

**Richard Barbaste**  
*President*

**David Reichmuth**  
*Director*

**David Fantozzi**  
*Director*

**John Azevedo**  
*Director*

**Frank Trinta**  
*Director*



**Vince Lucchesi, PE**  
*General Manager*

**Toni Russell**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

---

## **WATER RATIONING ALERT!!!**

Vince Lucchesi, PE  
Patterson Irrigation District  
948 Orange Avenue  
Patterson, CA 95363

March 16, 2022

Dear Patterson Irrigation District Landowner and/or Water User,

**Be prepared for potential water rationing being imposed on water users within the District boundaries by the Patterson Irrigation District (PID or District) beginning at any time. Rationing will be based upon acreage farmed (if your property was farmed last year it will be considered) and the rate of water that PID can bring in. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) may issue curtailments on the San Joaquin River at a moments notice and PID may not be able to satisfy all demands coming in when this occurs. Therefore, you are being provided notice that in the event PID is curtailed and isn't able to supply the District's full demand, rationing will be implemented.**

**Rationing will be in place until the end of the irrigation season temporarily set for October 14, 2022. For those water users with Out of District contracts, if the PID is curtailed by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) or needs to bring water down from the Delta-Mendota Canal, then no water will be available after that date. That curtailment date could be as early as March, 2022.**

**It is highly encouraged that you irrigate as soon as possible and store as much water as possible in your soil profile!**

Earlier in 2022 it was anticipated that the snowpack and the rain in the months of October – December 2021 would help relieve the water supply shortage we are facing. Unfortunately, the rain and snow has stopped and the previous storms are now insufficient to meet demands in 2022. Drought conditions and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) actions will have water supply impacts to PID possibly beginning in March 2022. PID receives water from three sources including the Delta-Mendota Canal through a Central Valley Project Contract, from groundwater and through water rights on the San Joaquin River (River). For 2022, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has announced a ZERO allocation to water service contractors south of the Delta.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) provides curtailment updates weekly and has provided notices of curtailments to some water rights holders on a few specific streams in California already in 2022.

**The PID has secured some limited supplemental water supplies to help growers through the 2022 growing season. This limited supply WILL NOT meet all of the demands for the entire 2022**

**season. When water rationing begins all farmable land within the District boundaries will receive a flow ration dependent upon water available and the rate of which PID can bring it in.**

Please consider any actions you can take to maximize your irrigation efficiency thus reducing total water demand in the District. Some potential actions could be:

- Hiring night irrigators to actively manage irrigation events
- Check sprinkler and micro-irrigation systems for leaks and inefficiencies
- Plan irrigation events to match actual crop needs
- Reduce surface tailwater runoff or reuse runoff
- Be flexible to start irrigation events as soon as water is made available
- Stop irrigation events as soon as crop needs are met
- Coordinate with District staff ahead of irrigation events for start and stop times so that water can be efficiently passed from grower to grower.

For the remainder of the irrigation season please keep in mind that:

1. District policies are being strictly enforced to prevent the waste of water and to ensure the most efficient use of water. Meaning:
  - a. Providing advance notice to your DSO of start and stops of your irrigation water to ensure seamless deliveries and to reduce spills.
  - b. Monitoring your irrigations and tailwater to ensure efficient irrigation.
  - c. Plan irrigation events to match actual crop needs and not preconceived schedules, and
  - d. Failure to comply with PID's policies will result in fines and service disconnects.

the Board of Directors have adopted a Drought Mitigation Policy which establishes how the District will ration its limited supplies. This policy, in addition to any relevant drought information is available on PID's website at <http://www.pattersonid.org/>.

PID remains committed to doing all we can to work with our landowners and growers with flexibility during these drought conditions. PID and its consultants are continuing to monitor conditions in the Delta, San Joaquin River and San Luis Reservoir for the continued service to PID water users. We will continue to update growers as soon as we receive new information. In the meantime, please contact the district office if you have any questions.

Kindest Regards,



Vince Lucchesi, PE  
General Manager  
Patterson Irrigation District

**NOTE -Irrigation water may or may not be available beginning this Spring and for the entire 2022 season depending on San Joaquin River flows and SWRCB determinations in 2022.**