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To: All CCID Landowners and Water Users

From: Chris White, General Manager 

Subject: 2014 Water Supply Update

Date: February 21, 2014

CCID would like to update you as to the water supply allocation that was announced at our February 5, 2014 workshop in Los Banos. Here are the facts as we laid them out at that time:

1. The United States Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) initial February 1st forecast, based on a variety of factors, was going to be an allocation somewhere in the range of a 40% to 75% of the full Exchange Contract supply.
2. Based on February 1st hydrology, CCID was comfortable allocating a 50% USBR supply.
3. The District's allocation was subject to change, based on future hydrologic conditions.
4. Based on the Exchange Contractors having to rely on a percentage of their USBR supply coming from Millerton Lake off of the San Joaquin River, monthly River diversions would be contractually limited and monthly allocation restrictions would need to be implemented at the farm level for the summer months (May through August).
5. All water users were advised to use their own best judgment in making cropping and irrigation decisions knowing that the allocations could change.
6. Monthly water supply forecasts and updates, and potential allocation adjustments, would be forthcoming on or about the 15th of each month.

Here is a mid-month update for the month of February:

On February 15, 2014 the USBR announced an initial Exchange Contractor supply of 40%. CCID has decided at this point in time not to adjust our initial 50% allocation. We would like to continue with the process and wait for the March 1st Statewide Department of Resources (DWR) snow survey and resulting USBR forecast before making any adjustments. This forecast will include most of the rainfall events that occurred in northern and central California the last two weeks, and other implementation criteria that the Exchange Contractors staff is diligently working on with the USBR.

CCID will update all its landowners and water users around March 15th on any allocation changes that might need to be made. It is the goal that all four Exchange Contractor entities work in conjunction to effectively manage the resource by making similar allocation decisions in a timely manner.

That being said, there are still a variety of risks on the horizon as it pertains to our final allocation. We ask that you plan accordingly and feel free to call with any questions you may have.