

# ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT

January 2019

## **2019 WATER OUTLOOK**

*We have not yet received an announcement from Reclamation for the 2019 Water Allocation but due to the recent storms and a good carryover in the reservoirs our water supply looks positive. The new water year starts March 01, 2019. Until then we have an abundance of allocated water available for irrigation and frost protection. The cost of water for 2019 has not yet been calculated but as a reminder, due to the loss of relief, the subsidized portion of the water cost, rates will be increasing.*

## **2019 ASSESSMENT & OPERATIONS CHARGES**

*For 2019 the Assessment Rate is \$19.94 per assessed acre. This charge is for the repayment of the loan on the system. The Assessment will be collected in two separate installments. The first installment is due June 1st. The second installment is due on October 1st. There will be a 5% penalty and .75% monthly interest on delinquent accounts.*

*The Board of Directors approved the rate for the 2019 Operations Charge at \$44.94 per assessed acre. \$37.74 per acre for the operational costs of the District and \$7.20 per acre for the Sites Charge component. This will be collected in two separate installments. The first installment is due April 1st or before water is used in the new water year. The second installment is due on August 1st. There will be a 10% penalty and 1.5% monthly interest charge on delinquent accounts. Water will not be delivered to land with delinquent accounts.*

## **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update**

*OAWD and several other water agencies formed the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA). The GGA serves as a county wide Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The GGA's Board is made up of a board member from each agency. OAWD's board member is Chuck Schonauer. The goal of the GGA is to ensure the sustainability of our groundwater aquifers. Because we share the Colusa Sub-Basin with the County of Colusa, the two counties are working together on basin-wide grants and studies not only to be in-line with the law but to keep costs down.*

*The District measures several wells in the area and we are seeing that the aquifers have not fully recovered from the recent dry years. With SGMA there is the potential of pumping restrictions in the future if groundwater pumping levels are not sustainable. Using district water will help minimize possible groundwater restrictions in the future.*

## **The Sites Reservoir Project**

*There has been quite a bit of progress on Sites Reservoir. The project has been awarded \$816 Million Dollars in Prop 1 State Funding and a \$449 Million Dollar USDA Loan. Phase 1 of the Project is coming to an end and Phase 2 will start in the near future. While OAWD will not be participating in Phase 2, the District will continue to be a supporter of the project. Support for the project is continuing from all over California including 78% of California legislators plus support from U.S. Senator Feinstein and Congressmen LaMalfa and Garamendi. There is still a long way to go but for now the project looks promising. Check out the Sites website at <https://www.sitesproject.org/>*

*If you have any questions, please give me a call at the District office.*

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