

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

(Recent update adopted by the Board of Directors, March 14, 2012)

The Nevada Irrigation District adopted the Water Shortage (Plan) to address the District's limited water supplies due to either drought conditions or distribution infrastructure failures. The primary objective of this Plan is to identify drought caused water supply shortages, water demand reduction goals and to recommend demand management measures. The Water Shortage Plan is a supplement to the District's Urban Water Management Plan and the Agricultural Water Management Plan. Both of these plans were prepared and updated in compliance with Part 2.8 of Division 6 of the California Water Code.

For a drought situation, prior to the beginning of the irrigation season, but no later than April 1, the District will evaluate its current reservoir storage, forecasted runoff, and purchase options from Pacific Gas & Electric Company to determine what water supply stage will apply during the year. In order to effect the most current information for water supply, the March Snow Survey information for each year will be used to make a preliminary determination of the District's water supplies.

For an infrastructure failure, delivery options will be evaluated and a recommendation shall be made to the Board of Directors.

The District currently supplies about 150,000 acre feet (AF) of water for all classes of customers, has non-recoverable in stream flow requirements of 7,700 AF and has contract obligations for 200,000 AF of water under the Nevada Irrigation District and Pacific Gas & Electric Company's 1963 Consolidated Contract. A minimum of 78,000 AF of carry over storage has been determined to be the amount of water that the District will endeavor to hold over from water season to water season for the health and safety of the District domestic and agricultural water users. The minimum carryover amount will be evaluated every five years and will be updated if needed.

Stage	April 1st Available Supply Acre Feet	Supply Shortage	Type Program	Demand Reduction Goals
I	233,000	None	Normal Operation	
II	210,000	10%-15%	Voluntary/ Mandatory	15%
III	198,000	15%-25%	Mandatory	25%
IV	175,000	25%-35%	Mandatory	35%
V	152,000	35%-50%	Mandatory	50%

DROUGHT WATER SUPPLY STAGES:

Stage I: Normal Water conditions

- A. District will make full supply and contract deliveries.
- B. Continue to operate and maintain the water system in an efficient and economical manner.
- C. Encourage conservation measures with District customers.
- D. Review and, if needed, update current water conservation plans and system storage.

Stage II: Water Shortage Alert—10% to 15% Shortage

- A. District leak repair receives high priority.
- B. Irrigation season delivery alternatives will be imposed with a target reduction goal of 10-15%.
- C. Limit new raw water sales and increases to a ½ miners inch purchase
- D. Strongly encourage customers to conserve water. Increase public awareness and public service announcements.
- E. Restaurant owners requested not to serve water unless requested by the customer.
- F. Declare that no District surplus water is available.
- G. Target 75% of historical end of month October storage for carryover.
- H. Limit fire department practice drills and flow testing of fire hydrants.
- I. Encourage raw water customers to implement irrigation efficiency practices.
- J. Limit residential, garden, and landscape irrigation during the hottest portion of the day (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).
- K. Limit District's flushing program to areas required by regulation or as needed to insure good drinking water quality
- L. Municipal customers shall be informed of reduction targets
- M. Organize Drought Hardship Committee

Stage III: Water Shortage Warning—15-25% Shortage

- A. All of Stage II requirements above and the following:
- B. Irrigation season delivery alternatives will be imposed with a target reduction goal of 15-25%.
- C. No new raw water sales or increases in purchased water
- D. Limit residential, garden, and landscape irrigation during the hottest portion of the day (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) and encourage reduced watering schedules to at least every other day.
- E. Encourage that all treated water metered school grounds, and all other public grounds reduce their water usage by 15 percent from what they received under Stage I conditions.
- F. Require Large Landscapes with treated water to reduce their usage by 15-25%
- G. Implement conservation pricing on treated water.
- H. All new treated water services will not be allowed to plant new lawns, landscaping, or gardens. The District will encourage customers to utilize water and efficient irrigation systems.
- I. Maintain at least 78,000 minimum acre feet in storage at the end of October

Stage IV: Water Shortage Emergency—25-35% Shortage

- A. Implement all items under Stages II and III, and the following:
- B. Irrigation season delivery alternatives will be imposed with a target reduction goal of 25-35%.
- C. Require Large Landscapes with treated water to reduce their usage by 25-35%

Stage V: Critical Water Shortage Emergency—35-50% Shortage

- A. Implement all items under Stage II, III, and IV, and the following:
- B. Irrigation season delivery alternatives will be imposed with a target reduction goal of 35-50%.
- C. Strong conservation pricing implemented with all treated water customers.
- D. Require Large Landscapes with treated water to reduce their usage by 35-50%.

IRRIGATION SEASON DELIVERY ALTERNATIVES
Combination Reduction & Short Season

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fairness and Uniformity 2. Encourages Water Management Practices and Conservation 3. Demonstrates a Method of Reduction 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changing Raw Water Orifice Plates 2. Increased Delivery Costs 3. Reduces System Flexibility 4. Increased Customer Responses 5. May Cause Hardship on Commercial Agricultural Customer

IRRIGATION SEASON DELIVERY ALTERNATIVES
Short Season

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greatest Flexibility in System 2. Customer Management of System 3. Encourages Water Management and Conservation 4. Demonstrates a Method of Reduction 5. Saves Manpower by Not Changing Raw Water Orifice Plates 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is Not Uniform Water Delivery Throughout the Season 2. Does Not Extend Season 3. May Cause Hardship on Commercial Agricultural Customer 4. Increased Customer Responses 5. Public relations Loss

IRRIGATION SEASON DELIVERY ALTERNATIVES

Reduction in Deliveries for Full Season

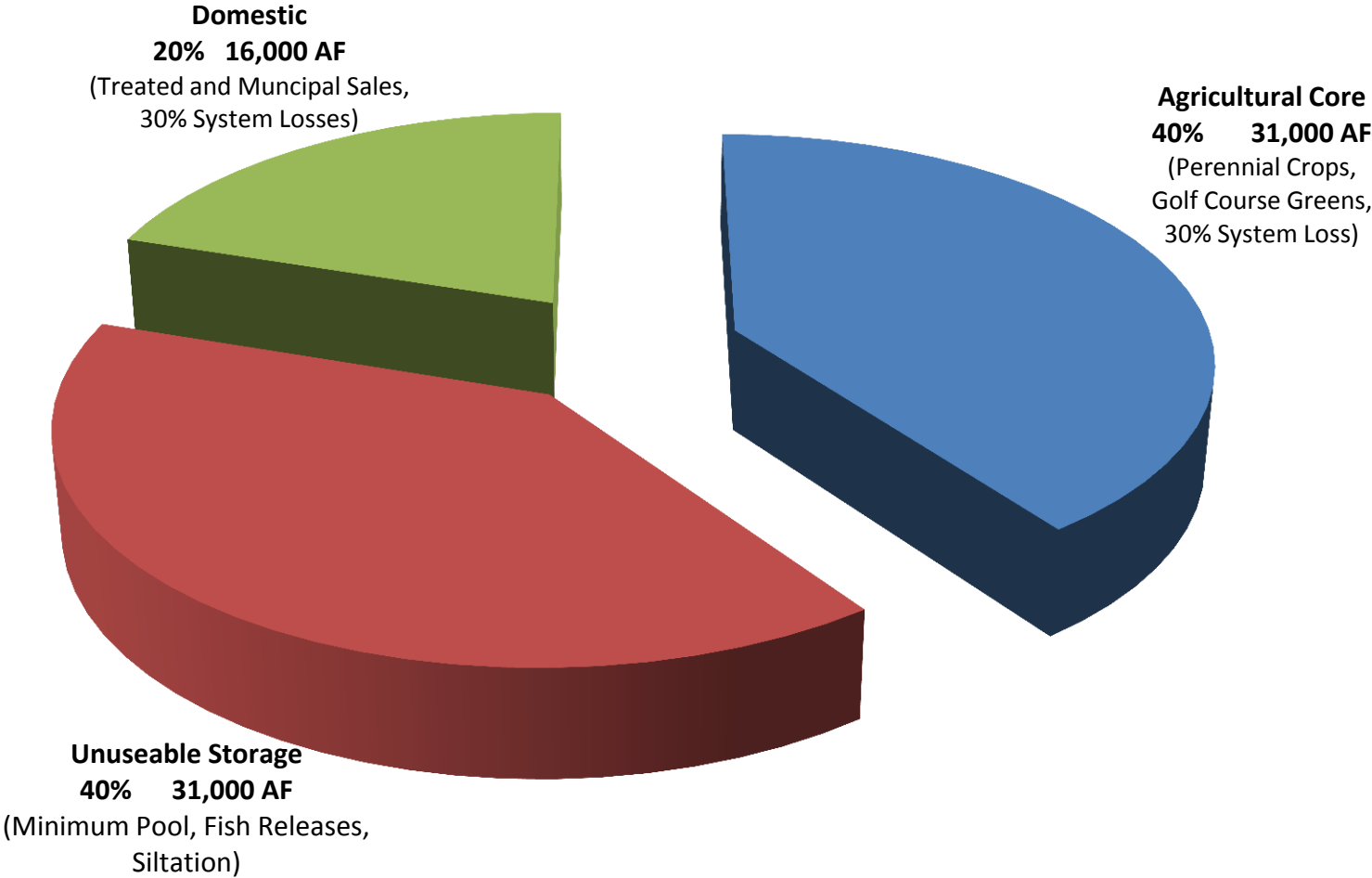
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fairness and Uniformity 2. Encourages Water Management and Conservation 3. Demonstrates a Method of Reduction 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires Accuracy in Delivery Method 2. Increased Delivery Costs 3. Change Orifice Plates, Increased Costs 4. Raw Water Orifice Pipes 5. No System Flexibility 6. Increased Customer Responses 7. Public Relations Loss

IRRIGATION SEASON DELIVERY ALTERNATIVES

Canal Rotations

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flexibility in System 2. Encourages Water Efficient Practices and Conservation 3. Fairness and Uniformity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires Accuracy in Delivery Method 2. Increased Delivery Costs 3. Increased Customer Responses 4. Public Relations Loss 5. May Cause Hardship on Commercial Agricultural Customer 6. Challenges with Aquatic Weed Control Applications

NID MINIMUM CARRY OVER STORAGE 78,000 ACRE FEET



DROUGHT HARDSHIP COMMITTEE AND VARIANCES

During a Stage II-V Water Shortage, the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District may appoint a Drought Hardship Committee. The Drought Hardship Committee is an advisory body and shall consist of one appointee from each director's division and the Water and Hydroelectric Operations (WHO) Board Committee. District Operation's staff will work closely with the committee.

The Drought Hardship Committee's purpose is to review the applications and determine whether additional water can be provided to the applicant. Before any appeal for a variance can be heard by the Drought Hardship Committee, the customer must submit a Drought Hardship Application and provide proof the water is being used for commercial agricultural purposes.

For the purposes of this Plan, the definition of commercial agriculture is an agricultural producer engaged in a for profit operation with a minimum gross annual sales of \$3,000 and a minimum capital investment of \$15,000. Commercial agricultural producers file a Schedule F with the Internal Revenue Service for their farming or ranching operation.

Preference will be given to applicants with an economic hardship and/ or those utilizing best management practices and with efficient irrigation practices in place. Variances may be approved for increases in water deliveries, seasonal variances or other protocols as determined by the Drought Hardship Committee. No such variance or appeal, however, shall be granted if the Board of Directors finds that the variance or appeal will adversely affect the public health or safety of others and is not in the public's best interest.

Under the California Water Code, in critical water supply situations, there is a priority that shall be allocated as follows:

1. Human Consumption
2. Livestock and Animals
3. Perennial Crops
4. Annual Crops

Upon granting a Drought Hardship Variance or appeal, the Board may impose any other conditions it deems to be just and proper.

APPLICATION FOR DROUGHT HARDSHIP

Name:		Canal:		
Address				
Parcel No.:		Phone No.:		
Land Utilization:		Map Attached	Yes	No
Livestock (number of)		Stock water needs: Yes or No		
Cattle	Horses			
Sheep	Other			
Hogs				
Crop	Acres Planted	Amount Water Applied	Period of critical water need	Method of Irrigation
Pasture				
Orchard				
Rice				
Other				
Total acres of land irrigated at location:				
		Year	Miners Inches	
Water Purchase				
Allocated				
Is property within Nevada Irrigation District boundaries?		Yes	No	
Do you have proof the water is being used for commercial agricultural purposes		YES	No	
Statement by landowner of hardship				
Intended use of additional water by landowner				
Describe efficient irrigation practices in use				
Do you file a Schedule F with the Internal Revenue Service? Yes or No				

Please attach separate sheet for any additional information. Fraudulent statements could result in loss of water purchase.

I certify the above statements to be true and factual to the best of my knowledge.

Signed _____ Date _____