



RESOLUTION NO. 2021-11
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

**DECLARING A DROUGHT WITHIN THE DISTRICT'S SERVICE BOUNDARY,
AND ADOPTING STAGE I DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN PROCEDURES**

WHEREAS, Nevada Irrigation District (NID) provides water for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, municipal, environmental, fire protection and prevention purposes as well as other beneficial uses of water; and

WHEREAS, the current water year has resulted in drought conditions throughout the region, with precipitation being 54% or worse as compared to normal; and

WHEREAS, in the event of a shortage of water, the District is authorized, under Division 11 of the California Water Code, the District's rules and regulations, and other applicable laws, including and section 375 of the California Water code, to adopt such regulations and restrictions on water delivery to conserve the water supply for the protection of public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 water year was the start of multi-year dry conditions with precipitation at 70% of average, combined with early runoff, created increased withdrawals from storage, reducing end of year carryover storage to below average amounts which continued into 2021, and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2021, the District's Board of Directors declared a water surplus given the District's then-existing water supply conditions, including actual storage conditions, snowpack, and forecasted precipitation and runoff; and

WHEREAS, since March 10, 2021, water supply conditions have significantly deteriorated such that surplus water conditions no longer exist in the District, including a reduction in overall water supply of 24, 000 acre feet due to lack of precipitation, increased water demands due to unusually hot and dry conditions, and forecasted carryover storage to drop to levels not seen since 2001, and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom issued a State of Emergency Proclamation, stating that "much of the West is experiencing severe to exceptional

drought and California is in a second consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in drought or near-drought throughout many portions of the State” and “drought conditions vary across the State and some watersheds...are extremely dry and are facing substantial water supply and ecosystem challenge”; and

WHEREAS, following notice and public hearing, the District adopted its Ag Water Management Plan on April 14, 2021 which includes the Drought Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the current drought prevailing within the District's boundaries, and based on the snowpack in the District's watershed being approximately 72% of the April 1st average, the District forecasts that its water supplies, without undertaking drought reduction and mitigation efforts, will drop to low levels; and

WHEREAS, persistent drought conditions have negatively impacted, and continue to threaten, the District's recreational facilities, resulting in a decline in usage and resultant revenues needed to operate and maintain its recreational programs and facilities; and

WHEREAS, to assure continued supply of water for public health and safety, including domestic, irrigation, sanitation, environmental and fire prevention and suppression uses during this drought, it is necessary to impose restrictions relating to water delivery to the District's customers as specified in the Drought Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, such conservation measures must be imposed to ensure that NID has sufficient end-of-year reserves of water (carryover) in storage to protect its capacity to continue delivering water to all beneficial uses in the succeeding year should the current drought conditions continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District that for reasons set forth herein, a local drought emergency now exists throughout the District's service area, which includes portions of Nevada County, Placer County, and Yuba County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to conserve supplies, including carryover storage, required for various beneficial uses of water, and to preserve the health and safety of the customers of the District, there is hereby declared a condition of drought necessitating the implementation of Stage I of the District's Drought Contingency Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Interim General Manager is authorized to identify additional operational actions and request additional conservation measures as determined necessary to meet the needs of public health and safety. Additional conservation measures, as imposed, shall be specifically described and communicated to all customers through one or more of the following: newspaper, public posting, and website and reported to the Board of Directors at the next available board meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the target minimum carryover storage to be preserved for the 2022 water year shall be >110,000 acre feet for end of month October storage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that water use for domestic, municipal and industrial purposes by all District customers including wholesale customers shall observe the water use practices established in the Districts Drought Contingency Plan Stage I.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that irrigation water customers shall be subject to the following reduction measures as established in Stage I of the District's Drought Contingency Plan. Staff shall utilize the methods below to equitably reduce irrigation water deliveries in order to conserve supply, including maintenance of adequate carryover storage, as necessary for public health and safety:

- (a) All District irrigation water customers are strongly encouraged to implement irrigation efficiency practices.
- (b) New and increased irrigation water sales to in-District customers shall be subject to review and approval by Staff to confirm that the order is limited to the smallest amount of water necessary for the customer's beneficial use.
- (c) Outside District sales shall only be made to existing customers at current quantities and shall be subject to restriction or interruption at any time as needed to prevent harm or shortages to in-District customers and to ensure the District achieves its carryover storage target.
- (d) No new or increased water sales to outside District customers will be permitted.
- (e) Customers who request a reduction, or who voluntarily forego water delivery during the 2021 irrigation season will not lose their priority of service for 2022 allocations.
- (f) Availability of fall and new winter water sales will be at the discretion of the Interim General Manager based on storage carryover targets.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Nevada Irrigation District at a meeting duly called and held within the District on the 28th day of April 2021 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hull, Heck, Johansen, Peters, Bierwagen
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None
ABSTAINS: Directors: None



President of the Board of Directors

Attest:



Secretary to the Board of Directors