

GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Winter Maintenance Shut-Down Policy

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this *Winter Maintenance Shut-Down Policy* is to establish a water delivery shut-down period to allow the necessary time to perform critical inspection, maintenance, repair, replacement and in-channel vegetation management projects to maintain water deliveries to customers.

This brief shut-down period does not resolve the need for the system to be shut down for a longer period in order to complete all maintenance that may be required between irrigation seasons.

II. GENERAL SCHEDULE AND WATER AVAILABILITY

Schedule	Water Availability
January 7 through February 20	Shut-down and drained
February 21 to March 1	Shut-down until water orders are received, strictly for frost protection
March 1 through March 31	Shut-down until water orders are received

III. CONVEYANCE SYSTEM OPERATION

A. January 7 through February 20:

The water conveyance system will be shut down and drained to perform critical inspection, construction, maintenance, repair, replacement and in-channel vegetation management activities.

B. February 21 to March 1:

- (1) The water conveyance system will be shut down and drained to perform critical inspection, construction, maintenance, repair, replacement and in-channel vegetation management activities until water orders are received, strictly for frost protection.
- (2) Water orders must be placed at least three (3) days in advance to allow time to complete construction and maintenance work in progress, and fill the conveyance system with water.

- (3) Where there is required work, emergency construction work or maintenance work scheduled or in progress, water may not be available until the work is completed.
- (4) The District may verify weather conditions to confirm frost protection is necessary to avoid prematurely ending critical work activities.

C. March 1 through March 31:

- (1) The water conveyance system will remain in a shut-down and drained condition to perform critical inspection, construction, maintenance, repair, replacement and in-channel vegetation management activities until water orders are received.
- (2) When a water order is placed for crop irrigation purposes, normal crop application procedures and water rates will apply.
- (3) All water orders must be placed at least three (3) days in advance to allow time to complete construction and maintenance work in progress, and fill the conveyance system with water.
- (4) Where there is required or emergency construction or maintenance work scheduled or in progress, water may not be available until the work is completed.
- (5) The District may verify weather conditions to confirm irrigation water is necessary to avoid prematurely ending critical work activities.

D. Water Rates and Charges:

- (1) All rates for crops are established annually by the Board of Directors according to District policy.
- (2) The rates for frost protection are included on the *Water Rate Information* sheet, which is updated annually.
 - Frost protection water delivery is available from February 21 through March 31.
 - Payment for frost protection water is due when the water order is placed.
- (3) All other crop rates are updated annually and are based on the *Applied Water Unit Duties* for summer irrigation.

E. Conveyance System Constraints:

- (1) Main Canal and Lateral Flows:

- The District's Winter Water Rights allow for significantly lower diversion flow-rates than during the summer timeframe of normal water years.
- Conveying District surface water through the drained Main Canal and lateral conveyance systems may require considerable time to meet water orders.

(2) Main Canal and Lateral Elevations:

- At low flows, water elevations may not be adequate to provide gravity service at all locations and may require pumping to serve certain points-of-delivery.
 - The cost of providing, installing, maintaining, and operating pumping equipment is the responsibility of the water user.
 - All pumping must be approved by and coordinated with the District.
- The District will set and maintain winter water elevations which may be lower than normal summer elevations.

(3) Maintenance Construction and Emergency Maintenance

- Water orders for points-of-delivery located at planned, active, and emergency maintenance sites may be subject to deferred delivery until the work is completed.

IV. IMPROVEMENTS TO PRIVATE SYSTEMS

The water user is responsible for all costs of any private system improvements or maintenance that may be required due to low-flow water elevations, in order to provide gravity water flow to private lift pumps and to points-of-delivery on private laterals or supply ditches:

- (1) Lowering the elevation of turnouts
- (2) Cleaning ditches to provide gravity flow
- (3) Lowering pump settings

V. CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Water users are expected to have a contingency plan in the event that unavoidable construction or maintenance work, or Term 91 water restrictions, prevent the District from making water deliveries.

VI. EXCEPTIONS

Adopted January 16, 2020

- (1) Water availability from November 1 through March 31 is subject to Term 91 restrictions on the District's Winter Water Rights. When the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) imposes Term 91, the District is restricted from diverting and delivering Sacramento River water until the SWRCB lifts the Term 91 restrictions.
- (2) The District holds a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Contract #1425-98-FC-20-17260, which improved District facilities to allow for year-round deliveries and to convey surface water to three National Wildlife Refuges: Sacramento, Delevan, and Colusa (Refuges). The Refuges' Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) water supply is wheeled through District facilities to the Refuges by established monthly schedules and volumes. The District may, as it deems necessary, continue water conveyance to the Refuge(s) during a portion or through the entire Winter Maintenance Shut-down period, in accordance with the cooperative agreement and subject to section II and section III of this Policy. The District shall, where possible, utilize established localized conveyance systems to meet the water demand of the Refuge(s) for wildlife habitat and wetland management needs.