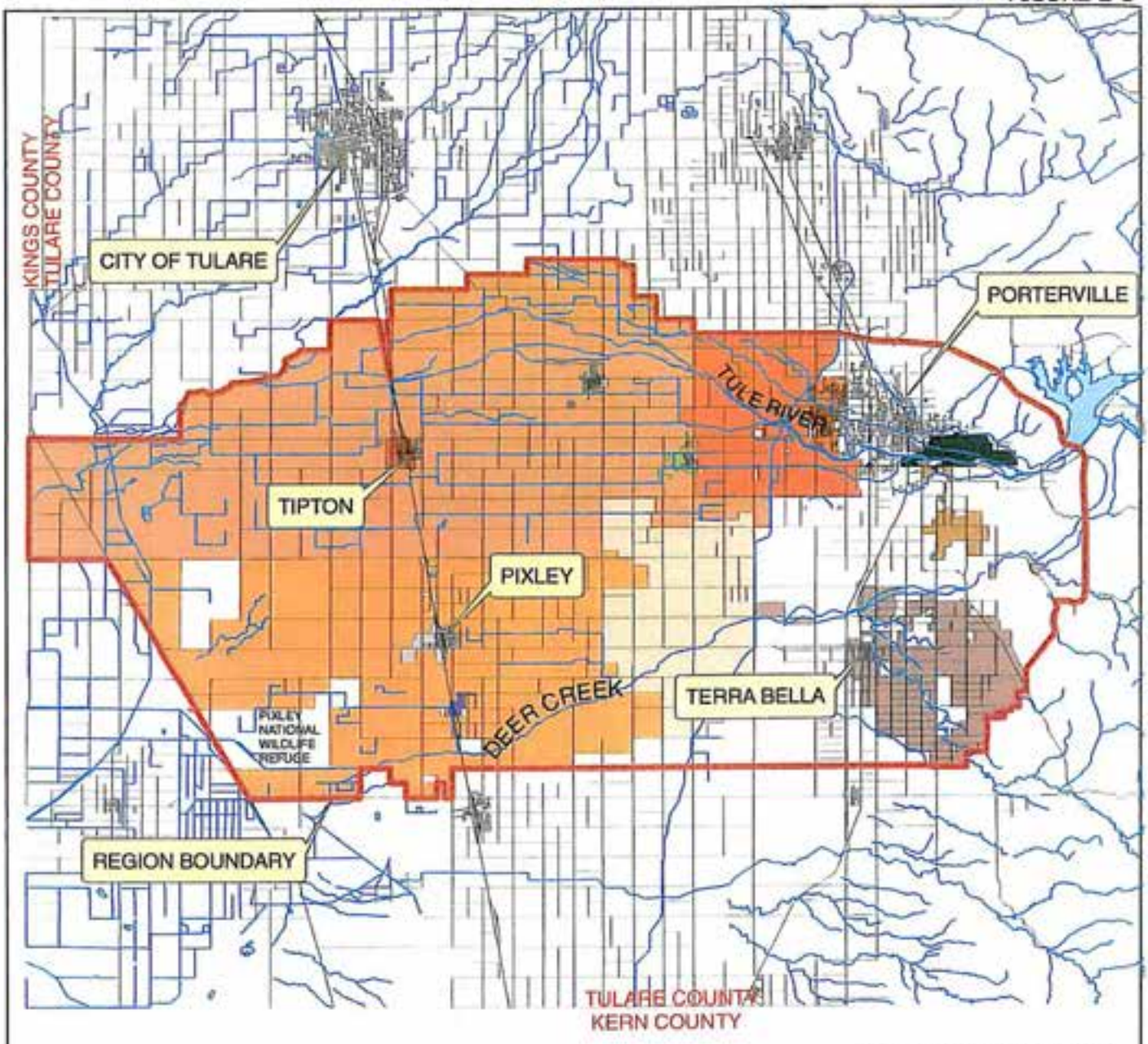
The Authority has created an Advisory Committee to oversee the development, implementation and subsequent refinement of the Plan. The members of the Advisory Committee are presented in Table 2-1.

TABLE 2-1
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

NAME	TITLE	REPRESENTING DISTRICT
Dan Vink	General Manager	Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Dan Vink	General Manager	Pixley Irrigation District
Dave Hoffman	Manager	Porterville Irrigation District
Dave Hoffman	Manager	Saucelito Irrigation District
Keith Norris	Manager	Tea Pot Dome Water District
Sean Geivet	General Manager	Terra Bella Irrigation District
Dennis R. Keller	Consulting Civil Engineer	Authority Consultant

Additional Advisory Committee members may be identified and included during the implementation of the Authority's Plan.

FIGURE 2-1



SOURCE: TULARE COUNTY GRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, 1999

LEGEND

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION
- Boundary - Groundwater Management Plan
- Streams
- Streets
- Lake Success

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS
- Pixley Public Utility District
- Porter Vista Public Utility District
- Woodville Public Utility District

COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICTS
- Poplar Community Services District
- Teviston Community Services District
- Tipton Community Services District

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS
- Lower Tule River Irrigation District
- Pixley Irrigation District
- Porterville Irrigation District
- Saucelito Irrigation District
- Terra Bella Irrigation District
- Vandalia Irrigation District

N W E S

10 5 0 10 Miles

PLAN BOUNDARIES

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

KELLER/WEGLEY

SECTION 3
GROUNDWATER BASIN CHARACTERISTICS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 3
GROUNDWATER BASIN CHARACTERISTICS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

GENERAL

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (Authority) is located within the Tule River Sub-basin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin No. 5-22.13). The Tule River Sub-basin is bounded by the following groundwater sub-basins: Kaweah River (north), Tulare Lake (west) and Kern County (south). The groundwater basin includes three major surface drainages: Tule River, Deer Creek and White River.

Typical annual rainfall in the basin is approximately 11 inches. The western portion of the Basin is typically more arid. The eastern edge of the Basin along the mountains experiences higher rainfall amounts.

The region encompassed by the Authority's Groundwater Management Plan (Plan) is shown on Figure 2-1 in Section 2. Table 3-1 summarizes the communities located in the basin and their respective populations.

TABLE 3-1
COMMUNITY POPULATIONS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

COMMUNITY	POPULATION (1)
Pixley	2,589
Poplar/Cotton Center	1,496
Porterville (2)	46,346
Terra Bella	3,466
Tipton	1,790
Woodville	1,678

NOTE: (1) Population based upon Census 2000
Census Designated Place (CDP).
(2) Includes East Porterville CDP (population. 6,730).

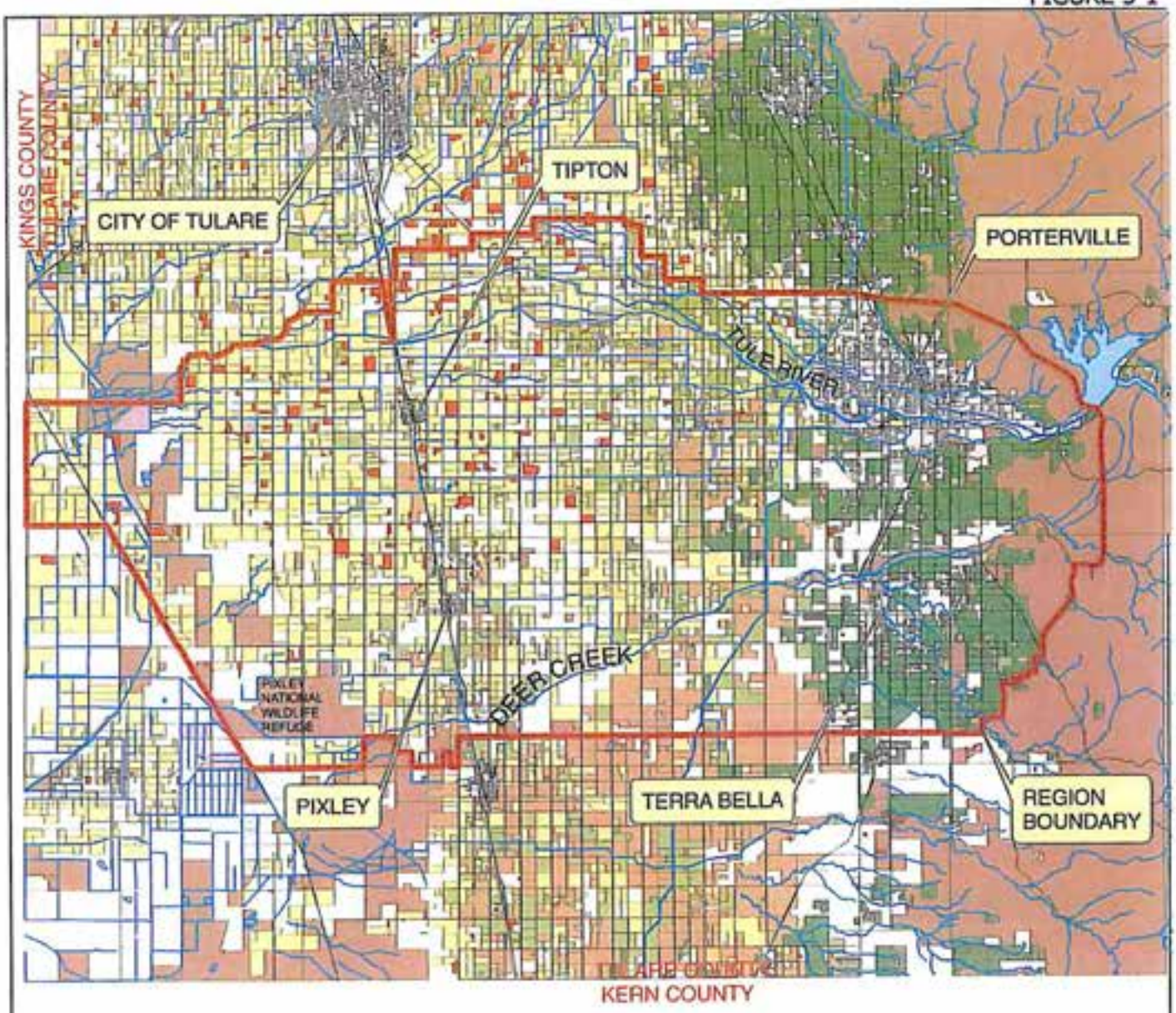
The Basin is rural in nature, dominated by agricultural land use as shown in Figure 3-1.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The physical characteristics of the groundwater basin influence the content of the Plan. In particular, the manner in which groundwater is replenished is directly affected by surface and subsurface characteristics, such as the permeability of the overlying and subsurface soils. The permeability of the soils within the groundwater basin is shown on Figure 3-2. In general, the soils having higher permeability rates are located adjacent to the main surface water drainages.

The Authority members overlie areas of both unconfined and confined aquifers. There are limited areas of perched water and shallow groundwater tables. These conditions result from subsurface geologic conditions. A general depiction of the aquifer and subsurface geologic conditions is presented on Figure 3-3. Figure 3-4 shows the groundwater elevations for spring, 2004, as compiled and prepared by the Department of Water Resources.

FIGURE 3-1



SOURCE: TULARE COUNTY GRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, 1999

LEGEND

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Boundary - Groundwater Management Plan
- Streams
- Streets
- Lake Success

LAND USE

- Citrus
- Deciduous Fruit and Nuts
- Field Crops
- Semi Agricultural: Livestock, Dairies, Etc.
- Truck, Nursery and Berry Crops
- Vineyards
- Native Vegetation
- Water Surfaces
- Urban

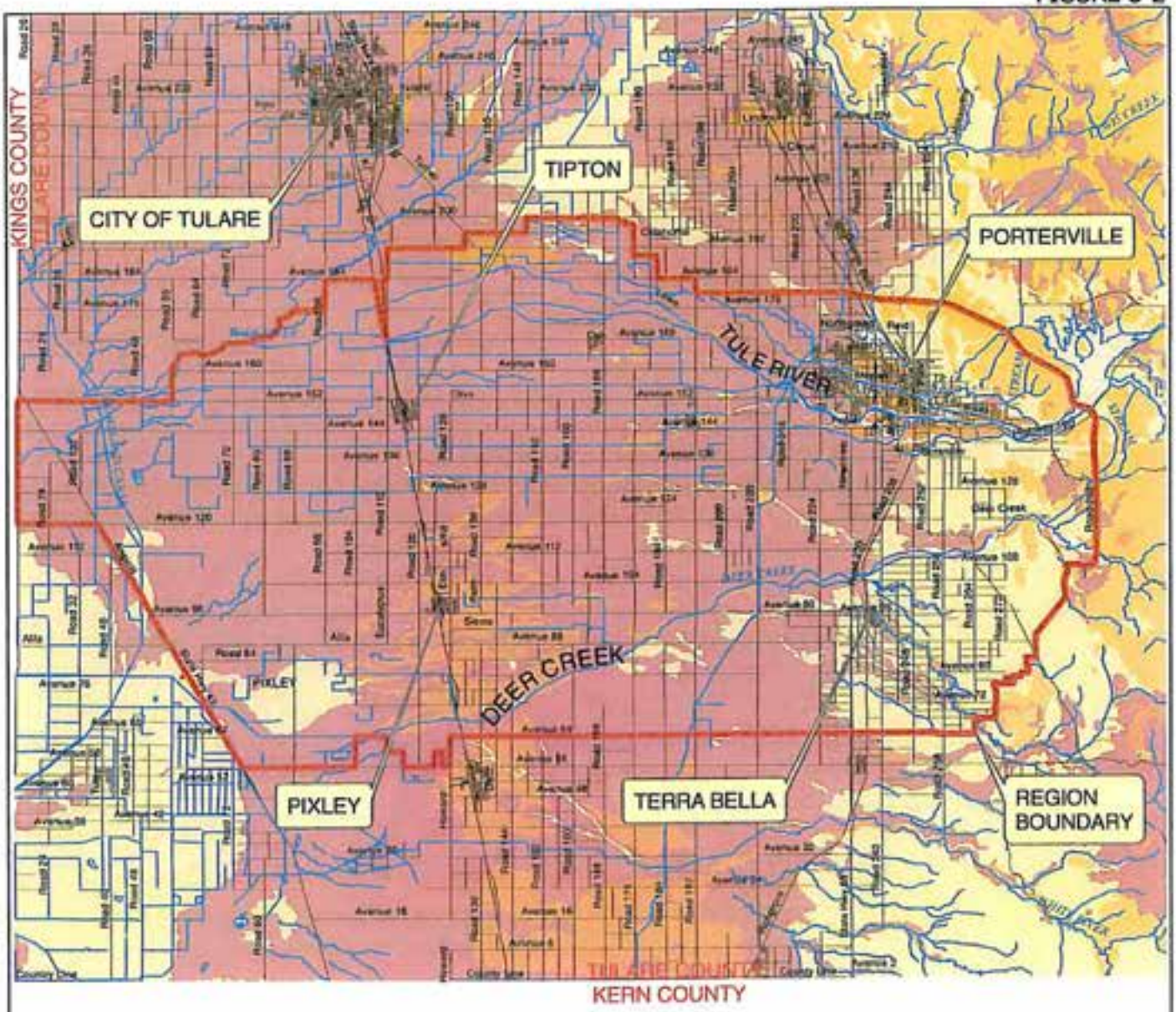
N W E S

10 5 0 10 Miles

LAND USE
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

KELLER/WEGLEY

FIGURE 3-2



SOURCE: TULARE COUNTY GRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, 1999

LEGEND

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Boundary - Groundwater Management Plan
- Streams
- Streets
- Lake Success

PERMEABILITY

- Moderate
- Rapid
- Rock
- Slow
- Under Water

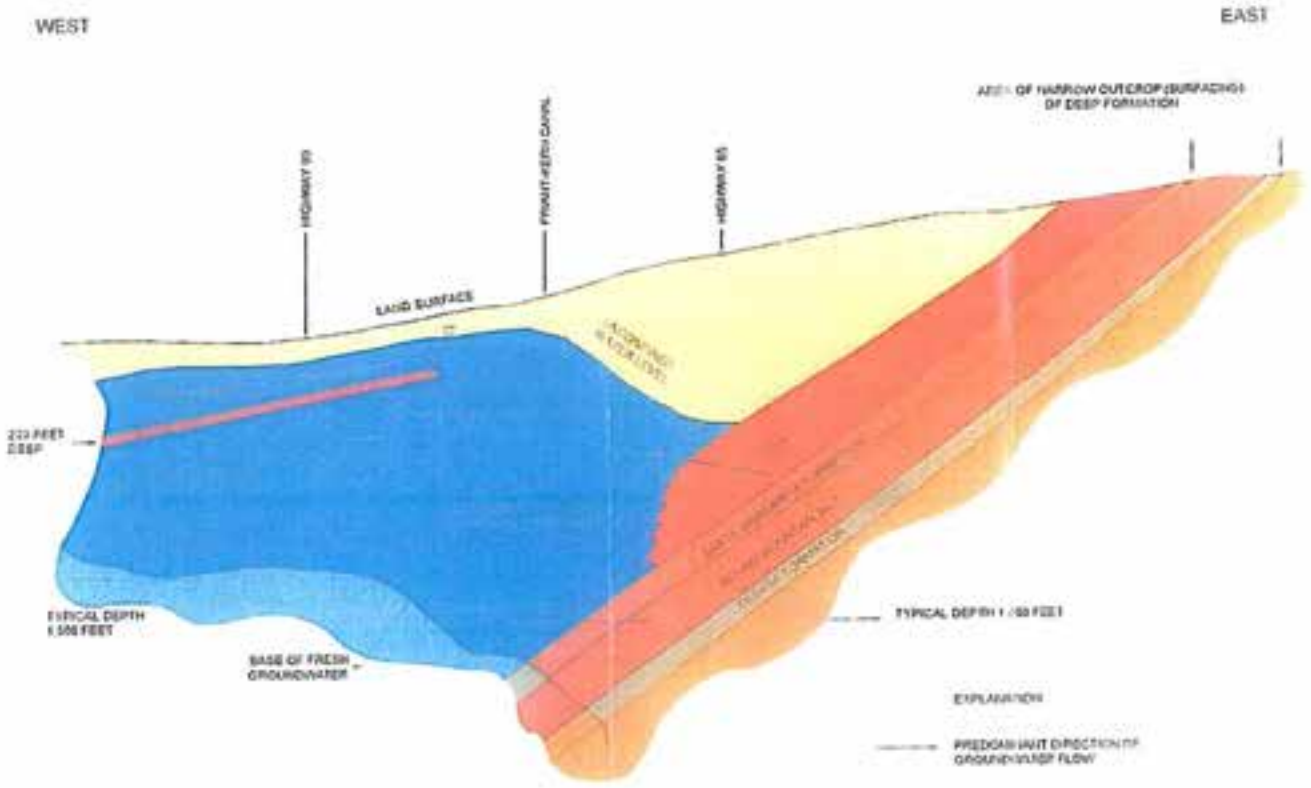
N
W E
S

10 5 0 10 Miles

SOIL PERMEABILITY
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

KELLER/WEGLEY

FIGURE 3-3



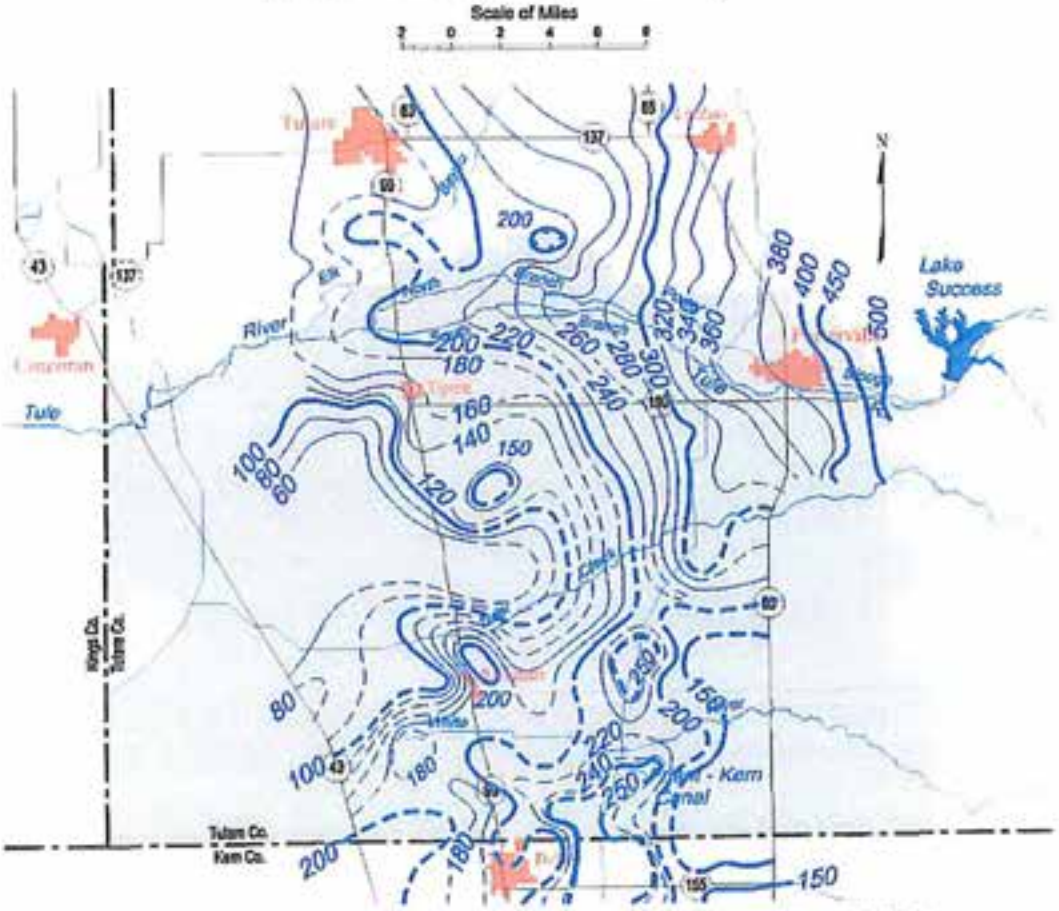
SOURCE: FIGURE 9, ANALYSIS OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES PROVOST AND PRITCHARD 2001.

SURFACE CONDITIONS
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

KELLER/WEGLEY

Tule Groundwater Basin

Spring 2004, Lines of Equal Elevation of Water in Wells, Unconfined Aquifer



Contours are dashed where inferred. Contour interval is 10, 20 and 50 feet.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

GROUNDWATER ELEVATIONS
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 4
BASIN MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 4
BASIN MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

GENERAL

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (Authority) has developed five (5) basin management objectives to guide the implementation of the Groundwater Management Plan (Plan). By accomplishing these objectives, the Authority believes that a more reliable groundwater supply for long-term beneficial uses within the Plan area will be realized. The Authority's basin management objectives within the Plan area are:

1. To promote and realize groundwater resource protection;
2. To facilitate groundwater resource sustainability;
3. To develop groundwater resource understanding;
4. To develop groundwater basin understanding; and
5. To promote and facilitate information dissemination regarding the groundwater resource.

Each basin management objective is described below.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCE PROTECTION

Groundwater needs to have water quality that will sustain its beneficial uses to remain a viable water resource within the groundwater basin. This objective focuses the Authority's management strategies to maintain the good water quality of the Plan Area's groundwater. The Authority will utilize the following strategies to achieve this objective:

1. Wellhead/Recharge Area Protection;
2. Migration of Contaminated Water Controls;
3. Well Abandonment and Destruction Policies; and
4. Well Construction Policies.

Protection of the groundwater beneath the Plan Participants ensures that the maximum amount of groundwater remains available. Achieving this basin management objective minimizes the potential to lose groundwater volumes to contamination.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

Groundwater is the primary water supply in the Plan Area for both domestic and agricultural purposes. This objective emphasizes the maintenance and/or increase of the available groundwater supply. The following management strategies will be used toward achieving this objective:

1. Overdraft Mitigation;
2. Groundwater Recharge Policies;
3. Groundwater Extraction Management;
4. Conjunctive use Policies; and
5. Operation of Facilities.

This basin management objective of the Plan will identify and quantify the surface and groundwater supplies available to the Authority members and define the interaction between these supplies. Groundwater storage is affected by groundwater pumping and groundwater recharge as water users attempt to meet their water use demands. The net result of the

interactions between the available water supplies and the demands for water is a change in groundwater storage. This basin management objective is intended to provide the Authority with the information and tools required to maintain and improve the total water supply through coordinated management of groundwater.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCE UNDERSTANDING

The purpose of this basin management objective is to further develop knowledge regarding the Plan Area's groundwater. With detailed information regarding the groundwater resource, improved characterization will lead to future groundwater management decisions. The primary Plan element that will achieve this objective is groundwater monitoring.

Groundwater levels monitored at least annually will indicate the status (availability) of the resource. Groundwater levels also reveal the effectiveness of other strategies, such as groundwater recharge efforts. Monitoring data developed over time will serve as the foundation of conclusions regarding groundwater reliability and management strategy effectiveness.

GROUNDWATER BASIN UNDERSTANDING

This basin management objective garners basin information to facilitate evaluations regarding basin features and potential groundwater resource impacts.

Changes to the groundwater basin's topographic, geologic and hydrologic conditions may adversely affect the groundwater. Land use development can impact both the quantity and quality of groundwater. The availability of surface water reduces overall demand on the groundwater.

This objective will be achieved through the following management strategies:

1. Land Subsidence Monitoring;
2. Land Use Planning; and
3. Surface Water Management.

Through these strategies, the Authority will remain familiar with the Plan Area's topographic, geologic and hydrologic conditions that may affect the groundwater resource. The Authority will have the capability to react to proposed projects and changing conditions and potentially avoid adverse groundwater impacts.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Groundwater resource and basin information and knowledge will result from the active implementation of this Plan. The Authority will serve as the primary conduit of information regarding the Plan and subsequent results.

This Basin management objective will result from the following plan elements:

1. Groundwater Basin and Resource Information Management;
2. Groundwater Basin and Resource Reports; and
3. Local Agency and Stakeholder Involvement.

The Plan and its management strategies will result in the compilation of various data and information regarding the groundwater basin and its resources. The Authority will compile, manage and disseminate this information to facilitate improved coordination and use of the Plan Area's hydrologic resources. The Plan will also result in various opportunities for the Basin's stakeholders to respond to basin management efforts.

SECTION 5
MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 5
MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

GENERAL

California Water Code Sections 10753.7 and 10753.8 set forth required and recommended elements that establish strategies for groundwater management. Each strategy and the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority's (Authority) planned activities conducted in support of the strategy are described in this section. Some activities have been in use since the adoption of the previous 1994 Groundwater Management Plan (Plan). Planned activities describe proposed Authority efforts that will be utilized during the implementation of this Plan.

SALINE WATER INTRUSION CONTROL

The Tule River Groundwater Basin is a subbasin of the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region. The western edge of the Plan Area is situated about 90 miles from the Pacific Ocean. The Authority does not consider saline water intrusion controls a management strategy that warrants consideration.

Plan Activities

None - The Authority reserves the right to decide whether or not it will be involved with this strategy in the future as authorized by Water Code Section 10753.8.

WELLHEAD AND RECHARGE AREA PROTECTION

The management strategy consists of the identification, establishment and management of wellhead and recharge protection areas. Areas where groundwater pumping and recharge occur warrant dedicated attention by the Authority. Wells represent a direct conduit to groundwater. Recharge area (basins) are typically constructed in areas exhibiting high soil permeability characteristics.

The Authority will monitor and participate in land use development activities within the Plan Area. The Authority will also consider structural measures such as fencing or land acquisition to protect wellhead or recharge areas.

Plan Activities

1. Land use and development monitoring;
2. Participation in pertinent land use/zoning planning procedures; and
3. Incorporation of security measures such as fencing, as necessary.

MIGRATION OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER CONTROLS

This management strategy incorporates regulations and controls for contaminated groundwater. The Authority has not identified specific plumes of contaminated groundwater. Source specific plumes of contaminated groundwater, such as those from leaking underground storage tanks, fall under the jurisdiction of various state and federal agencies. The Authority is not in a position at this time to pursue regulations regarding unattributed groundwater contamination.

The Authority will develop and implement protocols to obtain and compile information regarding contaminated groundwater. Monitoring of groundwater quality will also be conducted.

Plan Activities

1. Monitoring of regulatory activities and records regarding contaminated groundwater within Plan Area; and
2. Complete an inventory and evaluate available groundwater quality data.

WELL ABANDONMENT/DESTRUCTION POLICIES

Improper well abandonment may allow contamination of the groundwater. Well abandonment must be conducted in conformance with standards adopted by the County of Tulare. The Authority will monitor these activities by reviewing abandonment records compiled by the County. Appropriate information on proper abandonment of wells within the Plan area will be made available through the Authority.

In lieu of well abandonment, the Authority will pursue the conversion of a production well to a monitoring well if such suitable opportunities arise and funding is available.

Plan Activities

1. Establish and maintain a protocol with Tulare County regarding review of well abandonment records;
2. Develop record keeping system/database of abandoned wells;
3. Establish public education activity to inform stakeholders of well standards and policies; and
4. Develop and implement program to convert abandoned production wells to monitoring wells.

WELL CONSTRUCTION POLICIES

The increase in groundwater extraction resulting from the construction of additional wells affects the long-term water balance of the region. Well construction may allow contamination of the groundwater if not done properly. Well construction must be conducted in conformance with standards adopted by the County of Tulare. The Authority will monitor these activities by reviewing well construction records compiled by the County. Appropriate information on proper construction of wells within the Plan area will be made available through the Authority.

Opportunities for additional groundwater monitoring wells may arise through the abandonment of existing production wells. The Authority will consider such a conversion to eliminate the construction of additional wells.

Plan Activities

1. Establish and maintain a protocol with Tulare County regarding review of well construction records;
2. Develop a record keeping system/database of constructed wells;
3. Establish public education activity to inform stakeholders of well construction standards and policies; and
4. Develop guidelines for monitoring well conversion.

OVERDRAFT MITIGATION

The groundwater basin is experiencing groundwater overdraft as evidenced by lower groundwater levels within the Plan Area.

This management strategy is best achieved through the implementation of several companion management strategies. Overdraft mitigation is accomplished through the integration of the following strategies:

1. Groundwater Recharge/Management;
2. Groundwater Extraction Policies;
3. Conjunctive Use Policies; and
4. Surface Water Management.

These strategies will be implemented to attempt to achieve a hydrologic balance within the Plan area, thereby reducing overdraft of the groundwater resource.

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE MANAGEMENT

The replenishment of the underlying groundwater occurs naturally and through deliberate, controlled means. The Authority's groundwater replenishment is achieved by controlled means principally through direct recharge to the underground and through the delivery of surface water, when available, to lands otherwise relying on the groundwater resource.

Direct recharge is achieved through the placement of surface water in channels or basins located on permeable soils for the express purpose of percolation to the underground. Within the area of the Authority, the members use natural channels, unlined ditches and canals and percolation basins for this purpose. It is the intention of the Authority members to expand the current network of recharge facilities. The monitoring of groundwater conditions under this Plan will enable the Authority to identify areas of need in this regard.

Delivery of surface water for irrigation purposes reduces the need for water users to draw on groundwater thereby conserving the water available in the aquifer for later use. The use of surface water in this manner is known as in-lieu recharge and is practiced by all Authority members. An additional benefit is derived when irrigation water applied beyond crop water needs percolates to the underground.

Plan Activities

1. Maintain and/or expand relationships involving networks of groundwater recharge facilities;
2. Maintain and/or expand surface water deliveries within the Plan area.; and
3. Pursue additional surface water supplies for specific purposes of groundwater recharge.

GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION POLICIES

Effective groundwater replenishment and maintenance of groundwater levels involves the management of water supplies available to the basin and extractions from the basin. Groundwater extractions within the management area are primarily by private wells. Management of groundwater extractions can best be achieved through economic incentives, rather than through the regulation of extractions. This current practice will continue to be implemented through the pricing of surface water at rates which encourage water users to use surface water in-lieu of pumping groundwater.

Plan Activities

1. Secure surface water quantities and establish subsequent pricing that encourages maximum surface water use;
2. Develop and implement an educational program focused on:
    a) Timing of use of groundwater;
    b) Timing of use of surface water; and
3. Evaluate grower incentive based banking program.

CONJUNCTIVE USE POLICIES

Groundwater management in California is rooted in the conjunctive use of surface and groundwater resources. Use of the water supplies from the two sources is integrated to accomplish the optimum utilization of each source.

In years of shortage, that previously stored water is pumped to supplement available surface water. Authority members will be encouraged to maximize the utilization of available facilities and resources for conjunctive use through cooperative management.

Conjunctive use opportunities motivated the Authority members to enter into long-term contracts with the United States beginning in the 1950's for the importation of supplemental surface water supply from the Friant Unit of the CVP.

Water transfers and exchanges are an integral part of the existing conjunctive use programs. Under the Plan, the Authority members will seek to preserve and enhance conjunctive use activities through coordinated use of available supplies made possible by water transfers and exchanges and through expansion of recharge facilities. Enhancement of conjunctive use activities could include the development of water banking arrangements with other agencies by utilizing available groundwater storage capacity for the temporary storage of water.

This management strategy will result from the integration of the following plan elements:

1. Groundwater Recharge Policies;
2. Groundwater Extraction Policies; and
3. Surface Water Management.

SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT

Surface Water Quantity

The Authority members import surface water supplies from the Central Valley Project through the Friant Division and the Cross Valley Canal exchange program under long-term contracts with the United States and receive local surface supplies from the Tule River and Deer Creek. Also, the Authority members make short-term and year-to-year arrangements to secure additional Central Valley Project (CVP) water and other supplies. The Authority members have in place and operate an extensive system of conveyance, distribution and recharge facilities throughout their service area to make use of available surface supplies. Table 5-1 summarizes the water supply contract amounts of each member District of the Authority.

Under this Plan, the Authority will seek to preserve the existing water rights and contracts and will pursue opportunities to supplement these supplies through importation of additional water supplies for Authority members. Supplemental supplies may be obtained through purchase of additional CVP water from other entities, "Section 215 water" from the United States and through other programs as may be available. Efficient water use and distribution within the management area will be encouraged through the use of transfers and exchanges among Authority members.

Importation of affordable water supplies, in quantities sufficient to achieve a long-term water balance within the service area of the Authority members, is a prerequisite for successful implementation of the recharge groundwater management strategy. All opportunities to supplement the regular supplies of the Authority members through long-term water exchange and banking agreements, hereinafter referred to as Projects, will be evaluated for compatibility with the goals of this Plan pursuant to an adopted evaluation process.

TABLE 5-1
WATER SUPPLY
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

District	Acres	CVP Supply (AF)	Avg CVP Supply (AF)	Conveyance System	Other Notes
Lower Tule River ID	104,000	61,200 Class 1 238,000 Class 2 31,102 CVC	156,240	300 mi. Canals 25 mi. Rivers 5 mi. Piped	Local supply from Tule River 70,000 AF/y average
Pixley ID	70,000	31,102 CVC		46 mi. Canals 14 mi. River	Access to Deer Creek - minor supply
Porterville ID	17,000	16,000 Class 1 30,000 Class 2	27,320	13 mi. Unlined Canals 7 mi. Piped 12 mi. Rivers/Slough	Local supply from Tule River 10,600 AF/y average
Saucelito Irrigation District	19,500	21,200 Class 1 32,800 Class 2	33,300	100% Piped	
Stone Corral ID (1)	6,500	10,000 Class 1	9,200	100% Piped	GW storage is limited-Aquifer thickness <1600'
Terra Bella ID	13,300	29,000 Class 1	26,680	100% Piped	GW storage is limited-Aquifer thickness <1600'

Notes: (1) Not in groundwater basin.

This evaluation process will consist of the following steps:

1. Submittal of written proposal and technical report;
2. Authority Advisory Committee and consultant evaluation;
3. Proponent and Authority Coordination; and
4. Authority Advisory Committee recommendation and Board of Directors action.

For any proposed Project, the Proponent will initiate the process through the transmittal of a written proposal describing the Project, including the anticipated benefits. A technical report will be prepared by the Proponent and evaluated by the Authority. The report must describe:

1. Quantities and sources of water;
2. Structures and other physical features of the proposed Project;
3. Water accounting measures and/or methods;
4. Funding;
5. Schedule, including CEQA compliance;
6. Anticipated benefits; and
7. Proponent's evaluation of compliance with Plan's management objectives.

The Authority Advisory Committee will evaluate the Technical Report prior to any Board determination regarding the proposed Project.

The Authority Advisory Committee will utilize outside consultants, as necessary, for further evaluations. The proposal and technical report will be reviewed for consistency with the Plan's basin management objectives and utilization of adopted management strategies.

The resulting evaluation will be returned to the Project Proponent. The Authority Advisory Committee will coordinate with the Proponent to develop the final proposed Project.

Upon finalization of the proposed Project, the Authority Board of Directors will act to determine the compatibility of the proposed Project with the goals of this Plan. Similarly, water exchange and banking agreements among Authority members will be used where they may enable the Authority members to distribute water to areas identified under this Plan as suffering from groundwater depletion and as being suitable for groundwater storage.

Surface Water Quality

The surface waters of the Plan area are varied. Imported surface water originates in the San Joaquin River watershed (Friant-Kern Canal). Local surface water can be found in the Tule River and Deer Creek. These imported and local surface waters are subject to monitoring programs by various agencies. Current surface water monitoring programs are summarized in Table 5-2. Under this management strategy, the Authority will review results of existing monitoring programs. Additional surface water quality monitoring will be developed if deemed necessary.

Plan Activities

1. Maintain or increase quantities of imported surface water;
2. Preserve existing surface water rights;
3. Promote efficient water use through the use of water exchanges and transfers;
4. Investigate potential for water banking opportunities within the Plan area;
5. Develop additional water storage capacity within the Plan area; and
6. Monitor existing surface water quality testing efforts by other agencies.

TABLE 5-2
SURFACE WATER QUALITY MONITORING
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SURFACE WATER	MONITORING AGENCY	FREQUENCY
Friant-Kern Canal	Reclamation District 770	Annually
	Terra Bella Irrigation District	Varies - monthly to annually
Tule River	Reclamation District 770	Annually
	Tule River Association	Seasonal

OPERATION OF FACILITIES

This management strategy consists of the construction and operation of facilities that address groundwater recharge, storage extraction, conservation contamination clean-up and water recycling. Current efforts primarily address groundwater recharge through percolation basins and unlined irrigation distribution channels. In general, the current projects are implemented individually by member Districts.

Additional groundwater facilities will be needed to sustain the resource as demands placed on the groundwater resource increase. The Authority will evaluate potential projects that will address this need. The current scope of this strategy will be expanded as necessary. Opportunities to incorporate recycling and reclamation and water conservation may be possible through coordination with domestic utility providers.

Plan Activities

1. Maintain policy that encourages the use of unlined channels (where possible);
2. Maintain policy which facilitates maintenance of recharge basins;
3. Develop and implement protocol to identify operations projects; and
4. Upgrade and expand surface water conveyance facilities.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Groundwater monitoring will be used by the Authority to assess the quantity and quality of the groundwater resource. The details of this management strategy are described in Section 6.

Each member District of the Authority currently participates in biannual monitoring of groundwater levels. Additional groundwater level information is available from domestic water providers.

In general, regular groundwater quality assessments are conducted by domestic water providers within the region. The Authority will develop a protocol to compile groundwater quality data. Additional groundwater quality monitoring efforts will be developed as needed.

LAND SUBSIDENCE MONITORING

The Authority does not have any substantial information regarding land subsidence within the Plan area. This management strategy consists of developing and implementing monitoring protocols to determine the pressure of land subsidence. The Authority's efforts will establish a starting point for future evaluations.

Plan Activities

1. Identify and establish an elevation control network throughout the Plan area; and
2. Conduct periodic survey of control network to determine presence, if any, of land subsidence.

LAND USE PLANNING

This management strategy consists of reviewing land use plans and coordination with local planning agencies. Under this strategy, the Authority will review projects and basin activities that affect land use and the potential for groundwater resource impacts.

Plan Activities

1. Develop and maintain protocols to participate in local land use planning efforts; and
2. Continue participation in California Environmental Quality Act as a responsible agency.

GROUNDWATER BASIN AND RESOURCE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Many strategies to be utilized by the Authority will produce groundwater resource and basin data or information. This information will need to be completed and inventoried.

The purpose of this management strategy is to ensure that data and information gathered during the implementation of the Plan is readily available for evaluation purposes. Many Plan efforts could be implemented by Authority member Districts or other Plan Participants. Centralizing this data and information will be critical to groundwater management.

Under this management strategy, the Authority will also conduct assessments and evaluations of the implementation data. These efforts will serve as the basis of development for the Authority's annual reports and other Plan documents.

In addition, a conjunctive use model for the Tule groundwater basin area was developed for the Department of Water Resources in 2002. The model is a productive tool that is available to the Authority. This tool provides an additional method to evaluate Plan data and conduct groundwater resource assessments.

Plan Activities

1. Establish data management authority and responsibilities;
2. Develop and implement data collection and inventory protocols and standards; and
3. Conduct periodic refinement and use of predictive groundwater model.

GROUNDWATER BASIN AND RESOURCE REPORTS

This management element consists of the preparation of reports and other documents used by the Authority to disseminate information and findings regarding its efforts under the Plan. Reports will be used to document Plan activities and subsequent effectiveness. These reports will also be used to present new and/or additional knowledge regarding the Basin characteristics and resources.

Detailed information regarding the Authority's reporting efforts can be found in Section 7, Implementation.

Plan Activities

1. Prepare Annual Groundwater Management Plan Report; and
2. Prepare technical memoranda as necessary to disseminate information regarding Plan activities.

LOCAL AGENCY AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

This management strategy consists of efforts to engage individuals and agencies within the Plan area in Plan participation. Three primary elements will form the foundation of this management strategy: Plan participation, Advisory Committee and Public Review. The first element is Plan Participation. There exists many agencies within the Plan area that will realize benefits from the Authority's coordinated Plan efforts to manage the groundwater resource. The Authority will pursue opportunities to engage such agencies as Plan Participants. Additional Plan Participants increase the extent of coordinated groundwater resource management and the amount of resources available to implement the Plan.

The second element of this strategy is the development and utilization of a Plan Advisory Committee (Committee) to address the implementation of the Plan. The Authority will establish the criteria regarding Committee formation and participation. To be effective, the Committee must include individuals and agencies that represent the various resource interests of the Plan area. The Authority will endeavor to enlist sufficient representation for the Committee. Additional committees may be created as necessary to facilitate implementation of the Plan.

The third element of this strategy consists of public participation and review. The meetings of the Authority are open to the public. Public notification will be completed to encourage public participation. During Plan reporting efforts, the public will be afforded opportunity to review and publicly comment on the Plan and its implementation. The Plan will be considered public record and available for inspection.

Plan Activities

1. Pursue Plan participation by local agencies within Plan Area;
2. Maintain advisory committee of Plan Participants and Plan stakeholders; and
3. Establish and maintain public notification and participation procedures regarding Plan activities.

SECTION 6
MONITORING
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 6
MONITORING
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

GENERAL

Optimal use of the groundwater resource is dependent on the acquisition of good basic data respecting both geology and hydrology. The purpose of this element of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority (Authority) Groundwater Management Plan (Plan) is to monitor conditions within the groundwater basin to identify changing conditions which may require attention. Monitoring includes gathering and analyzing basic data generated from Plan management activities to characterize the basin to provide the information necessary for future management decisions. Existing and proposed management activities in this regard may be enhanced to provide a more complete picture of the condition of the groundwater resource. The Plan's primary monitoring effort will be directed at the groundwater resource. Additional monitoring efforts will result from activities proposed by management strategies.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Groundwater monitoring will consist of two components which are groundwater levels and groundwater quality.

Groundwater Levels

Data regarding groundwater levels is used to evaluate groundwater movement and storage conditions. Groundwater contour maps showing lines of equal elevation of the water surface indicate the direction of groundwater movement and can be used to develop estimates of

groundwater flow entering or leaving the management area. Maps of depth to groundwater can provide insight into the distribution of pumping lifts and resulting energy costs for extraction. Maps showing changes in groundwater levels, when used in conjunction with data on specific yield, can also be used to estimate changes in groundwater storage.

The Authority members routinely measure groundwater levels in approximately 200 wells. (The location of these wells is presented in Figure 6-1.) Measurements are made in both spring (February) and fall (October). The present monitoring networks will be maintained or enhanced to assure the availability of sufficient data for the preparation of groundwater contour maps. Measurement of groundwater levels will continue to be performed in both spring and fall in order to show seasonal variations.

Groundwater Quality

Monitoring of groundwater quality provides the information required for determinations of the suitability of groundwater for various uses. Comprehensive groundwater quality data for the Plan area does not exist. The Authority will develop protocols to obtain groundwater quality data from domestic water providers and other sources and consolidate it for management purposes.

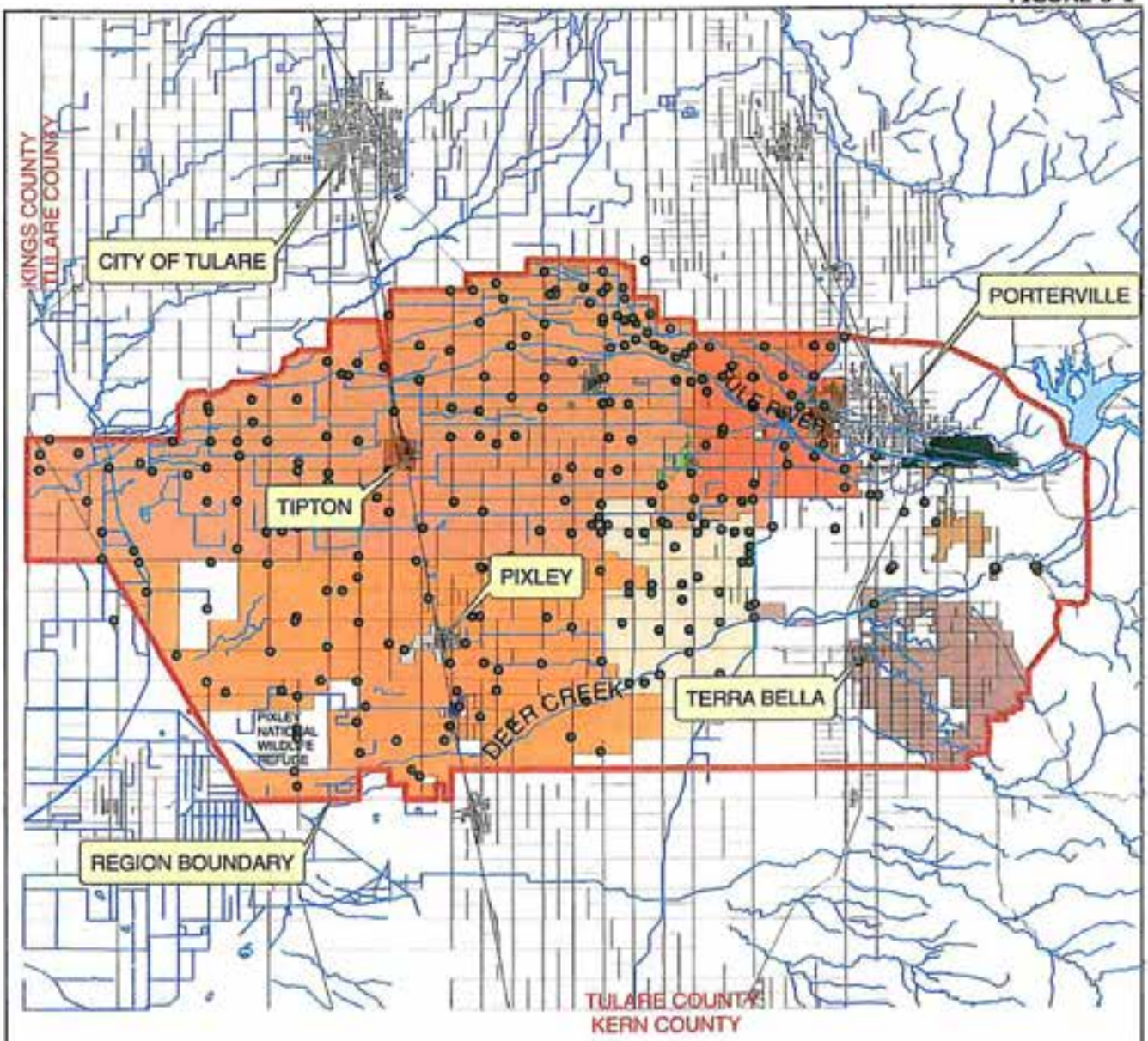
The sampling of the Authority's wells will be expanded, if necessary, to provide sufficient data to allow identification of water quality problem areas. Supplemental sampling may also be performed to better define localized areas of impaired water quality. Testing will typically include standard agricultural type analysis, but may also include additional testing, such as Title 22 parameters, as required.

ADDITIONAL MONITORING

Data related to the hydrologic inventory will be collected annually for quantification and analysis. Components of the inventory include precipitation, runoff, imported supplies, amounts of groundwater replenished and quantities of groundwater extracted. Additional monitoring efforts will result from the following Plan management strategies:

1. Groundwater Recharge Management;
2. Groundwater Extraction Policies;
3. Surface Water Management;
4. Land Use Planning;
5. Well Abandonment/Destruction Policies; and
6. Well Construction Policies.

FIGURE 6-1



SOURCE: TULARE COUNTY GRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, 1999

LEGEND

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION
- Boundary - Integrated Regional Management Plan
- Streams
- Streets
- Lake Success

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS
- Pixley Public Utility District
- Porter Vista Public Utility District
- Woodville Public Utility District

COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICTS
- Poplar Community Services District
- Teviston Community Services District
- Tipton Community Services District

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS
- Lower Tule River Irrigation District
- Pixley Irrigation District
- Porterville Irrigation District
- Saucelito Irrigation District
- Terra Bella Irrigation District
- Vandalia Irrigation District
- Monitoring Well

N W E S

10 5 0 10 Miles

GROUND WATER MONITORING WELL LOCATIONS
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

KELLER/WEGLEY

SECTION 7
PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

SECTION 7
PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

GENERAL

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority's (Authority) Groundwater Management Plan (Plan) documents will be maintained at the office of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District. The office will act as the Plan's resource center and data clearinghouse. Monitoring Data and information gathered during Plan implementation will be compiled and stored at the office. The Authority will lead Plan activity, report preparation and information dissemination efforts.

PLAN PARTICIPATION

The Plan officially recognizes stakeholders through the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The original stakeholders comprising the Authority executed a MOU to indicate their support of the original Plan. A copy of this MOU is presented in Appendix B. The purpose of the MOU is to document the interests and responsibilities of participants in the adoption and implementation of the Plan. The MOU also promotes the sharing of information, the developing of a course of action and the resolving of differences that may arise regarding the Plan. It is anticipated that stakeholder involvement will increase with time. The Authority will continue to pursue new stakeholder involvement and shall endeavor to enter into agreements with other local agencies. The form of agreement shall be consistent with the existing MOU and shall also be in compliance with California Water Code §10750.8.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Plan acknowledges that controversial issues could arise concerning the groundwater resource. Stakeholders are encouraged to work through the Plan in addressing and resolving differences. When this process proves insufficient, the Authority has a policy in place that can be applied by the Plan. The Plan hereby adopts the Authority's "Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy." Appendix C of the Plan includes the most current version of the policy.

ANNUAL REPORT

Documentation in the form of an annual report will be prepared as required to record the results of the management activities monitoring elements of the Plan. The contents of the annual report will include:

1. Maps and/or tables showing:
    a. Spring and fall groundwater elevations;
    b. Changes in the monitor well network;
    c. Changes in groundwater levels between subsequent spring readings; and
    d. Groundwater quality;
2. Estimation of the changes in groundwater storage computed using specific yield data and maps of change in groundwater levels;
3. Summary of water resource data; and
4. Assessment of the effectiveness of management activities.

PLAN EVALUATION

The Plan will be re-evaluated annually subsequent to the findings of the Plan's annual report. The Authority's Plan Advisory Committee will be responsible for monitoring the Plan's activities and progress towards its management objectives.

The re-evaluation of the Plan will include an assessment of the effectiveness of Plan activities and a determination of potential modification(s) to the Plan.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Additional reports and technical memoranda may be produced as a result of Plan activity, grant funding requirements or other need for documentation. The content of any supplemental documents will address the informational requirements.

SCHEDULE

Implementation of the Authority's Plan will be structured according to the schedule presented in Table 7-1.

TABLE 7-1
IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

PLAN ACTIVITY	OCCURRENCE
Plan Management Strategies and Activities	Monthly (As Required)
Advisory Committee	Bi-monthly
Authority General Meeting	Bi-monthly
Plan Report	Annually
Plan Re-evaluation	Annually
Groundwater Monitoring	Semi-Annually (Additional As Required)

PLAN FUNDING

Implementing the Plan will require dedicated funding through the Authority and the Plan Participants. In general, funding for the Plan and its activities will be derived from grants, in-lieu contributions, cost-sharing agreements and/or assessments.

Grants

The Authority will pursue opportunities to fund Plan activities through grants offered by DWR and other agencies. Member Districts may be asked to support grant applications on the Authority's behalf.

Cost-Sharing Agreements

Costs for annual groundwater reports, Plan updates and other reporting efforts will be distributed and collected according to any cost-sharing agreements for Authority project activities.

Additional cost-sharing agreements may be developed as necessary to fund other projects considered during the implementation of the Plan.

In-lieu Contributions

Some Plan activities, such as groundwater monitoring will be funded through the Districts' own operations.

Assessments

Upon adoption of this Plan, the Authority is authorized to levy and collect general groundwater replenishment assessments, as well as water extraction fees based on the amount of groundwater extracted from the aquifer within the Plan Area. Any assessment or fees proposed to be collected by the Authority under this Plan for the purpose of groundwater management must be approved by an area-wide election as provided in the implementing statutory provisions related to AB 3030.

APPENDIX A
PLAN PARTICIPANTS AND BASIN STAKEHOLDERS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

TABLE A-1
PLAN PARTICIPANTS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

PARTICIPANT
Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Pixley Irrigation District
Porterville Irrigation District
Saucelito Irrigation District
Tea Pot Dome Water District
Terra Bella Irrigation District
Vandalia Irrigation District

TABLE A-2
BASIN STAKEHOLDERS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

STAKEHOLDER	INTEREST
Lower Tule River Irrigation District	District Landowners
Pixley Irrigation District	District Landowners
Porterville Irrigation District	District Landowners
Saucelito Irrigation District	District Landowners
Tea Pot Dome Water District	District Landowners
Terra Bella Irrigation District	District Landowners
Vandalia Irrigation District	District Landowners
Tipton Community Services District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Poplar Community Services District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Woodville Public Utility District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Terra Bella Irrigation District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Pixley Community Services District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Teviston Community Services District	Domestic Water Supply/Use
Pixley Wildlife Refuge	Wildlife
Bureau of Reclamation	Surface Water Supplies
Friant Water Authority	Surface Water Supplies
National Resources Conservation Service	Natural Resources
Audubon Society	Wildlife/Monitoring
Tulare County	Land Use/Planning
City of Porterville	Domestic Water Supply/Use

APPENDIX B
PLAN PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY AND _____

ARTICLE I - AGREEMENT

The articles and provisions contained herein constitute a bilateral and binding agreement by and between DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY (hereinafter the "Authority") and _____ (hereinafter "Agency").

ARTICLE II - RECOGNITION

The Authority has developed a Groundwater Management Plan (hereinafter the "Plan") with input from several local agencies located within the Authority boundaries. It is the intent of Authority to allow and encourage such agencies to coordinate efforts and be a part of the Authority's Plan by means of a separate Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter the "MOU") between each agency and Authority.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

It is the purpose of the MOU, entered into willingly between Authority and Agency, to document the interests and responsibilities of both parties in the adoption and implementation of the Plan. It is also hoped that such MOU will promote and provide a means to establish an orderly process to share information, develop a course of action and resolve any misunderstandings or differences that may arise regarding the Plan.

ARTICLE IV - COORDINATE

There shall be an annual coordinating meeting (hereinafter the "Meeting") between the Authority and the Agency. Authority shall give notice to the Agency thirty (30) days prior to date of the Meeting to discuss the manner in which the Plan is being implemented and other items related to the Plan. If there are concerns or questions, regarding the Plan, Agency shall transmit its concerns in writing to Authority seven (7) days prior to the Meeting.

ARTICLE V - OBLIGATIONS

The Plan shall be binding on the parties hereto unless superseded by the MOU or amendment thereto.

ARTICLE VI - AREA OF PLAN

The Plan shall be effective in all areas within the Agency boundaries. The Plan shall also be effective in any area annexed to the Agency subsequent to the adoption of the Plan.

ARTICLE VII - TERM

The initial term of the MOU shall commence on the date hereof and continue for five (5) years, and shall continue year to year thereafter, unless terminated by written notice given at least one (1) year prior to such termination.

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2007.

DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

By: _____

Title: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

_____

By: _____

Title: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

APPENDIX C
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY
DEER CREEK AND TULE RIVER AUTHORITY

Purpose. The Authority recognizes that defending or prosecuting lawsuits can be expensive and time-consuming, resulting in a drain on Authority resources that should be avoided, if reasonably possible. To that end, the Authority hereby implements this policy to encourage the resolution of disputes, claims and lawsuits through alternative dispute resolution procedures related to the adopted Groundwater Management Plan.

Procedures. Whenever the Authority is named in a lawsuit or receives a written claim or a serious threat of imminent litigation, the Authority staff shall immediately consult with the Authority General Counsel regarding the same. Together, the Authority staff and the Authority General Counsel shall formulate a recommended response to be considered by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Whenever the Authority becomes aware of any unasserted potential lawsuit, claim or dispute, with a reasonable likelihood of being asserted, against the Authority, the Authority staff shall consult with the Authority's counsel regarding the best method for responding to the same. Possible responses include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Do nothing;
2. A verbal communication from the Authority or its general counsel;
3. A written communication from the Authority or its general counsel;
4. An offer to meet and discuss the matter with Authority personnel;
5. An offer to mediate the matter before a neutral third-party mediator;
6. An offer to arbitrate the matter before the American Arbitration Association; or
7. An offer to arbitrate the matter using the rules of Judicial Arbitration found in California statutes.

Authority staff shall advise the Board of Directors of any unasserted lawsuit, claim or dispute, with a reasonable likelihood of being asserted, including the Authority's response to the same. The Board of Directors shall be advised whether or not the matter is resolved. If the potential lawsuit, claim or dispute becomes an actual lawsuit, claim or dispute, the response of the Authority shall be handled as set forth above in the previous paragraphs.

It shall be the practice of the Authority to encourage mediation of lawsuits, claims or dispute, whenever reasonably practical, in order to resolve such matters. Mediation shall be by a neutral third-party qualified to mediate such matters.

Appendix E Notices of District Education Programs and Services Available to Customers

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

FRIANT Waterline

February 2009
Volume 21, No. 184

Spring's Deceptive Serenity

Friant Water Authority / T. Randall McFarland

Fragile blossoms and a brilliant San Joaquin Valley early spring morning frame the Friant-Kern Canal as it snakes around the low foothills north of Lindsay on February 19. Despite the tranquil beauty, the Friant Division's water supply outlook this spring is initially considerably less than serene.

River Bill Awaits Vote By House

Action To Follow Senate OK, Provide Certainty

Action by the House of Representatives is expected shortly on a measure omnibus public lands, water and resources bill containing the legislation that would implement the San Joaquin River settlement.

It was not known at press time exactly when the House might take up the bill. Its consideration was delayed by debate over the huge economic stimulus package that recently was approved by Congress and signed into law by President Obama.

IMPORTANT STEP

"This is an important and long awaited step toward putting the litigation over the San Joaquin River behind us," Ronald D. Jacobsma, Friant Water Authority Consulting General Manager, said after the Senate passage of S. 22 – the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 – on a vote of 74 21 January 15.

"That action will lead toward implementation of the Settlement while providing safeguards and water supply certainty for Friant users.

"It is a major achievement on Friant's No. 1 priority under the Settlement, strengthening and putting the agreement's Water Management Goal to work to minimize or eliminate effects on Friant's water supply as a result of river restoration flow releases," Jacobsma added.

SAME SITUATION

He also noted, "The settlement remains the only way to provide certainty in a highly uncertain legal environment that has surrounded the San Joaquin River litigation since it was filed in 1988.

All of the factors that encouraged the Friant contractors to settle 20½ years ago are still in play."

Friant Water Users Authority member districts and water members view the Settlement as a sound business decision.

The FWUA sees the Settlement as the superior and most welcome than would have been possible had the San Joaquin River case not been settled.

Please see River Bill, page 4

Friant Feeling Water Pinch

Initial Class 1 Supply Declaration Just 25%; CVP May Have To Supply Exchange Contractors From San Joaquin River

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director Donald Glaser is flanked by Area Manager Michael Jackson (left) and Operations Manager Ron Milligan (right)

A third consecutive year of drought has taken a toll on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's initial water supply declaration for the Central Valley Project's Friant Division.

The Bureau announced February 20 that Friant water users, at least for now, can expect a water supply of just 207,600 acre-feet, only 25% of the total Class 1 water under contract, in the contract year that begins March 1. There would be no Class 2 water.

15% OF AVERAGE

If the declaration were to hold, Friant's overall supply would be only 15% of its long-term average annual delivery of 1.3 million acre-feet. Based upon Friant's unique two-pipe system of water supply, the project's first 800,000 acre-feet of yield is used by Class 1 contractors that have limited or no access to groundwater or other surface supplies.

Please see Water Pinch, back page

New State Effort Begins On Framing A Water Infrastructure Bond

One state crisis may be out of the way but another continues and is gaining renewed attention at the State Capitol.

With the state's budget crisis finally resolved, legislators and the Schwarzenegger Administration are turning focus back to the worsening water situation and California's long-term water infrastructure needs.

'DISCUSSION BEGINNING'

"Discussions are emerging once again on a California water infrastructure bond," said Ronald D. Jacobsma, Friant Water Authority General Manager.

The latest consideration is being given to authorize Delta improvements and a new version of a Peripheral Canal, which would move at least some water delivered to Central and Southern California around the fragile San Delta estuary. The project was a key recommendation of the Delta Vision Committee late last year following months of consideration.

Please see Infrastructure, Page 3

FRIANT
Waterline
February 2009
Page 2

AROUND FRIANT

Kern-Tulare Merges With Rag Gulch District

The water districts is scrubbing the Interstate between Kern and Tulare counties effective

The Kern-Tulare and Rag Gulch water districts officially merged as July began under the Kern-Tulare name

The consolidated agency provides agricultural water delivered through the Friant-Kern Canal under a Class Valley Water contract and supplemental with the Central Valley Project Water Service Contract with the Friant Water Authority

Steve Dalke, Kern-Tulare General Manager, said the two districts shared a common boundaries system management and staff, but were governed by separate boards of directors

Water supplies were managed separately, Dalke said

Shared engineering, audit and legal costs were also eliminated for economy and both districts were governed by members of the Board

Water Authority and Friant Water Users Authority

"All other aspects of district management were already integrated," Dalke said. "It is working very well"

Consolidation is expected to save $200,000 annually and is already resulting in significant operating savings attributed to the district's office manager and the Dalke

There are no significant changes upon water supply in Reclamation Reform Act compliance, Dalke said. All Rag Gulch lands were divested by Kern-Tulare

Board listed last year members, one new Director Daniel, Kelly Kamplous, Carl Holmes and John Zanowich were already Directors of both districts

Three new Kern-Tulare Water Directors sworn in office along with Kern-Tulare Water District Director Bruce Bailey

The other Rag Gulch Water Director Steven Chris Carlson, was an Judicial Economy of the Kern-Tulare Water District

Kern-Tulare Water District was issued on March 9, 1954, and Rag Gulch Water District was organized January 14, 1955, both for the purpose of providing agricultural water service. Neither district has ever received contracts or entitlements to any surface water.

As consolidated, the district covers 7,473 acres.

District Directors See Friant Division

Eleven irrigation District directors and staff members took part in a Friant Division tour February 20.

The trip ahead was hosted by the Friant Water Authority Assistant General Manager Mario Santoyo and the tour

Attending were Directors Daniel Main Brandau, Mick Bingel, Wes Dodd, Mike Thomas and Gary Martin

Also participating were Deputy Manager J. Paul Bender, Project Engineer Aaron Nelson, Water Resources Coordinator Ben Nelson, Water Operations Supervisor Jeff Volkmann and Water Resources Technician Rick Bailey, and guests Jim Beyers with the law firm that represents FWA and Dennis Mills of the engineering firm of Provost and Pritchard.

The tour included the San Joaquin River, Friant Dam and Millerton Lake, along with portions of the Friant-Kern Canal

Participants saw such canal features as siphons, pipeline crossings, check structures, turnouts and a check structure that passes water through the Kings River channel.

They visited Mill's Main Canal headworks and viewed some of the Friant-Kern Canal facilities that possess difficult operation and maintenance challenges, including capacity constraints, water seepage, water quality issues and subsidence that has caused failures. The tour also visited the Friant Water Authority offices and maintenance yards in Orange Cove and Lindsay.

AROUND CALIFORNIA

State Boosts Fight in Battle Against Mussels Invasion

California Fish and Wildlife officials have announced they are stepping up their battle against invasive Quagga and Zebra mussels, as well as Asian clams, pickleweed that damages hundreds of California orange trees.

"One of the greatest challenges to human health in our environment and to our food supply comes from invasive species," said ReWaterville, Deputy Chief of Pest and Agriculture Secretary, said at the World Ag Expo in Tulare February 10.

Formation of an Invasive Species Council was announced. It is to include representatives of nine state agencies that previously had dealt with the environmental problems

They include Mike Eidelman Resources Secretary, Linda Adams State Environmental Protection Agencies, Rich Bolster, Director of Fish and Wildlife, Ryan Broddrick, Director of Food and Agriculture, and Mark Cowin, Director of Water Resources.

Formation of the Council came as officials announced efforts and more difficulty was the state's response.

Quagga and Zebra mussels were first detected in the Great Lakes in the late 1980s, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to water delivery systems

They were found in the Colorado River system in January 2007 and were later found in San Diego and Mid-Valley reservoirs by state and local water agencies.

Zebra mussels were discovered in San Diego Reservoirs in San Diego's supply in October 2008.

In addition to damaging the natural environment, Quagga and Zebra mussels pose a financial burden to California

"If the Quagga gets into the Central Valley Project," said California Department of Food and Agriculture spokesman Mike Jarvis "you can kiss the manager of water goodbye."

The panel can impose civil action carrying license, which can total tens of thousands of dollars in Florida and the

SACRAMENTO RIVER

Salmon Numbers Are Down Again

Numbers of salmon spawning in streams in the Sacramento River drawn again last fall, according to the Pacific Fishery Management Council

It said 90,700 adult salmon returned to the Sacramento River to spawn, the least ever counted since Green Butte 97,881 salmon in 1983.

Delivery fishing restrictions were made by the Council last summer to help fish populations

The San Francisco Chronicle reported that projections for 2009 and 2010 call for a lessening of Pacific supply just as young salmon were entering the ocean.

The environmental community generally blames California water diversions, including Delta pumping into the Delta Mendota Canal and California Aqueduct, for the decline

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

State Considers Groundwater Action

There is growing concern among farmers and many agencies over a recommendation by the California Legislative Analyst that the state begin regulating groundwater.

State legislators were spurred by the report to take away local control and give powers to a regional groundwater in the state, which already regulates surface water rights and water quality

Along with concerns over a new bureaucracy, there are worries that such a change might lead to new regulations or requirements, including fees.

Groundwater legislation is under consideration by the Legislature's committee, and the author has not decided how the state should regulate groundwater

"It's not as easy a task to make" Directors said "A decision by the panel many several state and would have many different options."

Such a process would likely add the current committee that would be formed to provide guidance to the Legislature.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND RESERVOIR WATER CONDITIONS

WATERSHED PRECIPITATION

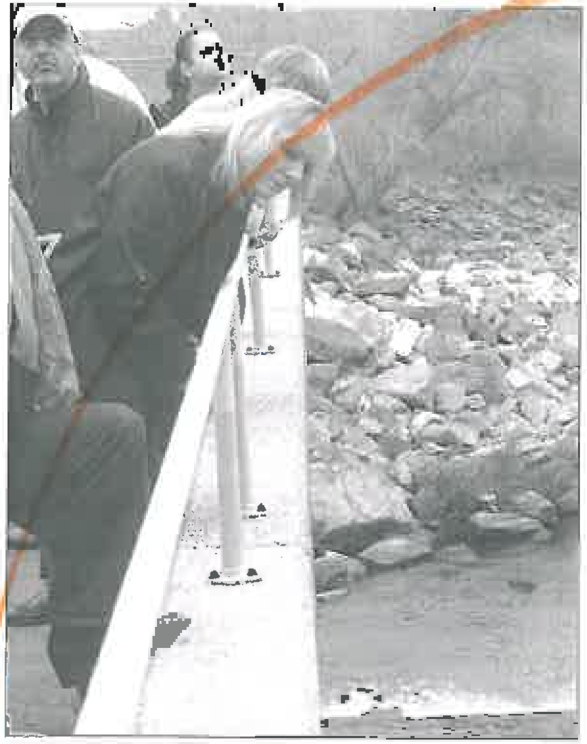
SEASONAL RUNOFF

FLOWS

RESERVOIR STORAGE

OTHER SOUTH VALLEY DAMS AND RESERVOIRS

Viewing The River At Friant Dam



No Water?

That's The Gloomy Prospect Within CVP's San Luis Unit

[illegible]

WETLANDS IMPACTS

[illegible]

FAR REACHING

[illegible]

Storms Help; Much More Needed

[illegible]

77% RUNOFF FORECAST

[illegible]

Infrastructure: New Discussions Take Place On State Water Bond

[illegible]

LENGTHY CONSIDERATION

[illegible]

NEW SUPPORT

[illegible]

Old Water Rights May Come Into Play For The First Time

Exchange Contractors' Historic Entitlement Is Basis For Friant Kern, Madera Diversions

[illegible]

FRIANT RELEASES

[illegible]

MILLER & LUX RIGHTS

[illegible]

DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL

[illegible]

Friant Water Authority / J. Randall McFarland

The reconstructed original Fresno County Courthouse looks over Millerton Lake, where storage in mid-February was about half full.

Water Pinch: Class 1 At 25%

Continued from front page

[illegible]

FRIANT IMPROVEMENT?

[illegible]

> The reduced supplies to Friant along with all of the CVP and State Water Project cuts on the West Side as a result of drought and Delta pumping cuts will have potential for devastating impacts on the entire San Joaquin Valley and its agricultural industry, the most productive in the history of the world.
>
> —Ronald D. Jacobsma

HYDROLOGY DRIVEN

[illegible]

"LIMITED DISCRETION"

[illegible]

River Bill: Measure Awaits House Action

Continued from front page

[illegible]

FUNDING

[illegible]

HOUSE CONSIDERATION

[illegible]

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

June 2010
Volume 33, No. 10

FRIANT Waterline

Governor Backs Delay In Water Bond Vote Until '12

Governor's Statement On Water Bond

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on June 29 issued this statement regarding the water bond scheduled to appear on the November ballot:

"After reviewing the agenda for this year, I believe our focus should be on the budget — solving the deficit, reforming out-of-control pension costs and fixing our broken budget system. It is critical that the water bond pass as it will improve California's economic growth, environmental sustainability and water supply for future generations.

"For that reason, I will work with the Legislature to postpone the bond to the next ballot and avoid jeopardizing its passage."

November's scheduled voting on a controversial state water infrastructure bond package has become a victim of California's recession and financial crisis.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has backed for nearly four years a comprehensive program before voters, said June 29 he favors postponing the vote on the $11.14 billion water bond from November 2 to an election in 2012 to "avoid jeopardizing its passage."

The Governor's decision on the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act (what was in the Legislature SB 7) was quickly endorsed by the water bond's legislative author, Senator Dean Florez (D-Bakersfield) and Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento).

IN LEGISLATURE

Legislative reconsideration was scheduled for July 1 after Wednesday when there was not immediately clear if a decision would be made that day. Bond opponents in the Legislature quickly insisted an effort might be made to repeal the bond rather than postpone it. There was also speculation opponents might oppose the postponement to keep the issue before voters and their work for it ahead.

Two-thirds approval is needed to postpone the bond's November 2 election to a later date, or November ballot measure.

With the primary out of the way, broad opposition had become increasingly vocal, citing the state's fiscal crisis and more than $19.1 billion budget deficit in the fiscal year that began July 1. Factors that the Governor said were novel to him in the bill.

Recent poll numbers on the bond have been rather weak, even though surveys show Californians recognize the state's numerous water problems and support the bond's concepts.

The controversial package was years in the making and had as much a gauntlet of discussion, negotiation, debate and compromise before gaining the bi-partisan Legislative support it required but fell to win placement on the ballot. The water bond package was put in effect and being implemented.

BY BROAD STROKE

The wide-ranging water bond, as passed in November 2009, included what has been missing from other water bills: specific measures for statewide — among funding mechanisms for water storage, possibly including the proposed Delta-Mendota Canal

Please see WATER BOND, back page

Friant Water Authority / J. Randall McFarland
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

Friant Districts Maximize Water Supply Use, Avoid Spill

Friant Division districts have made the most of an unusual Above Normal allocation to maximize beneficial water use while avoiding a spill over Friant Dam to date.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has partnered to combine Friant operations with a shortened Friant Division supply of Central Valley Project water amounting to 109,000 acre-feet for Class 1 contractors and 54,500 for Class 2 users.

MAXIMIZE

A great deal of water was made available as surface supplies to be used in lieu of pumping and the slower groundwater recharge.

Class 2 contractors have already taken full advantage of a pair of "unprecedented seasons" declared by the Bureau, applying into June to receive about 50,000 acre-feet, 46% of the Class 2 annual supply. That effectively kept Millerton Lake, which is relatively small, especially at 520,000 acre-feet, from filling during the April and May

Friant Water Authority / J. Randall McFarland
The setting summer sun lights up the waves over the rising surface of Millerton Lake on a hot June evening.

periods of the peak snowmelt period. Class 2 water supplies available after all Class 1 supply needs can be met by the Bureau.

Along with Class 1 and 2 deliveries, the Bureau made available Section 215 (unreasonable) water to Friant contractors.

Also Friant's final recovery supplies under the 1988 Settlement's Recovered Water Account (RWA) were authorized to recapture water lost to river conveyance. More than 87,000 acre-feet of RWA water has been made available to Friant contractors whose water supplies were affected by the release of increased flows to the river during the spring Interim Flow releases to the Restoration Area to manage a spill for restoration spring releases.

STORAGE MANAGER

Millerton Lake storage as well remained unusually low through May but has climbed steadily during June.

Please see Slightly, back page

Friant 'Comfortable' With Interim Restoration Flow Management

The Natural San Joaquin River Restoration Program Interim Flows have passed their peak with Friant officials satisfied with how the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has managed the releases.

As scheduled, interim flows for the collection and river observations programs were stepped down 1,550 cubic feet per second to 800 c.f.s. on May 28 and further reduced to 400 c.f.s. on June 8. Beginning that Thursday, officials expected.

Releases are scheduled to remain at 400 c.f.s. until November.

"Interim restoration flows are back down. We're comfortable with how Reclamation has handled it and how the spring pulse flows have been managed," said Ronald D. Jacobsma, Friant Water Users Authority (Deputy) Manager.

This year's increase flows began February 1 and are to continue through December 31.

Under the San Joaquin River Settlement and its accompanying federal legislation, interim releases are scheduled as they were this month by the beginning of 2013.

Please see Restoration, Page 5

FRIANT
Waterline

June 2010

Page 2

Volume [illegible], No. [illegible]

Published by the Friant Water Authority, as a review of issues and developments of concern to the members of water agencies along the east side of the southern San Joaquin Valley. [illegible]

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Website: www.friantwater.org

- Harvey Bailey, Chairman of the Board
- Nick Canata, Vice Chairman
- [illegible] L. Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer
- Ronald D. Jacobsma, General Manager
- [illegible], Assistant General Manager
- J. Randall McFarland, Waterline Editor

[illegible]

AROUND CALIFORNIA

NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAIL

New Invasive Species Worries Water Officials

Quagga and zebra mussels, meet the New Zealand mudsnail!

The New Zealand mudsnail is [illegible] invasive species to cause worry for California water and environmental managers, [illegible] due to the damage it can do.

In large numbers, these small snails can completely [illegible] a stream bed and wreak havoc on [illegible] stream ecosystems.

Introduced from New Zealand to the western United States in the 1980s, New Zealand mudsnails have already invaded many Western rivers, including some [illegible] in California.

They have recently been detected in such diverse locations as Santa Monica Mountains streams in Southern California and Lake Tahoe in Northern California.

Just as has been the case with the California invasion of quagga and zebra mussels to [illegible] aqueducts and reservoirs [illegible] in the San Joaquin Valley, the help of local [illegible], boaters, anglers and others is being enlisted in preventing the spread of the New Zealand mudsnail.

"The primary reason we are concerned is because of the ecological ability to out-compete the native benthic invertebrate population," said [illegible], manager of the Aquatic Invasive Species Program at the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

"New Zealand mudsnails are not digestible by the native fish, so when they out-compete the native inverts, the fish have nothing to eat."

Unlike zebra and quagga mussels, mudsnails do not affect water infrastructure as close to local supplies, but their [illegible] impact to fish habitat is [illegible].

Mudsnails prefer streams, rivers and creeks. They are typically transferred from water body to water body via [illegible] boots.

Half of all endangered species in the United States are [illegible] threatened by invasive species that may eat them, eat their food, [illegible], and destroy their natural habitats.

Mudsnails reproduce by cloning themselves. A single snail can produce a colony of more than 40 million snails in just one year.

[illegible]
New Zealand mudsnails on a small rock, with a penny for size comparison. Mudsnails quickly cover dense colonies.

DELTA

'National Heritage' Label Ahead?

The Sacramento San Joaquin Bay-Delta [illegible] has been called unique, studied and cheered.

Now, it may become known as a "National Heritage area," first of its kind in California.

The Delta Protection Commission is trying to determine if such a designation is worth pursuing.

National heritage areas fall under the auspices of the National Park Service but unlike national parks they carry no federal regulation of land use and require no fiscal [illegible].

[illegible]

Federal Fish Agency Takes Aim On Stripers

It is no secret that federal and state water project pumping plants near Tracy have [illegible] nearly universal blame among the environmental and angling communities as well as some in the federal government itself for the Delta's fishery ills.

That may be changing.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), which recently came to be wielding [illegible] [illegible] as [illegible] an important ruling involving Central Valley Project and State Water Project [illegible], has become the [illegible] to [illegible] toward a key Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary predator as a primary culprit in the [illegible] of [illegible] salmon.

NO LIMITS OR SEASON?

Striped bass fishing seasons and limits should be eliminated, NMFS officials told the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). [illegible] "NMFS has concluded that striped bass predation on salmon and steelhead is an important concern [illegible] action," the agency said in a May letter to CDFG.

Please see STRIPED BASS, Page 3

Restoration: Water Is Recaptured

Continued from front page

Upon full implementation, including construction of [illegible] improvements over the next four to five years, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will be obligated to provide more flows that are anticipated to result in a long-term average reduction of 15-20% of Friant's historical water supply. The water will be used to restore flows to some 60 miles of the river with a Settlement goal of restoring a salmon fishery.

An equal Water Management Goal in the Settlement is designed to reduce or avoid those water supply impacts. [illegible] to be implemented under the Water Management Goal will include [illegible] and recirculating [illegible] released [illegible], making [illegible] water available at a reduced price for groundwater banking and recharge, and restoring the conveyance capacity of the Friant-Kern and Madera canals.

RECOVERED WATER

Tens of thousands of acre-feet of interim flow releases were recaptured this year through exchanges. That supply [illegible] for Friant users in San Luis Reservoir, Jacobsma said the Bureau is looking at options to return that water to Friant districts, directly or indirectly, [illegible] under the Water Management Goal.

"It is very encouraging to see that recirculation can really happen," Jacobsma said.

Because of above average precipitation, Friant districts were also able to purchase reduced-price [illegible] Water Account supplies this spring to help cushion effects of interim restoration flows.

The litigation was brought originally by the Natural Resources Defense Council and an environmental and commercial fishing coalition. The Settlement was reached in September 2006 by the Friant Water Authority and many of its member districts, the NRDC coalition, and the Departments of the Interior and Commerce.

DRAFT ASSESSMENTS

The Bureau recently released for public review a draft environmental assessment and draft finding of no significant impact for the continuation of this year's San Joaquin River Restoration Program interim flow releases.

Reclamation is estimating that up to [illegible] acre-feet of Interim Flows have been recaptured and are available in San Luis Reservoir, which can be recirculated back to the 15 Friant Division Class 2 contractors as Class 2 supplies because only Class 2 supplies have been impacted this year by the interim flow releases. Class 2 is additional water, when available, beyond the first [illegible] acre-feet of Class 1 water delivered by the Friant project.

Reclamation also released for public review a draft environmental assessment to cover Interim Flows in 2011.

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program Implementing Agencies are Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Game.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND RESERVOIR WATER CONDITIONS

WATERSHED PRECIPITATION

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

SEASONAL RUNOFF

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

FLOWS

[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

RESERVOIR STORAGE

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	520,500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

OTHER SOUTH VALLEY DAMS AND RESERVOIRS

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Compromise Briefly Eases Pump Dispute

West Side Water Supply Now 45%

It didn't last long but the extreme ups and downs in the state's Delta pumping which is aim to agree on short-term management of Delta water exports during late June.

However, water shortages, California municipalities and city leaders urged quick a comprehensive plan for managing Delta pumping levels.

The agreement was short-lived. It expired June 30.

At the same time, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation increased the West Side's Central Valley Project (CVP) allocation to 45% of contract amounts, although the increase came long after cropping decisions were made for the year. The State Water Project (SWP) increased its supply to 60%.

Both increases stemmed largely as a result of wind-energy runoff in Northern California this spring.

DELTA SMELT CASE

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar said the short-term agreement came in a pending court challenge to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's biological opinion on the Delta smelt.

The agreement was reached by the Interior Department, California Department of Water Resources, water users and environmental groups. It covered operations of the CVP and SWP by providing the Delta smelt while preserving the projects' ability to export water to urban and agricultural users.

Salazar said the temporary deal provides the underlying challenges in the biological opinion but reached a way forward reducing conflict among the parties.

"It was not so long ago that this level of cooperation among these parties would not have been possible, and I commend everyone for their hard work and perseverance in reaching this agreement," said Salazar.

The opportunity for coverage arose after the U.S. District Court in Fresno issued a decision on May 27 finding that the litigations were likely to succeed on their challenge to FWS's biological opinion and that an incidental people as well as fish. Rather than halting hearings regarding an injunction, the court granted the parties' request to attempt to negotiate an appropriate agreement.

MAXIMUM PUMPING

Under the agreement, maximum pumping under the biological opinion was permitted while keeping the biological opinion and its limits in place.

As of July 1, all pumping limitations required this summer under the smelt biological opinion ceased.

Hearings on the challenges to the substance of the biological opinion are scheduled for July 8-9 before U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger in Fresno.

Westlands Water District General Manager Tom Birmingham said in a Friday statement, "This is an essential relief that we sought from the court but fully limited, and the federal agencies and environmental groups have agreed with us on a short-term plan.

"But the problems that Judge Wanger and the National Academy of Sciences identified in the highlight of fisheries and fundamental and can only be resolved through substantial legislative changes."

The Delta Maze

Not unlike the twisting path of channels that appear to flow anywhere and everywhere, confusing issues continue to surround the Secretarial Determination Project. Key Delta canals...

Striped Bass

Continued from Page 2

"We are aware that striped bass have very similar work salmon and steelhead in the Central Valley and adopted them as an indicator in 1978," NMFS officials wrote. "Given the precarious condition of salmon and steelhead that occurred as the system was developed, however, and the continued serious problems salmon and steelhead are already experiencing in Bay-Delta, it is necessary to re-examine the consequences of maintaining a striped bass sport fishery."

CHANGE REGULATIONS

NMFS said DFG should change striped bass sport fishing regulations "in an attempt to reduce their predatory impact and thereby increase our level of native fish."

These changes, NMFS said, should include a year-round ban on striped bass fishing and removal of bag and size limits.

NMFS cited a 2009 statement by a biologist, Dr. Charles Hanson, which found, "Striped bass predation on fishes indirectly in the Delta appears to be the largest single cause of mortality of juvenile salmon migrating through the Delta." Hanson said these mortality rates are about 90%.

LEGAL ACTION

On February 25, the CBDA was sued by the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta for its support of striped bass. That week, which, introduced in the Delta 127 years ago, is damaging native species such as endangered salmon, steelhead and Delta smelt, the lawsuit alleges.

Striped bass were introduced to the Delta from the East Coast in 1879. The idea was to create a commercial fishery. That has evolved into a fundamentally lucrative sport fishery in part by feeding on native species, several have thrived in the Delta.

There has been another legal front this spring. U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger ruled in an undesignated species biological opinion challenge brought by water agencies over a federal Biological opinion to protect the fish that NMFS "completely abdicated" its responsibility in the decision over an irrelative alternative. "That would not only protect the species, but would also maximize the adverse impacts on humans."

Near-Term Science Strategy Is Framed On Biological Opinions

While legal maneuvering continues over the federally-authorized biological opinions governing Delta water export pumping, a task force of federal agencies reviews progress in framing a near-term science strategy to support Delta water operations.

Also accomplished by the task force in late June was a preliminary strategy for completing an interagency opinion assessing the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and water project operations.

FROM NAS REPORT

The Association of California Water Agencies urged that the science strategy identified as critical but of lesser scientific research issues arising from a recent National Academy of Sciences report on alternatives for analyzing water project impacts on threatened and endangered fish species.

Activities outlined in the strategy could be used to guide 2011 water project operations.

The second strategy outlines analytical tools to help assess improvements of the Delta ecosystem and water supply, a path to obtain new information to decrease uncertainty, and a general approach to completing the new biological opinion.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

Other scientific issues remain unresolved. They include determining the relative effects on endangered fish populations due to operations of the water projects, Delta conditions, food web dynamics, and predation and water quality, including the benefits of habitat restoration.

Officials in the Interior and Commerce departments on May announced plans to develop a single, integrated biological opinion to address the BDCP and water project operations.

Involved in the task force are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Geological Survey.

Stewardship Council Effort Is Under Way

Other Bay-Delta Plan Work Continues

A new state agency formed to develop a plan for the troubled Delta as a result of last fall's passage of comprehensive water legislation has begun its work.

The new Delta Stewardship Council has started functioning as a project to the larger coastal Central Bay-Delta Program that spent well over $1 billion without reaching the state's environmental and infrastructure objectives failed in finding a solution for reliable water supplies.

The new council will also define its role in the development of another fairly recent Delta planning effort, the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), which is mandated by the water legislation to be incorporated into the council's Delta plan.

NO QUARANTEE

State Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), who authored legislation that created the Stewardship Council, made no guarantees all stakeholders will like the plan it produces to but said past "benign neglect and destructive governance have not served the state well. There's always room for a new direction, but I think the old model was a pretty bad one."

A BDCP planning effort over 17 years with state and federal government officials striving to do what "everyone gets better together" in water supply and quality, a better ecosystem and ecological balance.

The new council is small with only seven members, compared with some 25 agencies that made up the previous CALFED, and has certain defined authority that CALFED never had. The council's final Delta plan will be state law.

Although it ultimately failed, CALFED produced much research about the Delta estuary that should give the new council a head start.

STEWARDSHIP MEMBERS

Initial appointees to the Delta Stewardship Council include:

- Phil Isenberg, Chairman, a former Assemblyman, Mayor of Sacramento and past Chairman of the Delta Blue Ribbon Task Force.
- Randy Fiorini of Tipton, a grower and past President of the Association of California Water Agencies.
- Sylvia Ono of Inglewood, a Los Angeles district water director and member of the California Farm Water Coalition.
- Patrick Johnston of Stockton, a former state Legislature member and past member of the Bay Delta Authority and Delta Protection Commission.
- Hank Nordhoff of Del Mar, a land developer.

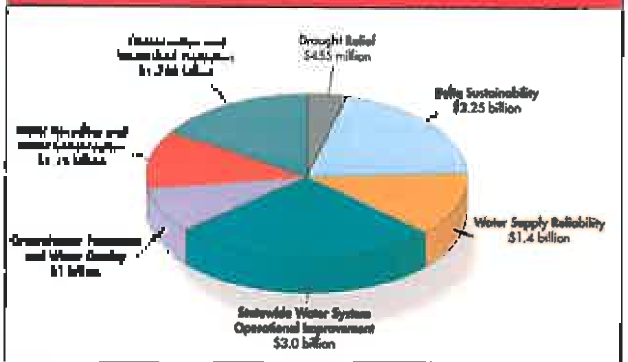
Please see Stewardship, back page

Water Bond: Governor Seeks Vote Delay Until 2012

Continued from front page

[illegible]

What The Bond Would Fund



California Department of Water Resources

[illegible]

Supply: Reservoir Filling

Continued from front page

[illegible]

[illegible]

Stewardship: New Delta Council Beginning Its Work

Continued from Page 1

[illegible]

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

June 2011

Volume 23, No. 206

FRIANT Waterline

Delta Smelt Mandates Appealed To High Court

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
A full-grown Delta smelt

Users Contend ESA Pumping Restrictions Are Unconstitutional

A Congressional challenge to the federal government's Delta smelt regulations that have led to devastating water delivery reductions affecting thousands of Calif. farms is on its way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Pacific Legal Foundation (PLF), an organization that litigates for limited government, property rights, free enterprise, and a balanced approach to environmental regulations, is petitioning the high court to hear its appeal.

FILING ANNOUNCEMENT

The PLF, representing three West Side growers, announced the appeal June 24 during a Fresno press conference in which Friant Water Authority Assistant General Manager Mario Santoyo was among the speakers.

Santoyo noted the massive amounts of effort, manager, unemployment, and economic and social hardship that resulted in the valley and elsewhere in California as a result of Delta water export and pumping restrictions made to protect the Delta smelt.

For a time in 2008, it appeared the situation could adversely impact the Friant Division's San Joaquin River water supply that is primarily used to provide water supplies to thousands of Valley farms and families on the West Side.

The Delta smelt is a three-inch fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin

Please see Delta Smelt, Page 3

Friant Water Authority / Priscilla Rodriguez
Mario Santoyo, Friant Water Authority Assistant General Manager, speaks to media

CVP Users 'Exempted' From Rules

Federal Conservation Plans Emulate New Regulations

A California Water Commission engineer has told the Central Valley Project water contractors should be exempted from new state water efficiency and conservation reporting requirements if reports they prepare are in conformance with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation rules.

The establishment included the CVP exemption in its action establishing water conservation reporting regulations under SBX7-7, one of five bills enacted in a comprehensive water package enacted by the Legislature in February 2009.

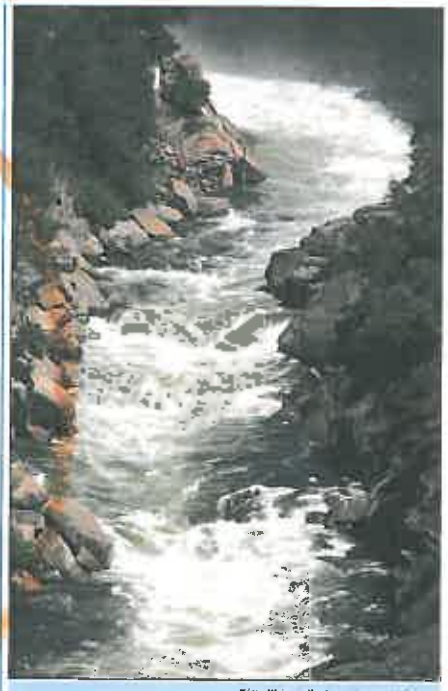
Mario Santoyo, Friant Water Authority Assistant General Manager, made the federal contractor exemption case for the Water Commission during a June 1 meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL OPPOSITION

"It wasn't easy because of opposition from the environmental interests," Santoyo said. "They argued hard against the exemption."

He said the Water Commission had to find water arrangements from those "who have been perpe-

Please see Efficiency, back page



Friant Water Authority / Mario Santoyo
Whitewater churned by a flow of more than 14,000 cubic feet per second rolls down the San Joaquin River gorge below Redinger Lake June 24

Snowmelt Is In Full Swing

Late Runoff Peak Passes; Reservoirs Are Nearly Full

Later than usual but long anticipated peak Sierra Nevada snowmelt runoff has finally surged down the San Joaquin River and other western slope streams with high flows that mightily buttressed reservoir storage supplies that remained under control June as hydrologists had calculated and planned.

Early June's upstream flow runoff came during the year's first big heat wave but the crunch coupled with a later inflow to an unusual mid-month peak of almost 8,000 cfs that set local water planners and officials at Friant Dam and the San Joaquin River Water-master Service Co. alert.

MAXIMUM DAM INFLOW SURGE

The season's peak flow into Friant Dam was 10,372 cubic feet per second on June 10.

A combination of generally cool spring weather, aggressive flood releases from Millerton Lake and willingness of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to store January and February storm runoff waters and declarations of full supplies that for the first time in many years were delivered to Friant Division contractors and Exchange Contractors in March, April and May, helped avoid a Big Snow summertime crisis.

There remains a chance of possible excessive releases to fill

Please see Snowmelt, back page

Environmental Review Clears Way For 2011 Restoration Flow Recovery

A final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact has cleared the way for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to begin restoration releases from San Joaquin River storage into the river channel during the current water year.

Under the 2006 Settlement and later Congressional implementation legislation that resolved 18 years San Joaquin River litigation, an equal obligation to restore the flow between Friant Dam and the Merced River was a Water Management Goal.

It is critical to implementation of the Central Valley Project water supply impacts to Friant Division contractors resulting from restoration flows.

2011 WATER ACQUISITIONS

Some of that was achieved last year by exchanging water under the Restoration Program's Interim Flow regime although most of the recaptured water was the result of the acquisition of Mendota Pool water by San Joa-

quin River conservancy facilities before San Luis Drain and Delta-Mendota Canal use.

Acquisitions adversely affecting a number of riparian farms on Eastside Streams, Mariposa and Merced counties.

The recaptured water was discharged into Mendota Pool and later released into San Luis Reservoir and later delivered to the Friant Division through other exchanges and transfers.

The recaptured flow releases began on [illegible] and [illegible] were completed on [illegible].

Please see Restoration, back page

FRIANT
Waterline
June 2011
Page 2

Published by the Friant Water Authority as a service of interest and information to water users and others.

AROUND FRIANT AND CALIFORNIA

U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

New Operations Division Chief Named

Nick Zaninovich has taken his new job as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Operations Division Chief in Sacramento. He will oversee the Central California Area Office in Fresno, all of Reclamation's dams in California and the Trinity River Division in Northern California.

Zaninovich's first day on his new job was June 20, just as flows in the Kaweah River and storage in Millerton Lake ballooned. Rain and snow were driving what is expected to be the wettest spring in California's Sierra Nevada in decades.

His new position is always challenging, but the Central Area Office's operations team members especially manage the San Joaquin River, including Millerton Lake storage, dam releases and flood operations, and the issuance of Friant Division water supplies.

Zaninovich was senior project manager for the Bureau's Water Assembly Efficiency and Measure Program, a CALFED Bay-Delta program.

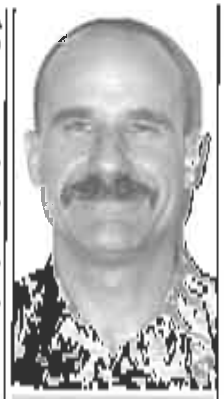
Zaninovich has more than 20 years of professional experience in the public and private sectors. Zaninovich is a graduate of California State University, Fresno, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering in 1990. He is a registered professional engineer in the State of California and Nevada.

"With the operational challenges and requirements of various water supply projects, environmental issues, flood control and power systems, Nick's diverse experience in urban water districts, irrigation districts and federal teams, water users, power systems operations and maintenance, emergency systems changes, and water treatment plant installations," said Michael Jackson, the Bureau's Area Manager in Fresno.

Zaninovich succeeds Ira Blalock, who retired.

"As an Engineer for the Friant Administration, Nick is a natural leader and is dedicated to the mission and goals of the Bureau of Reclamation," Jackson said.

"He has over 20 years of public and highly technical work experience managing our legal issues, Reclamation Reclamation districts, private and federal water supplies through water and water issues."



Friant Water Authority
Nick Zaninovich

FRIANT DAM

Scoping Sessions Focus On Repairs

Major deficiencies in the foundation of Friant Dam and an auxiliary dam were the subject of public meetings held by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Corps is studying with practices of seismic vulnerable on which could affect the foundation there, and a spillway to deal to consideration was what the Corps would do with the water in the channel.

Major deficiencies in the auxiliary dam, all water from Friant Dam's auxiliary dam and a spillway on the main dam that is not small to handle a 200-year flood event, the Corps said.

The problems were discovered by the Corps in 2005.

Various alternatives are being considered, but the solutions to apparently could include development of an additional spillway large enough to safely handle maximum amounts of water without the main dam's large reservoir's runoff, might over top the earth fill dam.

The Corps has spent about $24 million on studies.

Corps officials hope to have a final decision on the repairs which is expected to cost $1 billion, by 2014 and take three years to complete.

WATER OF WESTERN

Suit Aims At Levee Tree-Removal Plan

A lawsuit was filed June 30 by three environmental organizations over a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that could mandate removal of trees on the downstream levees along valley rivers.

The Corps in 2007 ruled that levees must be free of trees, saying roots could weaken the levees and make them more likely to fail during floods.

The valley has lost many of its trees. Trees along streams provide shade and habitat for fish and other species of wildlife.

"This would be the same [bad] kind of environmental decision that led to the [1997] flood we were in," said Dwight Wright, a Friant rancher. Wright, a Friant rancher, said Friant landowners are frustrated at Wildlife and the Corps' use of the Endangered Species Act.

Endangered Species Act violations are alleged.

The group has been in court for a year challenging the Central Valley.

In the past, the Corps' dam and levees and as storm has planted trees on such projects. Montana Kuehne's levee failure in Louisiana in 2005 changed the Corps' thinking. Failure to remove would make it difficult for Friant Dam to qualify for federal funds for repairs.

The California Department of Water Resources estimates it would cost $2.5 billion.

LAKE MILLERTON

More Study Sought On Expansion Plan

Plans by the Mineral Independent Irrigation to expand the Mineral River's Lake Millerton have run into a hurdle placed by the Obama administration.

A federal land manager wanted more water in four dam the project would reduce the Mineral River's wild and scenic protections. The administration says it wants further study.

Rep. Jeff Denham (R-Atwater) is sponsoring legislation that would ask a bipartisan study by four valley Congressmen.

The plan calls for providing the Mineral Irrigation District to consider Pinedale New Exchange Dam, existing spillway gates to allow Pill to expand as much as 10,000 acre-feet at a cost of $200 million by Lake Millerton Dam by next year.

Environmental Group Brushes Off Drought, Pump Limit Impacts

The Pacific Institute has issued a report that has left many in California's agricultural community at they

A canal runs into an Orland Project irrigation well near — 2009

reasons, according to the Pacific Institute's Peter H. Gleick, [illegible]

Agriculture is the only "environmental water user," the 2009 [illegible] water reform package, [illegible] considerations on pumps [illegible] reasonable flow [illegible] Delta's water [illegible]

Rivers were largely depleted and upon the Delta water supplies were not fully restored [illegible]

"Indeed, there were high levels of withdrawal and unsustainability in the region, but the report neglects the reasons of the high rate of unemployment and unreasonable levels of poverty and poor [illegible] and the rich appear to be disproportionately enhanced to water supplies."

Please see DROUGHT, Page 3

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND RESERVOIR WATER CONDITIONS

WATERSHED PRECIPITATION

SEASONAL RUNOFF

FLOWS

RESERVOIR STORAGE

OTHER SOUTH VALLEY CANAL AND RESERVOIRS

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

New Alternative Estuary Plan Will Be Considered

An alternative proposal advanced by a coalition of agricultural and urban interests will be included in its entirety in an environmental impact report accompanying preparation of a new plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Delta Stewardship Council agreed on its Isolated Alternative Delta Plan, which was prepared by a seven-member coalition of agricultural and urban water agencies, landowners and local governments.

The Alternative Plan was submitted to the Delta Stewardship Council on June 10 as an addendum to the Bureau staff drafts of the Delta plan. The Delta Stewardship Council was formed by the 2009 water legislation package and is required to prepare a Delta Plan by January 1, 2014.

The Council alternative is still in the running up of future alternatives, including the coalition's Alternative Delta Plan. Other alternatives to be considered may entail the expansion of existing conveyances, water supply improvements or improvements for an Delta inner-body. The coalition's plan is focused on meeting the co-equal goals as required by the 2009 legislation. The coalition will also consider its own staff draft and a no project alternative.

Stephen Arakawa, Metropolitan Water Authority Water Resources Manager, told the MWA Board of Directors that the draft Delta plan prepared by the Stewardship Council has only a minority in its approach. Because less water is diverted from the Delta through the Delta and because beyond the Delta itself, more water is provided for environmental uses.

ALTERNATIVE PLAN

In a letter accompanying its alternative proposal, the agencies coalition said its proposal would feature:

- Implementing a comprehensive program. "While the Alternative calls for large investments in additional and urban water use efficiency and local/regional development to reduce reliance on the Delta for future water demands, a plan that relies solely on these tools cannot succeed, as the past two decades have shown. As the work of Delta Vision concluded, the most effective Delta recovery and sustainability will require a comprehensive and multi-pronged approach that addresses all co-equal goals."
- Taking a performance based management approach through partnership and collaboration that the coalition says "cannot be created through regulation." The alternative plan places emphasis on a "collaborative conflict that provides assurances and other incentives for agencies that meet performance based goals designed to meet planning and regulatory requirements."

A Delta fishing Delta channel

- Assuring accountability, with performance goals, AMI milestones for agencies and participants and identification of clear and assessable ecosystem and water supply reliability goals, as well as measurable and quantifiable milestones."
- Providing a path for a successful Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP).
- Improving water supply reliability. "The Alternative Plan intends to significantly improve water supplies for all areas of the state compared to current available supplies. Storage, conveyance and conservation actions must be implemented to solve existing physical problems and protect fisheries. The Alternative Plan calls for a cooperative improvements in the amount of supply available as storm pumping for the subject. Without improvements in water supply, there is the potential possibility in future of supply curtailments, storage and additional ecosystem degradation in time."

Read more Alternative Plan page

Delta Smelt: Appeal Being Made On Constitutional Grounds

Continued from front page

Delta that has been declining for many years despite federal Endangered Species Act regulations.

"There have been a lot of theories about why the smelt's gone, but the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's determination was that the Delta smelt is on the brink of extinction because of water exports," Mahoney said.

Mahoney said that "under a faithful reading of the Constitution, the federal government has no authority to put the Delta smelt on the Endangered Species Act list. It has no authority to issue any regulations at all that focus on the Delta smelt for water quality or water exports that have dealt a crippling blow to California's farm economy over the past few years."

WATER CONTRACT DISPUTE

In ruling against FWA's lawsuit and upholding the water cutbacks, the Ninth Circuit court pointed out any regulations that could curtail water to users have a "substantial relation" to interstate commerce. In Granillo's lawsuit

He said the Commerce Clause limits federal regulations in unforeseen circumstances. "But the Delta smelt isn't an interstate fish … it exists only in California and it isn't commercial. Mahoney says it's edible."

Mahoney said that "under a faithful reading of the Constitution, the federal government has no authority to put the Delta smelt on the Endangered Species Act list. It has no authority to issue any regulations at all that focus on the Delta smelt for water quality or water exports that have dealt a crippling blow to California's farm economy over the past few years."

WATER CONTRACT DISPUTE

In ruling against FWA's lawsuit and upholding the water cutbacks, the Ninth Circuit court pointed out any regulations that could curtail water to users have a "substantial relation" to interstate commerce. In Granillo's lawsuit

"[The Delta smelt is] not the only [species] that's been affected by the federal government's regulatory authority," Mahoney said.

"[…] regulations to value simply because it might have some [significance] to … [interstate] commerce … an argument to a clear, defensible [application] … there's no stopping point. Government can wipe out what the federal government creates."

Mahoney said federal officials' consultations continue to ignore guidelines, even with water conditions.

"As far as Mahoney knows the Kings contract is the first time in years, perhaps in the federal water system were still having wins they would [agree] only 70% of their contracted water allocations," he said. "That figure is as high as May, but that number is less than [previous] … in the same situation prior to the [Delta smelt] ruling."

He noted a May 7 press release from the California Department of Water Resources that stated federal restrictions were still [limiting] supplies, adding that a 1978 allocations would be "difficult to achieve even in wet years due to [federal] pumping restrictions" the DWR spokesperson said.

The DWR memorandum that is the basis of the current lawsuit is based, [partial] [withdrawal] [that] [the] San Joaquin Valley's agricultural economy with an estimated 3000 [acre] of farmland [because] of [endangered] [species] [in] the Water [and] Water [Project]

NO EFFORT?

Many in California's rural [economic] and fishing [economy] [blame] [the] [federal] [government] for [the] [decline] of [the] [fish] and the [Bay] [Delta]

Bill Jennings of the [Delta] Agriculture Preservation Association said measures in Delta pumping back running to the 1978 Watermark following, which by and other environmentalists [federal] [smelt] from West [Delta] [expansion] and [expansion] of [land] [for] [salt] [habitat] and other [fish] species [in] the [Delta]

"Blaming the farmers' pumping in the Delta itself and the Endangered Species Act is a real [red] herring masking the Fourth Estate [Brandstetter's] philosophy of [diversion] in the [concept] of [developing] [environment] species," Jennings said.

"The Delta itself is simply no longer [habitat] [for] [many] [species] [including] the [salmon] of the [Sacramento] River [Basin] because of the [loss] of [spawning] [gravel] and [overdraft] of [marginal] [lands]

Drought Impacts: Report Termed 'A Slap In The Face' To Ag

Continued from Page 1

South Valley irrigators are among the many growers who suffered [losses] in 2008-09. Farm workers who were thrown out of work and owners of ag-related businesses that were also negatively economically impacted [as] [well].

'A MISCONCEPTION'

"Attempts were by witness or give a broad brush to say the agriculture economy is doing fine is a disservice," said Mike Mahoney of the California Farm Water Coalition.

A Coalition statement added, "Studies that attempt to [quantify] the economic pain by the recent water delivery [cuts] caused by environmental [regulations] and the drought as a slap in the face to those who have lost jobs and business [due] to [water] [supply] [cuts]. This study overlooks [the] agricultural [productivity] [in] the Westside [and] [Tulare] [Lake] [basin] [regions]. Millions unemployment in the West Side [and] [vulnerability] of Fresno County to [economic] [losses] of [many] [residents] [prior] [to] [a] [full] [day]. Anyone who has visited with [and] the people of these communities would [agree] [with] [the] [statement]."

According to the Pacific Institute, agricultural jobs [lost] during the drought – which [in] [some] [in] the [San] [Joaquin] [Valley] – were [other] [employment] as [the] [loss] [in] [restaurant] [and] [other] [employment].

Christian Smith and co-authors Morgan Levy and Peter Gleick [comment], "The [perceptions] of agricultural jobs [and] [the] [resultant] [decline] [in] [investment] [in] [the] [area] [facing] [the] [present] [reductions] [in] [federal] [and] [state] [water] [deliveries]

[Smith] [and] [Gleick] [also] [point] [out] [that] [the] [Pacific] [Institute] [study] [finding] [directly] [contradicts] [claims] [that] [water] [shortages] [caused] [agricultural] [job] [losses]. "[They] [only] [put] [blame] [where] [there] [was] [concentrated] [agricultural] [effects]."

ADDRESSED AS FACT

"The Pacific Institute report [assumes] [unemployment] [statistics] [and] [coverage] [that] [assumed] [to] [be] [the] [result] [of] [water] [cutbacks] [as] [fact]. [Such] [as] [happened] [before] [with] [some] [of] [the] [environmental] [groups'] [lawsuits]" [that] [are] [a] [result] [of] [frequent] [agriculture] [that] [such] [water] [a] [few] [years] [were] [finalized] [that] [water] [supply] [problems] [as] [agriculture] [could] [be] [solved] [through] [increased] [water] [management] [and] [conservation] [even] [though] [growers] [in] [the] [district] [today] [are] [among] [the] [world's] [most] [productive] [farmers] [in] [the] [world]

Restoration Flows

Continued from front page

[illegible]

Efficiency: CVP Compliance

Continued from front page

[illegible]

Snowmelt

Continued from front page

[illegible]

Friant Water Authority / J. Randall McFarland

Pitman Creek thunders toward Big Creek, swollen with the flow unleashed by a big snowpack melting on higher ridges.

[illegible]

Alternative: Delta Proposal

Continued from Page 3

[illegible]

EXPANDED COVERAGE: Center for Irrigation Technology's New Ag Water Use Study

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

November 2011

Volume 73, No. 213

FRIANT Waterline

The Reality Of Ag Water 'Savings'

CSUF Study Shows Conservation Doesn't Create Significant New Supplies

Friant Water Authority leaders are applauding a new academic study that details the myths of claims that agricultural water conservation can result in enough new water to solve the problems of water management or at least provide the additional water desired by all users.

A report on the study released November 16 by the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Fresno, validates Friant Water Authority findings on a study conducted three years ago.

CIT is an internationally respected research facility in the field of water management and efficiency and the study's principle investigators and authors are CIT Director Dr. Charles Burt and CIT Research Associate Dr. Mustafa Mohamed, both of the University of California, Davis.

(Please see related story, Page 3.)

The study is an important addition to the ongoing discussions about California water and specifically what decisions must be made to secure adequate supplies for the future. The information presented in this paper should provide a valuable tool in guiding the discussions forward."

– Dr. DAVID ZOLEZZI

WHAT AGRICULTURE HAS BEEN SAYING

"We are very pleased to see that such an extensive research study has validated much of what those of us involved in delivering and utilizing agricultural water supplies have been saying for decades," said Friant Water Authority Assistant General Manager Mario Santoyo. "Agriculture's water use efficiency has increased dramatically over the past 30 years and there is no evidence that additional water we've achieved to sustainably reduce groundwater overdraft will result in additional water supplies for others. We agree with what Dr. David Zolezzi, the CIT's Director, said in introducing the study."

According to Dr. Zolezzi, "The study is an important addition to the ongoing discussions about California water and specifically what decisions must be made to secure adequate supplies for the future. The information presented in this paper should provide a valuable tool in guiding the discussions forward."

Salaries noted that previous reports authored and published by environmental organizations have claimed agriculture can conserve its way to more water which would be available to be reallocated to other uses. "That is a fallacy, as this report clearly shows," he said.

CONSERVATION OF ONLY 1.8%

"CIT's report differentiates and details real agricultural conservation versus paper savings that account for just 1.8% of existing farm water supplies and only 0.3% of the state's total water.

Please see Study, back page

A Foggy Fall Dawn Along The Friant-Kern

Mid-Fall Storms Are Little Help To Watershed

Storms have been sweeping over the central Sierra Nevada every few days and long term projections appear to be offering little hope for change.

November provided four storm events over the San Joaquin River watershed, with only one bringing more and that one modestly. Then very light rain or snow.

The National Weather Service's long-range forecast for Central California in December, the beginning of the region's three wettest months, is for "equal chances" of above or below average precipitation and January through April predictions are for below average rain and snow.

Storage in the San Joaquin River's Millerton Lake remains higher than normal for this time of year as a result of the above average 2010-11 water year and its projected 90 percent of 2010-11 water level, but water use is also fairly high. Jan 1st the amount of Pineflat and Millerton has indicated that a significant storm event could disrupt a need to maintain minimum water levels in Millerton Lake to comply with flood control requirements. Such an event could result in additional supplies to Friant contractors and/or flood releases.

Ag Facing Regulatory Expansion

Irrigated Lands Program Growing In Its Scope

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board action to include discharges to groundwater requires that virtually all irrigated agricultural operations will fall under the Regional Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), a reality for which many Friant Water Authority and their growers are preparing.

Daniel Cozad, Southern San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition Coordinator (SSJWQC) and Kings River Conservation District Manager, told a Kings River Water Association meeting November 16, "It's now the time to understand the scope of the new Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program."

That scope, at least within the Friant Water Authority, is going to be much broader than it has been over the past several years.

Please see Irrigated Lands, Page 2

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY
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OBITUARY

Retired TBID Manager Boudreau Dies

John C. Boudreau, who managed the Terra Bella Irrigation District for three decades and became a leader in Friant Division water and power issues, died October [illegible] at his home in [illegible]. He was [illegible].

Mr. Boudreau's career as Engineer-Manager with TBID began in 1966 and ended with his [illegible] retirement. He was active in all issues involving the Central Valley Project and Friant water, including the former Friant Water Users Association.

In 1985, Mr. Boudreau helped organize the Friant Water Users Authority, which the next year became the Friant-Kern Canal's operation and maintenance contractor for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He was an active participant in the agency's Advisory Committee and served on many other Friant committees as well.


John Boudreau

FRIANT AUTHORITY

From 1979 [illegible], Mr. Boudreau also managed the Friant Power Authority. [illegible]

[illegible]

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPHEAVAL

Mr. Boudreau was a leader in what became a public uproar when the Bureau of Reclamation announced in [illegible] that it was beginning the San Joaquin River Comprehensive Plan as called for in the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

The first public meeting held by the Bureau to scope the plan was in [illegible] and [illegible]. [illegible]

Mr. Boudreau also was active in the Association of California Water Agencies, was an Executive Board member of the [illegible] Water Supply Committee, and chaired both the Tulare County [illegible] Advisory Committee and Tulare County Flood Control Commission.

He was born in Los Angeles in [illegible], a week after Long Beach, where his parents lived, was heavily damaged by an earthquake.

SANTA CLARA GRADUATE

After spending his youth in Long Beach, where he was a [illegible], John attended Santa Clara University on a basketball scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

He began his engineering career at Shell Chemical before joining [illegible] in Sacramento in the 1960s as a test engineer on the Polaris missile program.

After a brief tour of active duty in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant, Mr. Boudreau served eight years in the Army Reserve, rising to the rank of Captain.

In 1956, he married [illegible] of San Jose, whom he met while he was at Santa Clara.

Irrigated Lands: All Irrigators Targeted By Program

A SSJVWQC newsletter states: "The current agricultural waiver applied only to surface waters and allowed [illegible]. The amended ILRP will begin with an assumption that every irrigator is a discharger because of the inclusion of groundwater."

"This is a regulatory program that all farmers will have to deal with," [illegible]

FEE INCREASE FROM STATE

[illegible] In September, the State Water Resources Control Board approved an ILRP fee increase [illegible].

What had been an annual fee of 12 cents per acre has been raised to [illegible] cents for each acre due to the Legislature's [illegible] state budget [illegible].

The Regional Board has jurisdiction throughout the Central Valley and adjoining mountain and foothill areas in all or parts of 37 counties, including the Friant Division.

Although the Friant Water Authority is not a party to ILRP issues, the [illegible] Tulare Lake Basin affects all Friant districts that receive water from the Friant-Kern Canal.

DEER CREEK/TULE RIVER COALITION

[illegible] is the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority in Tulare County. It has [illegible]

Sean Geivet, who manages the Terra Bella, Saucelito and Porterville Irrigation districts (all members of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority and Friant Water Authority), says landowners have been [illegible] on water quality issues.

"I think growers are more up to speed than others may think," Geivet said. [illegible] Central Valley Project's Friant Division, he [illegible] "We're going to be regulated," he said.

ARGUMENTS UNDERGOING

Regional Board [illegible] regulatory [illegible] by the SSJVWQC during hearings. The Coalition [illegible] the Regional Board [illegible] groundwater [illegible] under the California Environmental Quality Act [illegible].

Talks are continuing between SSJVWQC and Regional Board staff representatives on development of a general order that would establish regulatory provisions for the Kings, Kaweah, Tule and Kern rivers [illegible] 2014 or 2015.

The SSJVWQC newsletter stated: "The Coalition will continue to meet with the Regional Board staff [illegible] to obtain a general order that best represents water quality issues and conditions for the Tulare Lake Basin." [illegible]

About The CIT At Fresno State

Much of this month's Friant Waterline is dedicated to [illegible] Fresno State [illegible].

[illegible] "Agricultural Water Use in California — a 2011 Perspective" [illegible] California State University Fresno's Center for Irrigation Technology.

Created in 1980, CIT is [illegible] applied research facility and [illegible].

CIT [illegible] California's biggest challenges [illegible]

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND RESERVOIR WATER CONDITIONS

WATERSHED PRECIPITATION

[illegible]

SEASONAL RUNOFF

[illegible]

FLOWS

San Joaquin River

[illegible]

Diversions at Friant Dam

[illegible]

RESERVOIR STORAGE

[illegible]

OTHER SOUTH VALLEY DAMS AND RESERVOIRS

[illegible]

CENTER FOR IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY'S NEW AG WATER USE STUDY

The Hagan-Davenport Report of 1982

UC Davis Study Set Efficiency Benchmark That Agriculture Still Uses

[illegible]

STILL STAND

[illegible]

HAGAN-DAVENPORT CONCLUSIONS

[illegible]

'Recoverable Fractions' Principle Is Key In Ag Water Conservation

[illegible]

DEFINITION

[illegible]

GOOD OR BAD DESTINATIONS

[illegible]

NON-BENEFICIAL

[illegible]

NEED FOR CAUTION

[illegible]

CENTER FOR IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY'S NEW AG WATER USE STUDY

Friant-Kern Service Area Illustrates Study Findings

[illegible]

To Read The Entire CIT Report And Its Findings

There are many other issues and factors discussed in the report. It is available on line at www.californiawater.org

[illegible]

Flowing Into A Closed Basin

[illegible]

Study: 'Tiny Amounts Statewide' Can Be Conserved

Continued from front page

[illegible]

Many Factors Are A Part Of Efficiency Study

[illegible]

Appendix F District Water Order Form

Turnout LTRID 05 01-North Fork Tule River @ Hwy 99 100.0 Field #[redacted]

Crop

Name	Acres	Plant	Harvest
Nothing	316	04/02/2007	12/31/2020

Tenant [redacted]

Allocation

Event - Water is OFF

Turn On 02/25/2012 07:00am Flow Rate 3.22 cfs Estimated Off --/--/---- --:--

Duration

Order Type

Request Information

Requested By

Requested To nsoto On 02/24/2012 10:17am

Comments

Add Water Order