

**Appendix K**

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**CMWD Water Conservation Resolutions**

**CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING AND IMPLEMENTING  
A STAGE 3 WATER SUPPLY CONDITION  
FOR ALL CASITAS CUSTOMERS**

WHEREAS, during the drought experienced in the Ventura River watershed during the period of 1987 through 1990, the annual water demands from Lake Casitas escalated and temporarily exceeded the safe yield of the Lake Casitas water supply and water stored in Lake Casitas diminished from a full condition to approximately 50.2 percent of full lake capacity; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Casitas Municipal Water District (“Casitas”) concluded that the long-term demand upon Lake Casitas shall not exceed the safe yield of Lake Casitas and other Casitas sources of water supply; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Casitas adopted Ordinance 92-7, the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP), and Resolution 92-11, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which was implemented in the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service for all Casitas customers; and

WHEREAS, the application of water allocations, water conservation measures and progressive restrictions on water use set forth by the adopted Ordinance 92-7, the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP), and Resolution 92-11, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, are intended to provide to the water consumer an effective and immediately available means of conserving water in a manner that is essential to ensure a reliable and sustainable minimum supply of water for the public health, safety, and welfare and to preserve valuable limited water supply, avoid depleting water storage to an unacceptably low level, and thereby lessen the possibility of experiencing severe critical water shortages if dry conditions continue or worsen; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Casitas evaluated the safe yield of the Ventura River Project under the changed conditions imposed by the 2003 Biological Opinion, pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act, for the operations of the Robles Diversion and the inclusion of the change in water supply with the eventual removal of Matilija Dam, concluding that the safe yield of the Ventura River Project is significantly reduced as a result of these changing conditions and that alternative demand reduction measures may be required to balance long-term water supplies and water demands while meeting the needs of the environment; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Casitas prepared and adopted the 2005 Urban Water Management Plan that summarized information on present and future water resources and demands, provided water supply planning, provided water shortage contingency planning, and described

Casitas efforts to implement water conservation and efficient water uses for all Casitas' water customers; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Casitas implemented operational measures at the Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility to comply with the 2003 Biological Opinion for the restoration of the endangered steelhead trout in the Ventura River, and that the implementation of said operational measures lessened the quantities of water that could be diverted to and stored in Lake Casitas for beneficial uses, and thereby reducing the safe yield of the Ventura River Project; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the State of California enacted the Urban Water Management Planning Act (SB7X X) that legislated requirements for long-term water resources planning to ensure adequate water supplies to meet existing and future demands for water; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2011, in accordance with California Water Code §10620–10656, Casitas adopted the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan that further defined stages of action to achieve the balance between water supplies and demand through an equitable distribution of the existing water supplies, and to establish consumption limits in its water shortage contingency plan that would reduce water use; and

WHEREAS, the Casitas 2010 Urban Water Management Plan established that a Level Two Alert may result with conditions that cause a lowering of water stored in Lake Casitas to be at or near the 50% full; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2014, the Governor of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout California due to severe drought conditions that have persisted since 2012 and further proclaimed on April 25, 2014 that a Continued State of Emergency exists throughout California due to the ongoing drought; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proclamation called upon all Californians to reduce their water usage by 20 percent; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proclamation called upon local urban water suppliers and municipalities to implement any local water shortage contingency plans immediately in order to avoid or forestall outright restrictions that could become necessary later in the drought season; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2014, the Casitas Board proclaimed by Resolution 14-14 that drought conditions are stressing the groundwater and surface water supplies in western Ventura County to levels not seen in decades, and reaffirmed the Casitas 1992 Water Shortage Contingency Plan that sets a goal of a 20 percent voluntary reduction in water use; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Resolution No. 2014-0038 that implemented emergency regulations and actions to further reduce water demands of urban customers by the implementation of specific water waste prohibitions and required the implementation of water supplier's approved Water Shortage Contingency Plan at a stage that requires mandatory water use restrictions on outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 2014, Casitas adopted modifications to the Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance and the Casitas Water Shortage Contingency Plan to comply with the directives of the State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 2014-0038; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, the Governor of California issued Executive Order B-29-15, ordering that the State Water Resources Control Board impose restrictions to achieve a statewide 25% reduction in potable urban water usage through February 28, 2016, to lead a statewide initiative to collectively replace 50 million square feet of lawns and ornamental turf with drought tolerant landscapes, impose restrictions to require that commercial, industrial, and institutional properties immediately implement water efficiency measures to reduce potable water usage in an amount consistent with the statewide 25% reduction in water use, prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians, and prohibit irrigation with potable water outside of newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or microspray systems, and direct urban water suppliers to develop rate structures and other pricing mechanisms, including but not limited to surcharges, fees, and penalties, to maximize water conservation consistent with statewide water restrictions; and

WHEREAS, on April 11, 2015, the volume of water stored in Lake Casitas had declined to 50 percent of total storage capacity and the Board of Directors declared that a Stage 2 condition exists at Lake Casitas; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2015, the Casitas Board of Directors adopted revisions to the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program and directed staff to implement the Program that sets a goal of a 20 percent mandatory reduction in water use during the Stage 2 water supply condition at Lake ; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager has reported to the Board of Directors by memorandum dated April 4, 2016, that during the winter months of 2016 the Ventura River watershed continued to experience below normal rainfall that is a continuation of drought conditions that are likely to extend through the remainder of calendar year 2016, and possibly into future years; and

WHEREAS, the releases of water from Lake Casitas to the Casitas main conveyance system totaled 17,246 acre-feet, which is less than the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas (20,850

Acre-feet per year), such that on April 22, 2016, the storage level of water in Lake Casitas has declined to 41.7 percent and will continue to decline to less than 40 percent during the summer of 2016, until adequate rainfall and runoff reoccur in the local watersheds; and

WHEREAS, as the drought continues, groundwater sources will become depleted and the remaining Lake Casitas water supply will become a primary source of water to supplement uses that otherwise rely on local groundwater sources; and

WHEREAS, the Casitas Water Efficiency and Allocation Program identifies a decline to forty (40) percent of storage available in Lake Casitas as the Stage 3 condition and subject to water demand reduction measures to preserve the Lake Casitas water supply during a continuation of the drought; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 2 of the California Constitution declares that the general welfare requires that water resources be put to beneficial use, that waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented and that conservation of water be fully exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code, Section 375, authorizes a water supplier to adopt and enforce a comprehensive water conservation program to reduce water consumption and conserve water supplies; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code, Section 71611 provides that a district may sell water under its control, without preference, to cities, other public corporations and agencies, and persons, within the district for use within the district.

WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 71640 authorizes the governing body of a municipal water district to restrict the use of district water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and may prohibit the wastage of district water or the use of district water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as the district determines to be necessary, and may prohibit use of district water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 71642 authorizes the governing body of a municipal water district to find the existence or threat of a drought emergency or other threatened or existing water shortage, and that finding is prima facie evidence of the fact or matter so found, and such fact or matter shall be presumed to continue unchanged unless and until a contrary finding is made by the board by resolution or ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Water Code section 71641 and Government Code section 6061, the [District] must publish in a newspaper of general circulation any ordinance setting forth the restrictions, prohibitions, and exclusions determined to be necessary under Water Code section 71640 within 10 days after its adoption; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that: by of the Casitas Municipal Water District as follows:

- 1) Pursuant to Water Code section 71642, and for the reasons set forth herein, the Board continues with the determination of the existence or threat of a drought emergency or other water shortage condition; and
- 2) Pursuant to California Water Code Section 71611 and under the authority of Water Code Section 71640, any water that is delivered from Lake Casitas and the Casitas distribution system that is used outside the District boundaries is considered an unreasonable use and an unreasonable method of use; and
- 3) Casitas hereby declares that a Stage 3 water supply condition exists within the service area of the Casitas Municipal Water District; and
- 4) The Board of Directors hereby directs staff to take the following actions that are described in the 2015 Water Efficiency and Allocation Program for a Stage 3 condition in Lake Casitas, in the specified time, that include:
  - a) Effective upon adoption of this Resolution:
    - i. Continue with the Stage 1 and Stage 2 measures; and
    - ii. Expand and intensify the public information campaign within Casitas Municipal Water District that a mandatory reduction in water use is required during Stage 3 water supply conditions.
    - iii. Implement measures to inform and educate all water users within Casitas Municipal Water District as to methods for achieving the reduction in water use.
    - iv. Increase the current level of public outreach.
    - v. Develop a budget to support water conservation and Public outreach efforts.
  - b) Prior to July 1, 2016, bring forward to the Board of Directors recommendations to consider a moratorium or controlled issuance of new water service connection and allocations.

- c) Effective July 1, 2016, implement the following Stage 3 actions and measures:
  - i. Reduce the initial allocation of every customer by an additional ten (10) percent; and
  - ii. Maintain the same conservation penalties as adopted by the Board of Directors on July 22, 2015; and
  - iii. Restrict landscape irrigation watering to one day a week, such day to be specified by Casitas.
  
- 5) The Stage 3 water supply condition shall be presumed to continue unchanged unless and until a contrary finding is made by the Board by resolution or ordinance.

ADOPTED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016

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Peter Kaiser, President  
Casitas Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

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Jim Word, Secretary  
Casitas Municipal Water District

**CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**ORDINANCE NO. 15-02**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
ESTABLISHING WATER WASTE PROHIBITIONS**

THIS ORDINANCE is adopted in light of the following facts and circumstances, which are hereby found and declared by the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) Board of Directors:

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 2 of the California Constitution and Section 100 of the California Water Code declare that the general welfare requires water resources be put to beneficial use, therefore, waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and conservation of water be fully exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof.

WHEREAS, the adoption and enforcement of this Ordinance is necessary to help manage Casitas' potable water supply and to avoid or minimize the effects of drought within the Casitas service area.

WHEREAS, Casitas has the power to perform all acts necessary to fully carry out the provisions of this Ordinance consistent with Section 71640 and Sections 10608 through 10656 of the California Water Code.

WHEREAS, this Ordinance rescinds and replaces Casitas Municipal Water District Resolution No. 08-09, Resolution Approving a Water Waste Prohibition Regulation.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District as follows:

**1. TITLE.**

This Ordinance shall be known as the Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance.

**2. APPLICABILITY.**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all persons, corporations, public or private entities, governmental agencies or institutions, or any other direct water customers of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The water customers of other water purveyors shall be governed by the prohibitions that are adopted by the other water purveyors.

**3. PROHIBITED USES.**

A. The following uses of water are permanently prohibited and are in effect year round:

- a. **General Waste:** Indiscriminate running of water or washing with water which is wasteful and without reason or purpose.
- b. **Washing of Exterior Surfaces:** The washing of hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards or when

broom or other waterless device will not suffice. If necessary, washing may only be done with a bucket or similar container, a hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle, a pressure washer, a low-volume high pressure water efficient water broom, or a cleaning machine equipped to recycle the water used.

- c. **Cleaning of Structures and Vehicles:** The washing of building exteriors, mobile homes, cars, boats or recreational vehicles without the use of a positive shut-off nozzle on either the hose or pressure washer.
- d. **Watering/Irrigation Runoff Control:** The watering of grass, lawn, groundcover, shrubbery, open ground, crops and trees, including agricultural irrigation, in a manner or to an extent which allows water to run off the area being watered. Every water user is deemed to have under their control, at all times, their water distribution lines and facilities, and to know the manner and extent of their water use and run off.
- e. **Limits on Watering Hours:** The watering or irrigating of outdoor ornamental landscapes and turf areas between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on any day. (Does not apply to irrigation systems that use drip-irrigation and weather-based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard. Exceptions may be authorized by the General Manager where there is no ability to not water between 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).
- f. **Watering During Rainfall:** The watering of grass, lawn, groundcover, shrubbery, open ground, crops and trees, including agricultural irrigation, at any time while it is raining.
- g. **Drought Restrictions:** Watering/irrigating during publicly declared curtailment period in a manner that is not compliant with drought restrictions.
- h. **Plumbing Leaks:** The escape of water through leaks, breaks, or malfunctions within the water user's plumbing or distribution system, for a substantial period of time within which such break or leak should reasonably have been discovered and corrected.
- i. **Fountains and Decorative Water Features:** The operation of any ornamental fountain using water from the District's domestic water system unless water for such use is re-circulated.
- j. **Cooling:** The use of water in mechanical equipment purchased and installed after the adoption of this Ordinance that utilizes a single pass cooling system. Water used for all cooling purposes shall be re-circulated.
- k. **Drinking Water Served Upon Request Only:** Eating and drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, clubs or other public places where food or drinks are sold or served, are prohibited from providing drinking water to customers unless expressly requested. Affected establishments must prominently display notice informing their customers of this requirement using clear and easily understood language.
- l. **Restaurant Non-water Conserving Dish Wash Spray Valves:** Food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are prohibited from using non-water conserving dish wash spray valves.
- m. **Providing Option to Not Launder Linen and Towels Daily:** Hotels, motels, vacation rentals and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.

- n. **Commercial Car Wash Systems:** Installation of non-recirculating water systems is prohibited in new or renovations of commercial conveyor car washes systems.
- o. **Turf Irrigation Restrictions:** Irrigating turf or ornamental landscapes during and 48 hours following measurable precipitation.

**4. EXEMPTED WATER USES.**

- A. All water use associated with the operation and maintenance of fire suppression equipment or employed by the District for water quality flushing and sanitation purposes shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.
- B. Use of water supplied by gray water or rainwater collection system is also exempt; however, use of water from these systems is not exempt from the applicable regulations of the State and local jurisdictions governing the use of such water.
- C. Supervised testing, adjusting, or repairing of irrigation systems is allowed any time for no more than five (5) minutes per station.

**5. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.**

- A. Any person, who uses, causes to be used, or permits the use of water in violation of this Ordinance is guilty of an offense punishable as provided herein.
- B. **Enforcement of Violation.** Complaints of water waste will be investigated and enforced by the District in the form of a notice of violation. The following officers and employees of the Casitas Municipal Water district are hereby designated and authorized to issue citations for enforcement of this Ordinance:
  - Operations and Maintenance Manager
  - Public Affairs/Resource Manager
  - Water Conservation Coordinator
  - Utility Workers
  - Water employees designated by the General Manager
- C. **Notice of Violation.** The notice to the District water customer of a violation of this Ordinance will be issued by either a telephone call, mail, hand-delivery, or posting at the entrance of the violator's premises. The District will issue a written notice that state the time, place, and general description of the violation or repeat of violation, as well as a time frame in which the violation must be corrected. District staff may use discretion when determining the correction time.
- D. **Consequence of Violation.** Administrative fines and water service actions may be levied and applied for each violation of a provision of this Ordinance as follows:

- 1. **Penalties:** Penalties for failure to comply with any provision of the ordinance are as follows:
  - a. **First Violation:** The District will issue a written notice to the water customer and attach a copy of this Ordinance.
  - b. **Second Violation:** If the first violation is not corrected within the time frame specified by the District, or if a second violation occurs within the following twelve (12) months after the first violation notice, a second notice of violation will be issued and an administrative fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be levied for the second violation of this Ordinance.

- c. **Third Violation:** A third violation within the following twelve (12) months after the date of issuance of the second notice of violation is punishable by an administrative fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).
  - d. **Fourth and Subsequent Violations:** Each day that a violation of this Ordinance occurs beyond the remedy allowance provided in the third notice of violation is a separate offense, subject to any or all of the following penalties:
    1. Water service may be turned off or flow may be restricted. Where water service is turned off or flow restricted, it shall be turned on or unrestricted upon correction of the violation and the payment of the reestablishment charges, staff time, and District material purchases per the District's Rates and Regulations for Water Service in effect at the time.
    2. A fine of not more than \$600 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or both the fine and imprisonment, may be imposed upon conviction under Section 71644 of the California Water Code, or fines/ penalties as defined and allowable under Section 53069.4 of the Government Code may be imposed.
  - e. **Payment of Administrative Fines:** The water customer is responsible for the full payment of administrative fines. Each administrative fine shall be applied in the customer's regular water billing. Payment of the administrative fine will be the final responsibility of the individual named on the water account. Non-payment of fines will be subject to the same remedies as non-payment of basic water rates, in accordance with the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service.
3. **Appeal:** Any customer against whom a penalty is levied pursuant to this Ordinance shall have the right to appeal as follows:
- a. The customer request for an appeal consideration must be in writing, legible, and received by the General Manager within ten (10) calendar days of the issuance of the notice of violation to the customer. Any determination not timely appealed shall be deemed final. The written request for appeal consideration shall include:
    - i. A description of the issue,
    - ii. Evidence supporting the appeal, and
    - iii. A request for resolution of the dispute.
  - b. The General Manager will review the material submitted and make an independent determination of the issue, which shall be mailed to the customer within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the request for appeal.
  - c. The General Manager's determination may be appealed in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the mailing of the notice of determination. The appeal of the General Manager's determination shall be heard and considered by the Board of Directors at an upcoming regular meeting of the Board. Notice of the hearing shall be mailed to the customer at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the date of the appeal hearing. The Board may, in its discretion affirm, reverse, or modify the determination. The Board's determination is final.

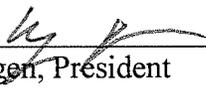
6. **SEVERABILITY.** If any competent court shall find any portion of this Ordinance unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other portion thereof.

7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance becomes effective this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2015.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District held on April 22, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES: Word, Baggerly, Kaiser, Bergen  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Hicks  
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bergen, President  
Casitas Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Baggerly, Secretary  
Casitas Municipal Water District

CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 15-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
SETTING CONSERVATION PENALTY FOR EXCESSIVE WATER USE  
PURSUANT TO WATER CODE SECTION 372, ET. SEQ.

**WHEREAS**, on June 10, 2015, the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District adopted the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program that established an allocation-based conservation water structure; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Water Code Section 372 et seq, the District may impose a conservation charge on all increments of water use in excess of the basic use allocation.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District ordains as follows:

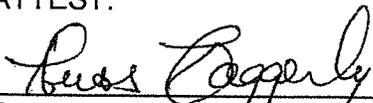
A conservation penalty, imposed as a regulatory charge, be set at \$1.00 per unit of water be applied to monthly water use by a Casitas Residential and Multi-residential classification customer that is in excess of the individual customer's assigned monthly water allocation be set at \$1.00 for each unit that is in excess of the monthly allocation. The conservation penalty shall be billed monthly.

A conservation penalty, imposed as a regulatory charge, of \$0.25 be applied to each unit of water use that is in excess of the assigned annual allocation to individual customers of the Agricultural, Agricultural-domestic, Industrial, Business, Inter-departmental, Other, and Resale classifications. The conservation penalty shall be billed at the end of the fiscal year to each individual customer that has accrued an excess water use.

ADOPTED this 22<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bergen, President  
Casitas Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Baggerly, Secretary  
Casitas Municipal Water District

# **WATER EFFICIENCY AND ALLOCATION PROGRAM**

## **Casitas Municipal Water District**

**June 10, 2015**

### **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

In 1992 the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) adopted a series of ordinances, resolutions, and a Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP) in response to the increasing water demands and declining water storage in Lake Casitas experienced during the 1987-1991 drought period. The collective work in 1992 set the starting point for a system of water allocation assignments and demand response criteria that are based on the level of water storage in Lake Casitas. Since 1992, there has been a significant outreach by Casitas to raise the public's awareness on the importance to conserve local water supplies, changes in the water supply and demand, regulatory compliance directives pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and system outage events that temporarily activated Casitas' emergency response plan. All of these factors, including the responses and experiences of the current drought, are considered in the update of the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

#### **1.1 Purpose and Principles of the Plan.**

The purpose of this update of the WEAP is to provide guidance on water supply and demand strategies that (1) conserve the water supply of the Ventura River Project, Lake Casitas and other water resources that are in the direct control of Casitas, for the greatest public benefit, (2) mitigate the effects of a water shortage on public health and safety and economic activity, (3) allocate water use so that a reliable and sustainable supply of water will be available for the most essential purposes under all water storage conditions of Lake Casitas, and (4) adapt to changing conditions of water supply demand and constraints.

The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address future water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a conservation penalty to customers who waste water.

#### **1.2 Relationship between this Document, Water Codes, and Other Plans.**

This WEAP shall be guided by State regulations and planning requirements as provided by the California Water Code that provides Casitas with broad powers to implement and enforce regulations and restrictions for managing a water shortage (§71640-71644), to implement water conservation programs (§375--378), to implement allocation-based conservation water pricing (§370-374), and to declare a water shortage emergency (§350-359).

As required by Water Code Section 10632, this WEAP shall be integrated as a part of the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), as amended or updated every five years. The Casitas 2010 UWMP has been accepted and approved by the State Department of Water Resources. The UWMP provides an in-depth description of the Casitas water system, water resources and demands, and water supply reliability. For the purposes of integration and lessening the conflicts due to the replication of

information, the WEAP shall rely on the updates of the Water Code Sections provided in the attached Appendices and UWMP, as amended or updated every five years.

## **SECTION 2: WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND CONDITIONS**

### **2.1 Water Supply.**

The water supply for Casitas is derived from (1) the watersheds that flow directly and indirectly by diversion from the Ventura River of water during wet years to carryover storage in Lake Casitas for use during dry years, and (2) groundwater to the extent that Casitas has its own groundwater supply. The watersheds of the Ventura River region are subject to an extreme variation in the weather patterns, ranging from multiple years of drought to sometimes significant wet year events that are associated with El Nino conditions that add to the uncertainty of available local water supplies.

#### **2.1.1 Surface Water.**

The primary goal of Casitas is to provide a safe and reliable water supply. Due to the uncertainty of weather conditions that provide water to the local watersheds, a safe yield modeling has been implemented to provide guidance on water supply availability. The safe yield modeling criteria for the Casitas surface water supply provides a theoretical rate of decline in available water supply during a critical drought period, that if given a specific annual extraction rate from storage, that would reduce Lake Casitas to an exhausted minimum pool.

The sizing of Lake Casitas storage volume and the determination of the annual safe yield of water from Lake Casitas was originally determined by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1954, based on the hydrologic modeling for the critical drought period that started in 1919 and continued through 1936. The storage volume of the off stream reservoir, Lake Casitas, was set to be 254,000 acre-feet and the annual safe yield was determined to be 28,000 acre-feet. In 2004, Casitas recalculated the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas for the drought period of 1944 to 1965 based on newer knowledge of the diminished value of Matilija Reservoir and its impending removal, and the change in Robles Diversion operations resulting from the 2003 Biological Opinion established by the National Marine Fisheries Service pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act. The recalculated annual safe yield of Lake Casitas was determined to be 20,840 acre-feet per year.

The safe yield trend for the 1944-1965 critical drought period is illustrated in Figure 1, with the assumption that the critical drought period begins with a full reservoir. The modeling applies the hydrology, river diversions operations, and lake evaporation for the period (1944-1965) that contribute to the Lake Casitas storage. The safe yield is a constant extraction rate from lake storage that contribute to the decline in Lake Casitas storage during the critical drought period, taking lake storage from full capacity to a minimum pool condition. Based on the safe yield model with a continuous and steady extraction rate, or safe yield, of water at 20,840 acre-feet each year, Lake Casitas would decline from full storage to minimum pool in approximately twenty years.

Also included in Figure 1 is the Recovery Period of Lake Casitas, which illustrates the actual filling rate experienced at Lake Casitas during the 1959 to 1978 period. The recovery of the Lake Casitas volume during the Recovery Period that is illustrated in Figure 1 cannot be assumed as the normal or common sequence given the variability of the rainfall amounts in the Ventura River watershed, constraints, and other influences to Lake Casitas inflow and storage. Casitas may experience elevated water supply risks that could be associated with a delay in the start of the recovery period

while at minimum pool in Lake Casitas, or there could be a condition where the critical drought period begins with a partially recovered storage level in Lake Casitas.

The availability of the Lake Casitas supply can be influenced or impacted by long-term droughts, changes to lake water quality, and/or changes to diversion and storage conditions. The safe yield of Lake Casitas and annual water availability may need to be reconsidered in the future as a result of changing conditions or new information that differs from the present conditions.

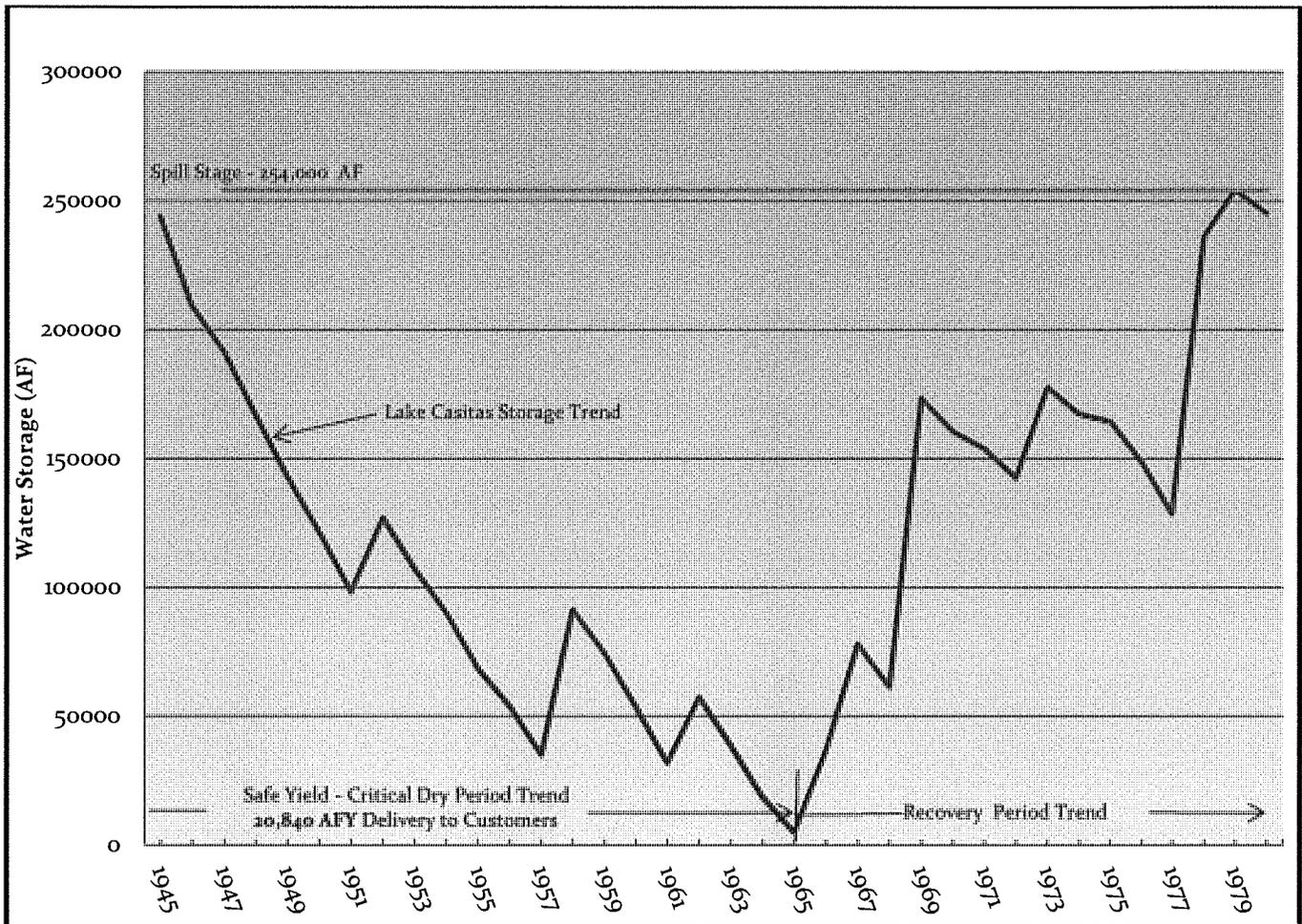


Figure 1 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage and Recovery Period Trends

### 2.1.2 Groundwater.

Within Casitas’ district boundaries, there are several local groundwater basins that are primary and critical sources of water supply for other local water purveyors (public, mutual and private), individual residential use and agriculture. During extended periods of drought with several years of less than average rainfall (20-inches) the local groundwater basins can become depleted due to pumping, natural drainage and evapotranspiration. The Lake Casitas surface water supply serves as a back-up water supply to the groundwater supply during times of extended drought.

Table 1 – Groundwater Basins of the Ventura River Watershed

Groundwater Basin	Acres	Max. Capacity (AF)	Approx. Safe Yield (AF/Yr.)
Upper Ojai	2,840	5,681	Unavailable
Ojai Valley	6,471	85,000	5,026
Upper Ventura River	9,360	35,118	9,482
Lower Ventura River	6,090	8,743	2,130

Source: Ventura River Watershed Council

The groundwater basins have demonstrated an ability to recharge rapidly in any one year with sufficient rainfall events, upon which time groundwater becomes the preferred source for those with well pumping access to the groundwater basins.

## 2.2 Water Demand.

The Casitas Board of Directors has established that the average long-term demand upon Lake Casitas must not exceed the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas supply. As a result of the 1987-1991, multi-year drought that resulted in water demands exceeding the annual safe yield, Casitas implemented specific actions in 1992 to limit water demands. The actions included the declaration of a voluntary twenty percent reduction in water demand, the assignment of water allocations based on 80 percent of FY1989-90 water usage that reflects a reduction in demand that comports more closely to safe yield of the Lake Casitas Supply, the implementation of water conservation measures to assist water users in adapting to less water consumption, and the limiting of new water service connections and expansions of agricultural plantings. Table 2 provides a comparison of classification water use, from prior to the action being taken by Casitas, to the level of water use during the recent drought. The FY 1989-90 water demand is recognized as being a high extreme water demand year at the end of the four year drought period.

Table 2 – Water Use Comparison by Customer Classification

Classification	No. of Service Connections		Water Demand – Lake Casitas (AF)		
	FY 1989-90	FY 2013-14	FY 1989-90	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14
Residential	2424	2700	1603	1678	1738
Business	93	108	821	663	724
Industrial	12	9	155	23	22
Other	33	41	530	244	255
Resale Gravity	8	8	7724	4642	5614
Resale Pumped	15	15	1027	551	1182
Irrigation	253	251	11706	7978	9385
Interdepartmental	21	21	343	120	119
Temporary			11	13	55
Total	2,859	3,153	23,909	15,899	19,094

The local groundwater resources of the Ojai Valley and Ventura River provide on average 7,385 acre-feet per year (Daniel B. Stephens, 2010) to municipal, residential and agricultural pumpers. During multiple dry years, the groundwater basins become depleted and groundwater demands are met by supplementing groundwater supply from the Lake Casitas supply. In most cases, groundwater pumpers have a water service connection to Casitas as a backup supply of water. During any year or multiple dry year sequence of less than average rainfall, Casitas can anticipate that a portion of the 7,385 acre-feet of groundwater demand may be supplemented by the Lake Casitas supply. When

groundwater basins are restored by rainfall events, groundwater pumpers convert back to the less expensive groundwater supply. The demand shifts are illustrated in Table 2 and Figure 2 for various classifications of water consumers. The FY 1989-90 and FY 2013-14 water demands occurred at the end of a three-year drought sequence.

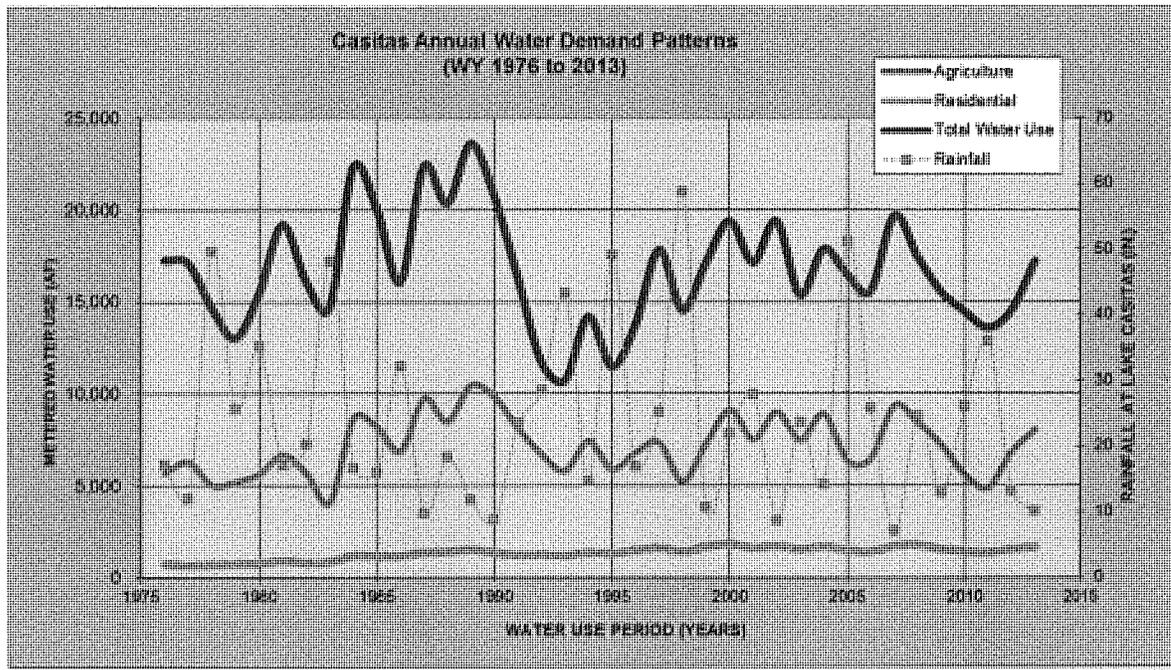


Figure 2 – Casitas Annual Demand Patterns

### 2.3 Priorities of Water Use.

Casitas recognizes the following priorities for potable water:

- 1) Public safety, health and sanitation;
- 2) Economic sustainability; and
- 3) Quality of life for the district’s customers.

Within each of the customer classifications there may be water uses that are considered non-essential to public health and sanitation and may have no significant impact to the economic productivity of the western Ventura County. The non-essential water uses may be asked at any time to be curtailed during times of extreme water shortages.

Casitas recognizes that the agricultural crops in western Ventura County are primarily tree orchards that require a substantial period of time before becoming productive, and if fallowed will experience several years of non-production. To maintain water supplies into the future that will meet the local water demands, Casitas and the public may be faced with additional decisions on water use reductions that may impact the agricultural classification.

## **SECTION 3: WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY ACTIONS**

### 3.1 Urban Water Contingency Analysis.

Water Code 10632 requires that the agency’s Urban Water Management Plan provide an urban water shortage contingency analysis that includes specific elements that are within the authority of the

urban water supplier. The required water shortage analysis is performed in the Casitas 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, and is further supported by this WEAP and the Casitas Emergency Response Plan, as amended.

### **3.2 Water Shortage Emergencies.**

Water Code §350-359 provides that the governing body of a distributor of a public water supply may declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the service area whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands cannot be satisfied without depleting water supplies to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption. When deemed as a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code 350, Casitas shall follow the procedures provided by the Water Code in the implementation of the water shortage declaration and actions.

The State of California, through its authority under the Water Code and Government Code, may declare a water shortage emergency and require curtailment of water use that is above and beyond the requirements of the Casitas WEAP. Customers of Casitas must respond and comply with the orders of the State in a timely manner. A failure to comply may cause the State to impose fines and penalties that will be redistributed to the customers of Casitas in a manner determined by the Casitas Board of Directors.

### **3.3 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.**

The District has prepared a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Resolution 92-11), and further defined in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan, that addresses emergencies under short-term, catastrophic events, and long-term water shortages that may occur as a result of a prolonged drought.

A water shortage emergency may be determined to exist in the event of a short-term interruption of water supply or as a result of long-term diminishment of the Lake Casitas water supply. A short-term interruption of water supply can be the result of earthquakes, regional power outages, landslides, or other major and minor events that impact Casitas water facilities or supply. These events are more often a short term interruption of water supplies until the water system can be restored to the customers. A long-term or district-wide condition may be the result of drought conditions or a reduction in local water supplies that will require long-term water supply-demand management.

The Casitas response to a short-term interruption of water supply may cause the implementation of the Casitas Emergency Action Plan that is structured under the State's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), in coordination with federal, state and county emergency response planning that provides the framework for an organized response to catastrophic events.

### **3.4 Water Waste Prohibitions on Certain Uses.**

Water Code § 71640 provides the District the authority to restrict the use of district water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and the district may prohibit the wastage of district water or the use of district water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as the district determines to be necessary. The District may also prohibit use of district water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential.

## SECTION 4: STRATEGY FOR MANAGED WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND

### 4.1 Strategy Principles.

The communities and rural agricultural areas of western Ventura County recognize that there is a reliance on limited local groundwater and surface water supply to serve all of the beneficial uses within the District, and there is a local responsibility required to sustain those supplies during extended drought periods. The continuous implementation of water conservation education and measures (Best Management Practices) has had a significant influence on the beneficial use and sustainability of local water supplies. Ongoing water conservation efforts can ease the impact on normal activities during drought periods, but may not completely eliminate the need for reductions in water use during periods when Lake Casitas water supplies are severely impacted by extended drought. The main mechanism to respond to water supply conditions is to rely on informed customers working in partnership with Casitas to limit water use to no more than the assigned water allocation and support the water use limitations with appropriate conservation penalties for water use in excess of the assigned, or adjusted, allocation.

To address the water shortage risk that may occur during an extended drought, the Casitas Board established in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan of 1995 a series of five storage levels of Lake Casitas at which the Board could take actions to restrict the annual water extractions from Lake Casitas. The safe yield trend and the five stages of restrictive actions are illustrated in Figure 3.

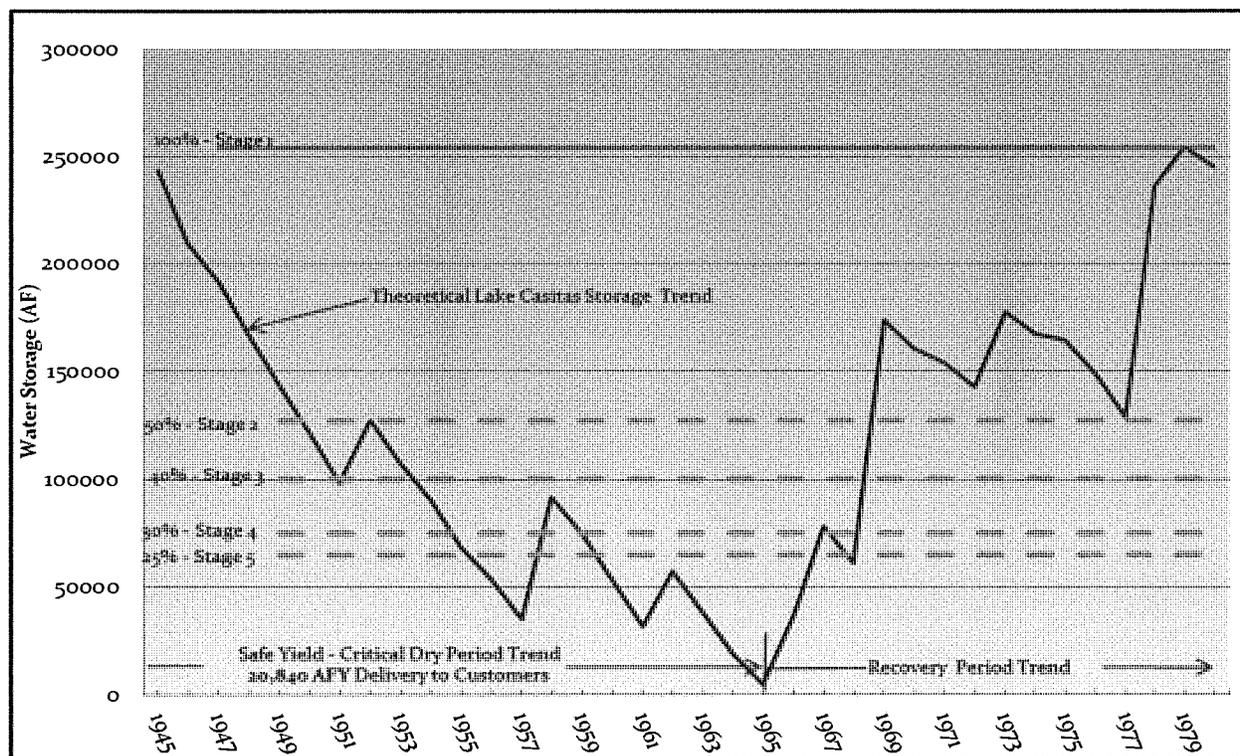


Figure 3 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage Trend and Stages for Demand Reduction

### 4.2 Water Allocation Principles.

Each and every water service provided by Casitas is metered and a basic water use allocation is established for each customer account that provides a reasonable amount of water for the customer's

needs and property characteristics (WC § 372). The following principles are to be followed for the Casitas water allocations:

- 1) Each Casitas water service shall be assigned either a monthly water allocation in the terms of Units or an annual water allocation in terms of Units and Acre-feet.
- 2) Allocation shall not mean an entitlement or imply water rights in favor of the customer.
- 3) The assignment of allocations shall be based on reasonable and necessary water use, the application of water conservation practices and standards, and other relevant factors associated with water use during Stage 1 conditions at Lake Casitas.
- 4) The Casitas Board of Directors reserve the right to make individual allocation assignments and to change water allocations at any time within each classification based on the changes to the availability of water stored in Lake Casitas, changes in water use that appears to compromise the reliability of the Lake Casitas water supply, and changes in water conservation practices and standards.
- 5) Water allocations provided by Casitas are assigned to property or water purveyors and are not transferrable from one property or water purveyor to another.
- 6) Casitas' water allocations shall not be sold, exported, bartered or traded by or between Casitas' customers.
- 7) Casitas water allocated shall not be transported from the property or by any agency served to any other property or agency without prior written agreement with Casitas.

#### **4.3 Allocation Assignments to Water Service Classifications.**

Casitas has established the definitions of water customer classifications as provided by the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service and has made specific allocation assignments to each and every water account by either (1) written agreement, or (2) the application of historical water use data, or (3) the application of documented water use standards. Where deemed necessary by Casitas, Casitas may perform site specific water use audits and survey to determine the appropriate level of allocation to be assigned to any one service connection or customer. Water allocations may change by action of the Casitas Board of Directors based on the Lake Casitas storage level or trend, water use trends, and the performance by customer classification in meeting water consumption reduction goals.

The following subsections describe the method used to assign the water allocation for each classification of water service at **Stage 1** condition:

##### **Business**

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of the historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

##### **Fire**

There is no water allocation for the Fire classification. This water use is for emergency only, and not a part of a continuing annual water use.

### **Industrial**

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

### **Interdepartmental**

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an annual allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) The **annual** allocations for individual Interdepartmental classification services shall be based on the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

### **Irrigation (Commercial Agriculture)**

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) Qualifying acreage for each Irrigation account shall be limited to acreage that can be identified as under irrigation prior to March 1, 1992. There will be no allocation for irrigation acreage that has been expanded after March 1, 1992, except as otherwise approved in written and recorded agreement between Casitas and the property owner. Casitas' records and mapping will be the standard for the identification of lands in irrigation prior to March 1, 1992.
- 3) Allocation assignments to lands served by multiple meter services shall consider the proportion of the allocation that each meter is intended to serve. The aggregation of meter readings and allocations from multiple meters shall not be allowed.
- 4) The Stage 1 water allocation assigned to each Irrigation water account is the greater volume of either (1) the water use recorded at each meter service during fiscal year 2012-13 or (2) eighty (80) percent of recorded water volume metered to the account in fiscal year 1989-90, neither of which shall exceed a water volume of 3 acre-feet per acre applied to the qualifying acreage.
- 5) The residential water use for Agricultural/Domestic classification that is directly associated with the Irrigation shall be considered as Irrigation for purpose of allocation assignments and meeting the demand reduction requirements for Irrigation.

### **Multi-Family Residential**

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Multi-Family Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Multi-Family Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **84 units per year per dwelling**, distributed evenly each month as 7 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.

- 5) The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.17	.17	.12	.05	.05	.05	.02	.02	.02	.10	.10	.12

The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.

- 6) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
- a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **84 units per year per year per dwelling**, and be constant for each month of the year;
  - b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on a maximum limit of 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
    - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
    - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
    - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;

### Other

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption of either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

### Resale

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) The Stage 1 allocation for each individual Resale customer shall be mutually agreed to by each water agency and Casitas, be incorporated into a memorandum of understanding (MOU), and assigned to provide water to supplement the Resale agency's primary source of water supply. An annual adjustment to the allocation assignment may be a condition of the MOU.
- 3) An objective of a MOU is to achieve parity between the Resale agency customers and Casitas customers in applying similar overall water use restrictions and financial penalties in each Stage.
- 4) The Resale agency shall determine the reliability of its water sources and ensure that the annual water requirements from Casitas do not exceed their annual water allocation from Casitas.
- 5) The allocation assignment from Casitas shall not be used by the Resale agency for growth within the Resale service area, unless additional allocation for growth is authorized by written agreement with Casitas.
- 6) The Resale agency shall implement water conservation measures in accordance with the State's or California Urban Water Conservation Council's Best Management Practices, responsibly maintain water system metering and pipeline systems to reduce water losses, and when necessary or when asked to do so, implement water demand reduction measures similar

to or more restrictive than those imposed by Casitas to assure the continued availability of water for health and safety purposes.

**Residential**

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Residential Allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **120 units per year**, distributed evenly each month as 10 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.
- 5) The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.17	.17	.13	.05	.05	.05	.02	.02	.02	.10	.10	.12

The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.

- 6) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
  - a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **120 units per year**, and be constant for each month of the year;
  - b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on actual irrigated landscape area of the parcel with a maximum limit to 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
    - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
    - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
    - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;

**Temporary**

- 1) There is no water allocation assigned for the Temporary classification. Temporary water service is not property related on a permanent basis.
- 2) Temporary water use is limited for a short-term of six months or less, for such purposes as construction projects, or short-term water supply emergencies, or temporary backup water to non-metered agricultural parcels.
- 3) Temporary meters that are issued to serve supplemental commercial irrigation shall be temporarily allocated water based on the allocation assignment provided at the time of the application for the Temporary service based on the same water use standards as provided for the Irrigation classification, and reduced by Stage conditions,. The allocation does not extend beyond the period of the temporary water service application of six (6) months, unless the Casitas Board of Directors approves a limited continuance of the temporary service.

#### **4.4 Allocation Adjustments.**

A Casitas customer may request the reconsideration of their initial assigned Stage 1 water allocation within 60 days of the adoption of the WEAP where the request does not include a consideration for either an expansion in the area of use or new construction. The customer shall submit a water allocation adjustment application in order to have their request considered by the General Manager of the District. The information contained on the application may be subject to an audit and, if necessary, additional documentation may be required in order to substantiate the requested adjustment.

Adjustments to water allocations that have been assigned through a recorded Water Service Agreement between the property owner, or prior property owner, and Casitas must proceed through an amendatory agreement, will be subject to the capital facility charges for the amount of water provided as the allocation adjustment, and subject to the availability of water allocations.

Adjustments to water allocations will not be granted in amounts that exceed 80 percent of the FY 1989-90 metered usage of water by the meter service account without prior Board approval.

#### **4.5 Standards for a Water Allocation Adjustment.**

Water allocation adjustments may be considered by Casitas during initiation of the WEAP that appropriately assigns a Stage 1 allocation, to ensure that the needs of the water customer are reasonably balanced against the purpose of this Plan.

Water allocations may be considered for adjustment for:

- a. Correction of irrigable area square footage;
- b. Correction of number of dwelling units (Multi-family accounts only);
- c. Exemption granted for a licensed in-home childcare or elderly care facility;

Water allocations will not be adjusted to accommodate:

- a. Pools, ponds, spas, or hot tubs;
- b. In-home businesses or hobbies that use an increased amount of water;
- c. Gardens and orchards;
- d. Homeowner's Association requirements for turf areas in excess of that water allocation specified by Casitas for a Residential classification;
- e. Where an allocation has been assigned through a recorded agreement.

Agricultural Irrigation Allocation Adjustment Standards:

- a. Limited to acreage planted in commercial agricultural production prior to March 1, 1992. Casitas shall also consider the assignment of an appropriate allocation to lands that are verified as being in a crop rotation status, or temporarily in a fallowed state, having been in a planted status prior to March 1, 1992.
- b. Comparative (same crop type and average use of various parcels) crop usage in FY2012-13 for full irrigation, not to exceed 3 AF/AC/YR, which is located within a 1-mile circumference of the parcel seeking the appeal for a change in water allocation.

#### **4.6 Appeals Process.**

Customers that are denied an adjustment of water allocation may request a review of the request by submitting a written appeal to the Casitas Water Resources Manager stating the nature of the appeal. The appeal shall be reviewed by the Casitas Water Resources Manager and a recommendation shall be reported to the General Manager. The decision of the General Manager shall be reported to the customer in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager's decision, the customer must request within 10 days that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors. The determination by the Board of Directors shall be final.

#### **4.7 Availability of Allocations.**

The determination of supplies being available for issuance of new allocations of water shall be made upon staff recommendation at a regular Board of Directors meeting. The determination that water is or is not available shall be within the determination of the Board of Directors. The determination that a supply is available shall be based upon more detailed information about existing supplies, the availability of new supplies, new water supply projects, or contracts or proposed contracts for additional supplies where, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the supply of water is definite enough to provide the assurance to the County of Ventura that there is a forty year supply.

#### **4.8 Allocation for New or Expanded Water Uses.**

A customer may request a change to a water allocation assignment for the purposes of obtaining new or expanded use of water that is associated with a new building permit, new or existing conditional use permit, or agricultural irrigation acreage expansion. The approval of an addition or change to the water allocation for new and/or expanded water allocation is subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water allocation.

When the Board of Directors determine that additional new water supplies are available, either from the safe yield of the existing CMWD project supply or additional new supplies, supplies shall be allocated in accordance with the following criteria:

- a) No single property owner or applicant for the given type of service (municipal, industrial or agricultural) shall receive a new water allocation greater than 10 percent of the total new available supply or the minimum standard residential allocation, whichever is greater. If the applicant's allocation requirements are not fully met, the applicant may maintain a position of priority until more water is available.
- b) All applicants seeking an allocation shall provide Casitas with a detailed description of the project, the use of water for which the water is sought, and information on peak flow and annual water requirements. Casitas shall determine meter size and amount of allocation based upon reasonable and necessary needs and Casitas' Rates and Regulations.
- c) The amount of water to be allocated shall be at Casitas' sole discretion. The assignment of an allocation shall be limited to the availability of water from the Lake Casitas safe yield, and be based on current water demand factors as adopted by the District and as amended. The amount of water required for the project may be calculated and submitted for the

consideration of Casitas by a civil engineer, registered in the State of California, representing the project proponent.

**SECTION 5: STAGED DEMAND REDUCTION IMPLEMENTATION**

**5.1 Staged Demand Reduction Principles.**

The primary source of water that is available to the Casitas Municipal Water District is the amount of water stored behind Casitas Dam, forming Lake Casitas. The quantity of water stored in Lake Casitas is dependent upon the local hydrology, watershed conditions, diversions from the Ventura River, and the outflow from lake evaporation and water deliveries to beneficial uses. There may be times during which Casitas must consider implementing staged water demand reductions to ensure a sustainable water supply and prevent a complete depletion of water supply in Lake Casitas.

The District has assigned five stages of water storage in Lake Casitas that serve as a guidance to triggering the implementation of water use reduction goals and measures. The overarching goals of the Staged Demand Reduction Program are:

- 1) conserving the water supply for the greatest priority and public benefit; and
- 2) mitigating the effects of a water shortage on public health, safety, and economic activity.

**5.2 Water Resource Conditions and Actions.**

The General Manager shall report to the Board of Directors each year (*April*) with an assessment of the current water storage in Lake Casitas and local groundwater basins, current water use trends, predicted weather conditions, and an evaluation of current water use reduction goals. The time of the reporting can be each April, as the rainfall season is ending and water resources can be evaluated at the maximum for the year, or as Lake Casitas storage reaches a change in Stage action level. The Board of Directors may, at their sole discretion, declare that a Stage condition of water supply in Lake Casitas exists and implement the appropriate demand reduction goals and measures in response to current and/or predicted water availability conditions. Casitas shall make such determinations public and follow with appropriate and timely notification of all customers. Casitas has established the implementation of various Stages of action based on the amount of water in storage in Lake Casitas, as shown in Table 3. An action to declare and implement a Stage may be by either an action by Casitas Board of Directors based on unanticipated changing lake supply conditions or by the following schedule in Table 4.

Table 3 – Stage Conditions

Stage	Stage Title	Lake Casitas Storage - %	Lake Casitas Storage Action Level (acre-feet)
1	Water Conservation	100% - 50%	254,000 to 127,000
2	Water Shortage Warning	50% - 40%	127,000 to 100,000
3	Water Shortage Eminent	40% - 30%	100,000 to 75,000
4	Severe Water Shortage	30% - 25%	75,000 to 65,000
5	Critical Water Shortage	25% - 0%	65,000 to 3,000

Table 4 - Stage Action Schedule

<u>Target Dates</u>	<u>Action</u>
June - April	Monitor water demands, rainfall, reservoir level trend, groundwater trends, and diversion and runoff amounts.
Early April	Staff presents water status report and a recommendation to the Casitas Board of Directors. Publish a notice of a public hearing if changes are recommended.
Late April	Casitas Board of Directors formally declares a Stage, and/or water shortage emergency, adopts recommendations for demand reduction actions.
May	Customer Notification of change in Stage, allocation, and conservation surcharge.
June	Stage demand reduction actions are effective and are implemented.

### **5.3 Demand Reduction Goals and Measures.**

The demand reduction goals and measures begin with Stage 1, where reasonable and appropriate water allocation assignments are made to each Casitas service connection and the end water users are implementing the Best Management Practices that conform to State requirements for water conservation and water use efficiency measures. Upon determination of a Stage 2 condition and continuing through Stage 5 conditions, the primary actions to achieve the demand reduction goal is the adjustment of allocations that were made available for each classification during Stage 1 by a reduction of the allocation during the duration of the declared Stage condition.

### **5.4 Stage Adjustments to Allocations.**

The five stages of storage in Lake Casitas and the initial guideline for water allocation adjustments for each classification at each Stage are presented in Table 5. Upon recommendation of the General Manager and approval of the Board of Directors at the onset of a specific Stage, the District shall apply appropriate demand reduction factors to the allocations for each customer classification, as deemed necessary. The Board of Directors retain the sole discretion to make allocation changes as a result of declaring a change in Stage, or during any Stage, that are more or less severe than that provided in Table 5. Examples of applying this discretion may include, but not be limited to, the change in any water resource conditions or the demand reduction goals are not being attained by the customer classification.

Table 5 – Staged Water Demand Reductions for Water Classifications

Demand Reduction Stage	1	2	3	4	5
Volume Range of Lake Casitas	254,000 to 127,000	127,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 75,000	75,000 to 65,000	65,000 to 3,000
% Lake Storage	100% - 50%	50% - 40%	40% - 30%	30% - 25%	25% - 0%
Water Use Reduction Response Goal	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Residential & Multi-Family Residential Essential Use Non-essential Use	0% 20%	0% 20%	0% 50%	0% 80%	0% 100%
Business	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Industrial	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Other	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Resale	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Irrigation	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Interdepartmental	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%

Note: Initial Stage 1 Allocations include a 20% reduction from the 1989-90 demands.

Essential Use Allocations will remain the same and not adjusted, except as otherwise determined by the Board to be a necessity to preserve water supply during extreme conditions. The measures to achieve the demand reduction goal may be selected from a menu of options as provided in Table 6, or should water supply conditions become worse than anticipated the Casitas Board may adopt more stringent requirements as deemed necessary.

### 5.5 Customer Notification.

The customers of each and every classification shall be notified in a timely and appropriate manner of any and all actions to declare and implement Demand Reduction Stage. The methods of communication to the customer shall be through direct mailings, public meetings, and billing information that provides the customer the comparison of water use with allocation.

### 5.6 Water Rates and Conservation Penalty.

The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually consider the setting or adjustment of water rates that reflect the cost of water service, consistent with State law. Casitas has implemented a four tier inclining rate structure for the Residential and Multi-family Residential classifications that represents the proportional cost of service that is attributable to the parcel that is served water.

The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually set the Conservation Penalty for each classification that will be applied to each individual customer billing for each unit of water that is in excess of the customer's allocation, or the adjusted allocation pursuant to a change in Stage. The Conservation Penalty is a regulatory fee that is imposed to curtail the potential for adverse effects of excessive water consumption. Upon determination of a change in Stage, or at such time the Board deems that the customer response does not appear to attain the desired demand reduction goals, the Board may consider the modification of the Conservation Penalty. Revenues recovered from the Conservation Penalty will supplement Casitas' water conservation costs and provide revenue for water shortage related projects.

Implementing changes to the WEAP will require utility billing system software changes to incorporate the Stage allocations as directed by the Board, as well as including the water use information and Conservation Penalty into the normal billing process.

### **5.7 Appeals for Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation.**

A Casitas customer may request consideration of an exception to the staged adjustments of allocation based on the following findings being present:

- 1) The Staged adjustment would cause a condition affecting the health, sanitation, fire protection, or safety of the applicant or the public;
- 2) Strict application of the allotment provisions imposes a severe or undue hardship on a particular business, or renders it infeasible for a business or class of business to remain in operation;
- 3) Hospitals and health care facilities using industry best management practices are eligible for an exception;
- 4) The business has already implemented environmental sustainability measures reducing water consumption to the maximum extent possible.

An exception must be presented to the District in writing with supporting documentation or substantial evidence demonstrating the need for an exemption. The exemption application will be reviewed, approved or denied, by the Casitas Water Resources Manager. Customers that are denied an exemption may request a review of the request by submitting a written appeal to the Casitas Water Resources Manager stating the nature of the appeal. The appeal shall be reviewed by the Casitas Water Resources Manager and a recommendation shall be reported to the General Manager. The decision of the General Manager shall be reported to the customer in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager's decision, the customer must request within 10 days that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors. The determination by the Board of Directors shall be final.

## **SECTION 6: EXPORT OF CASITAS WATER**

Water Code Section 71611 authorizes Casitas to sell water under its control for use only within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The unauthorized export and use of Casitas water beyond the Casitas district boundaries can have significant negative impacts on the Casitas water supply reliability, and therefore shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized in writing by the Casitas Board of Directors. All customers receiving Casitas water into water conveyance systems which cross Casitas boundaries shall meet the following requirements as a condition of service:

- 1) Customers shall submit to Casitas a certified report on the last day of each month that demonstrates that no Casitas water was transported or used outside Casitas boundaries during the prior month without written approval by Casitas.
- 2) Customer shall install and maintain approved metering devices and shall be required to account for all Casitas water delivered in the customer's system.
- 3) In the event Casitas water is exported during any month, the customer shall be billed for exported water at five (5) times the Casitas rate for the Temporary Service classification.
- 4) In the event the customer fails to comply with the conditions of service stated in the above (1) and/or (2), all water purchased in excess of the allocation shall be considered exported water and shall be billed in accordance with the foregoing.
- 5) This Section, Export of Casitas Water, is in effect at all times.
- 6) The exceptions to the export are during a declaration by the Board of Directors of surplus water, and limited to the surplus water or exchange agreement between the Board of Directors and other party.

Continuing or reoccurring violations of this section by any Casitas customer may result in the restriction or disconnection of water service to the customer.

Table 6 – Stage Actions and Water Demand Reduction Measures

<b>Water Shortage Condition</b>	<b>Key Casitas Communications and Actions</b>	<b>Customer Demand Reduction Measures</b>	<b>Penalties And Rates</b>
<p><b>Stage 1</b></p> <p>Supply Range 100% - 50%</p> <p>Demand Reduction 0%</p> <p>(80% of 1989 use)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate public information and advertising campaign.</li> <li>• Publicize ways to reduce water consumption.</li> <li>• Coordinate conservation actions with other water purveyors and cities.</li> <li>• Perform water audits and promote water efficient use/conversions.</li> <li>• Conduct water workshops.</li> <li>• Temporary staffing for public inquiries, as needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water conservation practices requested of all customer classifications.</li> <li>• Adhere to Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance.</li> <li>• Adhere to assigned water allocation or less.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation.</li> <li>• Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage 2</b></p> <p>Supply Range 50% - 40%</p> <p>Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 20%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declare Stage 2</li> <li>• Implement demand reductions for each customer classification.</li> <li>• Intensify public information campaign.</li> <li>• Optimize existing water resources.</li> <li>• Intensify leak detection.</li> <li>• Develop appeals staffing.</li> <li>• Consult with major customers to develop conservation plans and water use audits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue all Stage 1 measures.</li> <li>• Landscape watering restricted to two (2) watering days per week.</li> <li>• Require water audits for large water users; implement recommendations of the water audits.</li> <li>• Businesses display “save water” signage.</li> <li>• Increase public information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation.</li> <li>• Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage 3</b></p> <p>Supply Range 40% - 30%</p> <p>Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 30%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declare Stage 3</li> <li>• Implement demand reductions for each customer classification.</li> <li>• Expand and intensify public information campaign.</li> <li>• Provide regular briefings, publish monthly consumption report.</li> <li>• Hire additional temporary staff in customer service, conservation, and water distribution. Water waste enforcement.</li> <li>• Moratorium on new service connections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with Stage 1 and 2 measures.</li> <li>• Reduced water allocations.</li> <li>• Landscape watering restricted to one (1) watering day per week.</li> <li>• No landscape changes unless xeriscape.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation.</li> <li>• Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage 4</b></p> <p>Supply Range 30% - 25%</p> <p>Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 40%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declare Stage 4</li> <li>• Implement demand reductions for each customer classification.</li> <li>• Continue to provide regular media briefings.</li> <li>• Scale up appeals</li> <li>• Open drought information center.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with Stage 1 through 3 measures.</li> <li>• Reduced water allocations.</li> <li>• Landscape watering restricted to one (1) watering day per week.</li> <li>• Implement restrictive Irrigation delivery schedule.</li> <li>• Minimal water for large landscapes.</li> <li>• Consider prohibition of filling swimming pools and fountains.</li> <li>• Implement restrictive Irrigation delivery schedule and quantities greater than 60%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation.</li> <li>• Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage 5</b></p> <p>Supply Range 25% - 0%</p> <p>Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 50%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declare Stage 5</li> <li>• Implement demand reductions for each customer classification.</li> <li>• Minimize outdoor water use and non-essential uses.</li> <li>• Implement aggressive public outreach and education program.</li> <li>• Implement crisis communications plan.</li> <li>• Coordinate with State and local agencies to address enforcement challenges.</li> <li>• Water Shortage Emergency declaration to be considered.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with Stage 1 through 4 measures.</li> <li>• Reduced water allocations.</li> <li>• Rescind Temporary meters issued.</li> <li>• No turf irrigation.</li> <li>• Implement restrictive Irrigation delivery schedule and quantities greater than 50%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation.</li> <li>• Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.</li> </ul>