



NOTICE TO LANDOWNERS
March 1, 2021

The weather patterns have returned to drought mode. Following a below average 2020-21 water year, with deliveries in the Friant-Kern Canal at 65% capacity for the entire year, runoff predictions this year are well below average.

The United States Bureau of Reclamation has announced a preliminary water supply declaration for the Water Year 2021-22 (March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022) of 20% Class 1. Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District's Class 1 contract maximum is 27,500 acre-feet (AF). Therefore, the District's allocated share of Class 1 delivered in the Friant-Kern Canal is 20% X 27,500 AF = 5,500 AF. This will not meet the demand of our growers for the Water Year 2021-22. Total demand in the District from March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021 was 21,500 AF, primarily due to the canal outage that started in November. Typically, it averages about 23,500 AF.

The District has sources of water other than our supply of Class 1. We are hopeful that the total amount available to the District from these other sources will allow nearly full irrigation demand to be met by District deliveries. However, at this time, these other sources are not fully developed and can vary considerably until May or June.

Therefore, until further notice, the Board of Directors intends to authorize an initial allocation of 1.30 acre-foot per acre starting March 1, 2021. The District will make monthly allocation updates as the water supply season progresses.

HOWEVER, BE ADVISED THAT THIS AMOUNT OF WATER MAY BE THE ONLY ALLOCATION FOR THE YEAR IF WATER SUPPLIES DO NOT DEVELOP, AND THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION HAS CAUTIONED WATER USERS THEY MAY REDUCE THE ALLOCATION FURTHER IF DRY CONDITIONS PERSIST.

Your total allocation is based on the number of acres you pay taxes on according to District records. No water will be allowed to be used on land owing delinquent standby charges or assessments. All accounts must be current in order to use the water or transfer water to another landowner. Once your allocation is exhausted, your meter will be locked. Any subsequent unauthorized use will result in your meter being removed, the service disconnected and a fine of \$10,000 placed on your account. Each landowner's water is as important as all others. There will be no tolerance for theft or unauthorized use.

Water is allocated to each eligible acre that pays District Proposition 218 assessments and the District Acreage Standby Charge. All water allocated to a landowner can be used on any parcel the landowner chooses. A landowner not using his/her allocation can agree to have that water transferred to anyone they choose. If you think a parcel is not going to use the allocation, the District will help you locate the owner. Any arrangement between landowners is not subject to District approval. However, the District will need to have a signed agreement between landowners transferring water from one landowner to the other for our records. We have a form for your use.

Those landowners who may be able to deliver groundwater into the Friant-Kern Canal to supplement their surface water allocation should contact the District immediately. The District is working with the Bureau of Reclamation to finalize the parameters of pumping groundwater into the Friant-Kern Canal. We expect an agreement to be forthcoming. No groundwater may leave the District; however, pump-in groundwater can be used on any parcel within the District's boundaries. Groundwater may also be transferred to other landowners within the District. The Bureau of Reclamation has informed the District that they will require updated water quality samples on all new or existing pump-ins prior to the

agreement being signed. Please call the District when you will be operating your well to coordinate a water quality sample with the District.

Construction Project Update:

Teichert Construction continues to work in various areas throughout the District replacing some of the worst pipelines. We hope to minimize the impact to District operations during construction, but scheduled shutdowns will need to occur to finalize putting the new lines in service. Please coordinate with the District office if you think any spraying or other Agricultural activity may interfere with the construction work.

DISTRICT WEBSITE NOTICES:

The District will post updated notices and information to its website www.lsid.org Please use the following address to go straight to the notice page. <http://lsid.org/resources/notices/>

Please contact the District office at 559-562-2581 if you need further information.