

TEHACHAPI-CUMMINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 20, 2019

TOPIC: Review of 2018 Water Operations and Forecast for 2019 Water Operations  
ITEM FOR: Information  
PURPOSE: Update Board on Current Operations  
IMPACT: Groundwater Management, Operations, Policy, Administration, Water Supply, Fiscal/Budget

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SUBMITTED BY: Tom Neisler

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Provide summary of water operations from 2018 and discuss current situation and forecast for 2019.

BACKGROUND

We continue to find ourselves in uncertain times with respect to water planning and management. 2018 was another successful year, but it held some surprises. I have included a three-year summary of operations as Attachment A to this report. In 2018, we met our target of importing 10,000 AF (9,995 actually) and continued to increase our banked reserves. We did experience some unexpected conditions. 2018 Report Highlights:

1. Imported 9,995 AF of SWP. Met goal of 10,000 AF, despite 35% allocation = 6,755 AF
2. Withdrew 3,150 AF of banked supply in KWB to meet goal.
3. Limited carryover to 48 AF in San Luis Reservoir. I intended to minimize our carryover due to operational uncertainty. In fact, SLR is “spilling” now, despite current 15% allocation.
4. We accepted unanticipated amounts of pumped water into our system from both City of Tehachapi (350 AF) and Stallion Springs (100 AF).
5. Even with the additional water from COT, we sold more wheeled water than we pumped. This leads to an increase in banked storage.
6. Agricultural demand decreased in both Tehachapi and Cummings valleys. With changes in growers and associated practices, I anticipate that this trend will continue. I will factor this into 2019 forecast.
7. Our delivered water totals have decreased over the last three years, allowing our recharge quantities to increase. This is a positive trend for basin management, but a negative trend for revenues.

2019 is proving to be an extraordinary year so far. As of today, our Table “A” allocation is at 15%. The initial allocation was 10% and the single increase to date was much less than I anticipated, or the data seem to indicate is appropriate. The winter precipitation is on track to be well above normal. The statewide snowpack as of February 15 was at 107% of the April 1 average. Significant snow has occurred, and more is forecast – further extending the snowpack above normal. Statewide rainfall is almost 130% normal YTD. These totals would indicate an allocation far higher than 15%. The State Water Operations Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 20 at 10:00 AM. I am eagerly anticipating some news on an allocation increase after that meeting. Although I can see no reasonable way that the allocation can’t increase significantly, we cannot make operational plans until we have a better grasp on our available supply. I have provided an outline of where we stand as Attachment B. This outline considers the current 15% allocation and estimates 25%, 35% and 45% allocations and their impact on our supply. I have also minimized, but not cut to the bone, our anticipated deliveries. This forecast is

intended to be informational. More certainty in our supply is required for me to propose a plan for the entire pumping year. In the interim, I am pursuing other opportunities. As incongruous as it seems with a 15% allocation, DWR will begin delivering high-flow, Article 21 water this week. This supply becomes available when San Luis Reservoir is full (spilling). This condition occurred over the weekend. On Thursday, February 14, KCWA requested Article 21 orders for possible availability on Wednesday, February 20. Although our system is shut down and we weren't anticipating an immediate start-up, I requested 14 cfs (2 engine system). On Monday, February 18 (a Federal Holiday), I received notice from KCWA that we would have access to 9 cfs of flow starting the next day! We scrambled to ready the system and are currently operating at 12 cfs. This allocation only lasts until Tuesday, February 26. It is anyone's guess what happens after that, but I anticipate another week's worth of allocation to be made available at that time. DWR has also requested orders for Turnback Pool water. This is surplus water from contractors north of the Delta. They cannot use the water, so they return it to DWR for a credit. Currently they have created Turnback Pool A and Pool B. Pool A will become available on March 6 at a cost of \$35/AF plus variable costs. I requested the difference between our then current allocation and 10,000 AF under this program. Turnback Pool B becomes available on June 1. Our plans for the year are in place by that time, but the water can be banked. The cost of this water is \$17.50/AF plus variable costs. I requested 5,000 AF of this Pool B water, primarily with the intention of banking it. So the state is making plans to distribute surplus water, yet the allocation is far below what it should be. I can't explain it, I can't control it, yet we are subject to their decisions. Based on all of the above, I believe it is prudent to wait until we have a better handle on what our final allocation will be prior to preparing an operational plan for the year. My suspicion is that the allocation will increase dramatically in the near future and any worst case scenario planning we do would be for naught.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

TBD

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

#### RECOMMENDED MOTION

None – information only

#### ATTACHMENTS

A – Water System Summary 2016-2018

B – Estimate Supply and Demand 2019

Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District

Water System Summary - End of Year 2018

02/18/19  
Rev. 02

**SYSTEM SUPPLY**

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual
<b>SWP SUPPLY</b>			
Imported Water Alloc	11580	16405	6755
Previous Year Table A C/O	-18	4276	138
Previous Year C/O Spilled		-3029	0
DWR Multi-Year Pool	84	0	0
Article 21		1648	0
Other Supplies	1109	0	0
Misc. Transfer	-1017	0	3150
Agency Lease Water	95	135	0
Lower Kern River		2779	0
<b>Total SWP Available</b>	<b>11833</b>	<b>22214</b>	<b>10043</b>

**SWP TOTALS**

Imported Water Delivered	7557	10397	9995
Carryover to Next Year	4276	138	48
LKR Exchange ID4		1389	0
LKR Exchange TCCWD		1390	0
C/O Exchange ID4		4450	0
C/O Exchange TCCWD		4450	0
<b>Total SWP Accounted</b>	<b>11833</b>	<b>22214</b>	<b>10043</b>

**TCCWD PUMPED**

District Wells	2800	837	709
COT Purchased	0	180	547
BVCSD Purchased	28	0	0
SSCSD Purchased	31	77	177
GHCS D Purchased	11	12	2
<b>Total Pumped Supply</b>	<b>2870</b>	<b>1106</b>	<b>1435</b>

**TOTAL IN-DISTRICT SUPPLY**

Imported Water	7557	10397	9995
Pumped Water	2870	1106	1435
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>10427</b>	<b>11503</b>	<b>11430</b>

**WATER DELIVERED**

**REGULAR M&I**

Tehachapi Regular M&I	15	29	78
Brite Regular M&I	1	0	0
Cummings Regular M&I	2	21	2
<b>Total Regular M&amp;I</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>80</b>

**TERM M&I**

Tehachapi Term M&I	233	262	246
Cummings Term M&I	867	1109	1047
<b>Total Term M&amp;I</b>	<b>1100</b>	<b>1371</b>	<b>1293</b>

**AGRICULTURAL**

Tehachapi Ag	1347	1045	774
Brite Ag	327	355	400
Cummings Ag	4005	4019	3729
<b>Total Agricultural</b>	<b>5679</b>	<b>5419</b>	<b>4903</b>

**WHEELED WATER**

Tehachapi Wheeled	1514	1276	1469
<b>Total Wheeled</b>	<b>1514</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>1469</b>

<b>Total Delivered Water</b>	<b>8311</b>	<b>8116</b>	<b>7745</b>
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**RECHARGE/REPLENISHMENT**

Recharge Tehachapi	759	1763	1785
Recharge Golden Hills	367	627	469
Recharge Cummings	1009	1806	1973
<b>Total Recharge (Gross)</b>	<b>2135</b>	<b>4196</b>	<b>4227</b>

<b>Total Metered</b>	<b>9579</b>	<b>11203</b>	<b>10925</b>
<b>System Loss</b>	<b>8.14%</b>	<b>2.61%</b>	<b>4.42%</b>

**TABLE 1**  
**ESTIMATED SUPPLY & DEMAND - 2019**

Rev: 02  
Date: 02/18/19

DESCRIPTION	Existing	25%	35%	45%	55%
<b>SUPPLY</b>					
2019 Table "A" Allocation	2,895	4,825	6,755	8,685	10,615
2018 Table "A" Carryover	48				
<b>Total Surface Water Available</b>	2,943	4,873	6,803	8,733	10,663
ID4 - LKR	1,390				
ID4 - 2017 Table "A"	1,305				
Kern Water Bank	2,520				
<b>Total SJV Banked Available</b>	5,215				
Cummings Banked	11,567				
Tehachapi Banked	8,156				
<b>Total In-District Banked</b>	19,723				
<b>DEMAND</b>					
Cummings Regular M&I	10				
Tehachapi Regular M&I	50				
Brite Regular M&I	-				
<b>Total Regular M&amp;I</b>	60				
Cummings Term M&I	1,100				
Tehachapi Term M&I	250				
Brite Term M&I	-				
<b>Total Term M&amp;I</b>	1,350				
Cummings Ag	3,800				
Tehachapi Ag	800				
Brite Ag	350				
<b>Total Ag</b>	4,950				
<b>Total to Customers</b>	6,360				
Cummings Recharge Conj Use	1,000				
Tehachapi Recharge GH	450				
<b>Total Recharge</b>	1,450				
<b>Total Delivery</b>	7,810				
<b>System Losses (10%)</b>	781				
<b>Total Demand</b>	8,591				
<b>SJV Banking Withdrawal Required</b>	5,648	3,718	1,788	(142)	(2,072)

Additional Supply Sources (allocation TBD)

1. Article 21 - currently allocated 9 cfs = 126 AF/W
2. Turnback Pool Water
  - a. Pool A - amount requested = 10,000 - current allocation, March 6 notification
  - b. Pool B - 5,000 AF requested (banking opportunity) June notification