**Sent:** Friday, November 5, 2021 5:27 PM

To: delta\_drought@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: NOVEMBER 5 WEEKLY UPDATE ON CURTAILMENT STATUS OF WATER RIGHTS AND CLAIMS IN THE DELTA WATERSHED & UPDATE ON ENHANCED REPORTING FORM

## **Curtailment Status Update:**

All curtailments under the August 20, 2021 curtailment orders (Order for water rights/claims under 5,000 acre-feet and Order for water rights/claims over 5,000 acre-feet) issued pursuant to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) Watershed Emergency Reporting and Curtailment Regulation remain temporarily suspended. The reporting requirements identified in the August 20 Orders remain in place, as do other requirements that may be applicable for specific water rights and claims. The temporary suspension of curtailments is subject to change. Water supply forecasts will continue to be evaluated regularly to determine if, when, and to what extent re-imposition of curtailments is appropriate, and updates will continue to be provided by email and web posting.

The decision to continue the temporary suspension of curtailments is based on water supply forecasts from the California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) that were updated on November 5, 2021. The 50% exceedance water supply forecast was evaluated to determine the temporary suspension of curtailments at this time, which will be reassessed next week (or earlier if appropriate) based on daily water supply observations and updated forecasts. Supply forecasts factor in anticipated precipitation and water supplies produced by associated runoff in the next seven days, while demand values are computed seven-day averages. Demand data informing curtailments continue to be based on reported diversions from 2018.

Suspension of curtailments should not be construed as a validation of water right claims or an authorization to divert. Existing constraints on water right permits and licenses, such as seasonal diversion restrictions and bypass flow requirements, remain in effect. In addition, all water right holders and claimants may only divert under valid water rights and are not authorized to divert if it would result in injury to other water users.

Water right holders and claimants are responsible for monitoring their curtailment status online on the <u>Delta Watershed Curtailment Status List</u>. Notice of changes to curtailment status will not be mailed. For those with limited internet access, a pre-recorded curtailment summary can be heard on the Delta Curtailment Status phone line at (916) 323-4643.

## Update on Enhanced Reporting Form for Rights and Claims 5,000 Acre-Feet or Greater:

If your water right or claim has a face value or reported diversions in 2018 or 2019 of 5,000 acre-feet or more, the August 20 <u>Initial Order Imposing Water Right Curtailment and Reporting Requirements in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed</u> requires monthly reporting via the Enhanced Reporting of Prior Diversions and Projected Demand Forms (Enhanced Reporting Forms).

In order to improve the quality and consistency of the data collected, and in response to stakeholder feedback received during the <u>staff workshop</u> on October 20, 2021, changes to this month's Enhanced Reporting Forms are being made. These changes include:

1. Separating the enhanced reporting of projected demands and the enhanced reporting of prior diversions into two distinct forms with separate deadlines;

- 2. Reporting by point of diversion (POD), rather than reporting by water right or claim; and
- 3. Simplification and clarification of the questions.

The new versions of the Enhanced Reporting Forms will be made available on Monday, November 8 on the Water Right Form and Survey Submittal Portal (Survey Portal).

The Enhanced Reporting of Projected Demand form will ask for projected demand data for December 2021, and the Enhanced Reporting of Prior Diversions form will ask for diversion data for the month of October 2021. The deadline to submit the Enhanced Reporting of Projected Demands form will be **November 19** and the deadline to submit the Enhanced Reporting of Prior Diversions form will be **November 30**. Deadlines for future monthly iterations of the Enhanced Reporting Forms will be announced via email updates.

For more information about drought in the Delta watershed, please visit the <u>Delta Drought</u> <u>webpage</u>. For more information about curtailment compliance and responses to the August 20 Orders, please visit the <u>Curtailment Compliance and Responses webpage</u>. The Curtailment Compliance and Responses tracker is updated every Friday and can be filtered to see the latest changes. If you have any questions, you may send an email to <u>Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov</u> or call the Delta Drought phone line at (916) 319-0960.