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# 2021 JVID Water Shortage Awareness

## **How Dry Is It?**

At the March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 special JVID Board Meeting staff and the Water Management Committee (Dir. Ohm & Gonzalez) reported the current lake condition and forecast for the upcoming irrigation season. The news was not positive.

Currently the Lake is holding steady with approximately 14,300 Acre Feet of Storage with a total storage capacity of 22,000 Acre Feet. This is roughly 65% of full and much less than what is needed for normal operation of the JVID irrigation system. So far in the 2020-2021 Rain Season we have only received 12.5". Normal rainfall for our region is 21".

Many think the extended rainfall forecast for the next few months may not improve.

## **Where Does JVID Water Come From?**

JVID water primarily comes from storm or rain water runoff from the Jackson Creek Watershed. This watershed is roughly 56 square miles and is a rain only watershed stretching to Pine Grove. About 95% of JVID's operations are dependent on this runoff.

The water in Lake Amador is used primarily for, Industrial and Agriculture needs. The new JVID treated water system is supported by water from the Mokelumne River and is currently not under the same water shortage conditions as the irrigation water because this water is related to snow pack conditions.

## **What are the JVID staff and Board doing?**

Staff has been working with all the users that are currently using the water, primarily the two Fish Farms, to reduce and reuse the water downstream. Other measures staff have been working on is diligently looking for leaks, making sure all meters are working and informing irrigators of potential allocations.

JVID will be reaching out to the Amador Water Agency to discuss buying up to 5,000-acre feet of water to supplement the existing supply in Lake Amador.

## **The Board and Staff cannot solve this problem alone!!!**

### **What can Members continue to do?**

- ❖ Water for only for essential needs outside of irrigation season of April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. This can be defined as: livestock, trees, orchards, vineyards, etc.; crops that are not seasonal, that cannot be replaced next irrigation season.
- ❖ If a member wants to irrigate for the 2021 season a meter must be installed.
- ❖ Minimize personal or home use of water. Use hoses with Automatic Shut- Off nozzles.
- ❖ Fix leaks quickly. Even small leaks add up to many gallons per day.
- ❖ Refrain from continuous pond or swimming pool filling.
- ❖ Water lawns early in the mornings or late at night.  
*(Agricultural use may require daytime watering, please be conservative!)*

- ❖ Refrain from washing cars and other non - essential needs such as concrete or asphalt.
- ❖ Report immediately, any leaks or misuse in the system to JVID so they can be quickly attended to.
- ❖ Please contact JVID @ (209) 274-2037 prior to any use of water for heavy irrigation purposes from Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – Mar 31<sup>st</sup> during dry weather conditions as this usage may come off the allotment given to an irrigator.

## **What Can Members Expect in the Future?**

At this point there is a likelihood that the JVID Board will decide to implement more stringent water shortage measures for the irrigation season such as water allocations which will be determined at future board meetings. In the meantime, please be conservative and efficient with the water as possible.

Members with property near or at current lake elevation of 410' **WILL** start experiencing pressure problems as the lake drops further.

This is not an easy task ahead of JVID or California for that matter, member participation and understanding is greatly appreciated.

