

ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT

February 2021

2021 WATER OUTLOOK, CHARGES, & WATER APPLICATION

The water outlook for 2021 continues to be dismal. The dry weather and low reservoir levels are not a good mix for a water allocation. The District is anticipating and preparing for a zero allocation and a "Shasta Critical" Water Year. Due to this condition, starting March 1st the District will only have transferred water from its multi-year transfers and water from the District Wells available for water users. The District has joined other TCCA Districts in an environmental document for the transfer of forbearance water if needed and there will be an opportunity to secure some transferred water from River Contractors. These types of transfers can be expensive, but valuable. There will also be the Warren Act Contract in place for those who are able to make use of it, and to allow the District well water to be used throughout the District.

With a "Shasta Critical" year, the District will lose some water from multiyear contracts with River Contractors, as well as experience an increase in the price of water transferred into the District. The District will need payment for water in advance because the District must pre-pay at a higher rate for transferred water in short water years.

At the February 16th Board meeting the Directors set the water rate for the available District water at \$190.00 per acre-foot. The water rate is strictly a "pass through" cost of what the District is paying for the water. These rates are based on the anticipated 0% allocation in a "Shasta Critical" Water Year. If the allocation increases the cost of water could go down. **At this time there is .34 acre-feet per acre of District water available.**

The 2021 Water Application requires payment for .34 acre-feet per acre multiplied by \$190.00/AF. Any water not applied for will be pooled for a 2nd allocation for acreage already applied for. There will be no credits issued for unused water in the 2021 water year. Any existing credit on account as of March 1st can be applied towards payment of 2021 water.

Eligibility for District water requires a completed and signed 2021 water application, payment for the .34 allocation of water and payment for the 1st installment of the Operations Charge. **After March 15th water applications for allocated District water will not be accepted.** The 2nd Pool of water payment will be due April 10th, and the District will contact you after March 15th of what that allocation will be. **For the first payment, please only pay for your acreage X .34 X \$190.00.**

If you need to apply for water after March 15th, there is no guarantee of availability nor the price of water. All District Rules and Regulations will apply to all water delivered and the District will not deliver water to delinquent lands.

The District is also asking for how much water you will need from the District in the 2021 water year, including the acre feet from the .34 initial allocation. The District will do its best to secure water from additional transfers for your availability, but please note, this could be higher than the initial price of \$190.00/AF. Please include the total amount of water you will need from the District on the application so that we know how much water to look for when we negotiate transfers. Once the District has secured an additional source(s) of water, you will be contacted and asked if you would like to purchase additional water.

This newsletter along with water rates, applications, and water order forms are available on the District's website, oawd.org. **Due to COVID-19, the District doors are locked but staff is available by phone and/or email. There is also a mailbox roadside and a drop box by the front door of the office for forms or payments.**

If you have any questions, please call the District Office.

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