



Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

Effective Water Resource Management

34274 State Highway 16 • Woodland, CA 95695 • 530.662.0265 • www.ycfewcd.org

September 18, 2023

Re: Update on the 2023 Irrigation Season, Winter Activities, and the *Special Benefit Assessment*

Dear Water Customer:

We hope the harvest season is going well for you. We really appreciate the opportunity to serve you this year and your patience as we experienced one of the earliest and worst aquatic weed seasons on record.

As of today, the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (District) total stored water supply is approximately 163,000 acre-feet with approximately 150,000 acre-feet in Indian Valley Reservoir and 13,000 acre-feet remaining in Clear Lake (based on the Solano Decree). Hydropower production at Indian Valley Reservoir ceased on Monday, September 11, and currently irrigation releases are primarily conveyed via Cache Creek Dam. Depending on customer demand and transmission losses in Cache Creek, **we anticipate the 2023 irrigation season will conclude around Saturday, October 7.**

District staff are currently investigating the best solution for installing trash screens and racks at the headgates of the Capay Diversion Dam and at various headings of the canal system. Once the irrigation season is over, District staff will transition to winterizing the canal system, evaluating and completing necessary repairs to canal gates and culverts, and ensuring proper stormwater conveyance. Additionally, District staff and contractors will complete the remaining 2023 storm damage projects in the canal system as part of the FEMA reimbursement process for the 2023 Storm Event Emergency.

On Thursday, September 14, the [Climate Prediction Center extended its El Niño advisory](#) for a fourth straight month, which forecasts greater than 95% odds that El Niño conditions continue through March 2024 and a 71% chance of a "strong" El Niño. The remaining stored water in Indian Valley Reservoir will ensure an allocated irrigation season for 2024; however, given the El Niño prediction, there is a good chance that we will secure the 245,000 acre-feet of supply necessary for an unallocated season.

As discussed at the District’s March 7, 2023 Board meeting, the District has placed the 2023 *Special Benefit Assessment* on the County’s 2023/2024 annual property tax roll. We greatly appreciate all your support in voting on that assessment and communicating your concerns. Once the *Special Benefit Assessment* funds are collected and transferred, the District will be tracking the accrual and expenses in a separate account and the funds will only be used for capital expenses listed in the [Comprehensive Capital Asset List of the Engineer’s Report](#). For additional information on the *Special Benefit Assessment*, please revisit the [May 2, 2023 Board meeting](#), where the District’s Board of Directors adopted the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget and provided [guidelines around the Special Benefit Assessment expenditures](#).

Again, we greatly appreciate your business, and we hope to hear from you on ways that we can improve our service. Please reach out with any questions, concerns, or suggestions at 530.662.0265.

Thank you,



Kristin Sicke
General Manager