

WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

In late January the California Department of Water Resources announced the snowpack water content is 115 percent of normal statewide—that's the good news. In spite of the recent rain and snow there are still significant long-term issues remaining to improve reliability of our water supply from Northern California, including the Bay-Delta—that's the bad news.

There is a glimmer of hope though. Weather forecasters are predicting a wetter than normal weather pattern for the balance of the rain season in Northern California and that the level of precipitation over the second half of the winter could have a significant impact on determining how much water is available this summer. Also, in early February the Judge involved in the Delta Smelt ruling issued a temporary 14-day suspension of the pumping restrictions so State Water Contractors could take advantage of the excessive runoff from recent storms. That means a lot more water will flow into our reservoirs.

It is still too early to predict the water supply outlook for this summer, but our wholesale suppliers expect water cutbacks and regulatory restrictions will continue to reduce water deliveries to Southern California for the foreseeable future. This means we all need to continue to conserve water.

MORE INFORMATION REGARDING RMWD'S MONITORING GROUP

In the last newsletter we advised that we have started accepting applications to join our Monitoring Group for the Regional Board's Conditional Waiver #4. To make signing up easier the reverse side of this newsletter is the application form for Rainbow's monitoring group. If you would like to sign up, simply fill out the application and return it to our office in person or by mail. The Regional Board's deadline for you to join a monitoring group is December 31 2010; however, in order to be included in RMWD's first submittal to the Regional Board we must receive your completed application by September 30.

If you are a farmer or nursery grower who irrigates your crop and gross at least \$1,000 per year **or can anticipate** grossing \$1,000 per year based on the expected future value of your crop, you are required to enroll in the Regional Board's program.

There is no cost to join RMWD's Monitoring Group; however, there will be ongoing costs to pay for the mandatory water testing once the requirements are established by the Regional Board. We anticipate those costs will be approximately \$10 per acre per year. Remember, the requirement to participate in the monitoring program was established by the Regional Board and not RMWD.

You can get more information at the Regional Board's web site located at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/board_decisions/waivers/docs/Conditional_Waiver_4_Final.pdf

2010

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RMWD Monitoring Group for Conditional Waiver No. 4 *January 2010*

Conditional Waiver #4 was established by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board—not RMWD. Our decision to form a Monitoring Group is strictly based on a desire to provide benefit to our customers. Joining Rainbow's Monitoring Group is voluntary. Participation is limited to parcels within our service area with water service provided by RMWD. There is no cost to join, however there will be ongoing costs to pay for the mandatory water testing once that criteria is established by the Regional Board. We anticipate those costs will be approximately \$10 per acre per year. *Members of the RMWD Monitoring Group are expected to comply with the requirements outlined in Conditional Waiver No. 4, or may face expulsion from the group.*

Please fill out a separate application for each meter.

Date: ____/____/____

Name of RMWD Customer: _____ RMWD Account Number: _____

Name of Farm or Nursery: _____

Responsible Person: _____

(The individual running the agricultural operation who will receive information from RMWD)

Contact Information for Responsible Person:

Mailing Address: _____ Farm/Nursery Address: _____
(if different from mailing address)

Email Address: _____ Emergency Contact Name: _____

Telephone: _____ Emergency Telephone: _____

Parcel Size: _____ Number of Acres Irrigated: _____ Type(s) of crop(s): _____

Bring your completed form to our office, or mail it to us at 3707, Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA, 92028

Once your application is received and processed RMWD will send you a form asking you to provide a detailed description of irrigation, storm water runoff, nutrient, pesticide, erosion control, composting, and other site-specific management measures and best management practices (MM/BMP's) that you have already implemented. Your deadline to enroll in a monitoring group is December 31, 2010; however, in order to allow us adequate time to process applications we must receive your application no later than September 30, 2010, for you to be included in RMWD's monitoring group.

Farm/Nursery

Assessor Parcel Number (APN)
