

Rules and Regulations Revisions Summary

9/10/2024

Chapter 3: Definitions

3.8 Certified Expanded Acres means a Groundwater Use Acre certified by the Board for the application of Groundwater, but an Allocation may not be granted.

3.25 Groundwater Use Period means a 3-year period for which an allocation is set.

3.27 Historically Irrigated Acres means acres irrigated with Groundwater one (1) year out of the previous five (5) years. Exemptions apply for federal programs.

Chapter 5: Well Permitting

Pumping Test

5.17 If permit application fails to meet point score, a pumping test may be used to provide the district with more hydrogeologic information.

5.17.3 24-hour pump test between the August 1st and September 30th.

5.17.7 The well must maintain 500gpm or more throughout the 24-hour period.

Wells using more than 400 acre-feet per year

5.18 reduced usage from 500 acre-feet per year to 400 acre-feet per year.

Chapter 6: Variances

6.2.5.2 Landowners and Water Well owners will have thirty (30) days to submit a written waiver of support or objection to a Variance application.

Chapter 7: Phase 1

7.1.1 Flowmeters will be required to be installed on all high-capacity wells District-wide.

7.1.1.1 All high-capacity wells located within the **northeast quarter** of a section must have a Flowmeter installed by **June 30, 2026**.

7.1.1.2 All high-capacity wells located within the **northwest quarter** of a section must have a Flowmeter installed by **June 30, 2027**.

7.1.1.3 All high-capacity wells located within the **southwest quarter** of a section must have a Flowmeter installed by **June 30, 2028**.

7.1.1.4 All high-capacity wells located within the **southeast quarter** of a section must have a Flowmeter installed by **June 30, 2029**.

7.1.4 & Chapters 14, 15, 16 District-wide allocation of a maximum of 48 acre-inches over a 3-year period for agricultural users.

7.1.2 Annual water use reports are required to be submitted to the NRD by February 1st every year. (chapter 12)

7.1.3.1 Groundwater can only be applied to certified irrigated acres. All irrigated acres must be certified by **December 31, 2024** (11.1).

7.1.5 Board designates sub-areas within the district (see map for sub-area boundaries).

- a. May adjust boundaries
- b. Well permit ranking system can be adjusted for each sub-area
 - i. Sub-areas 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and remaining area (0) minimum score increased to 225 points for well permit approval.
- c. Each sub-area can have different management options.

7.1.6 - 7.1.10 Description of the District's Static Water Level measuring procedures.

Chapter 8: Phase 2

8.1 A sub-area automatically goes into phase 2 when the median static water level of monitoring wells in that sub-area hit the median phase 2 trigger level for 3 consecutive years.

8.2.1 An immediate moratorium on new irrigation wells and expansion of irrigated acres

8.2.3 Allocation amounts set (chapter 14, 15, 16) initially a maximum of 36 acre-inches over a 3-year period.

8.2.6 Certified Expanded Acres – allows adding acres to be irrigated but the allocation amount does not change from the initial certification.

8.4 Will return to phase 1 when water level is above trigger for 3 consecutive years.

Chapter 9: Phase 3

9.1 A sub-area automatically goes to phase 3 when water level is 30% below phase 2 trigger level for 3 consecutive years.

9.3.1 Allocation amounts are reduced.

9.4 Certified Expanded Acres – allows adding acres to be irrigated but the allocation amount does not change from the initial certification.

Chapter 11: Certification of Acres

11.3.1 Certified acres will be acres that are physically irrigated with groundwater.

11.5 No pooling of certified irrigated acres is allowed.

11.6 No transfers of certified irrigated acres are allowed.

Chapter 12: Groundwater Use Reporting

12.3 Reports due February 1st annually.

Chapter 13: Flowmeters

13.9 District may provide cost-share for purchase, installation, maintenance, or repairs.

13.8 Flowmeters must be maintained by the District, a representative of the District, or anyone else with approval.

13.11.1 The NRD will develop a maintenance schedule for Flowmeters.

Chapters 14-16: Allocations

14.1.1, 16.1.1 Set by the board by January 1st for a 3-year period.

14.2.1.1, 16.1.1 10% allocation carryover maximum

14.2.2, 16.4.2 Overused allocation will be reduced by 2x the amount overused for the next 3 years. (uses 3 inches over, allocation is reduced by 6 inches for the next 3 years)

16.2 Other Users (LFOs, commercial/industrial, manufacturing,) restricted to their water use by the total amount used during the previous 3 years.