

Section I: Preparation and Adoption

This Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP) for the year 2020 was prepared by the Westside Water Authority on behalf of the Berrenda Mesa Water District to comply with the requirements of the 2018 Water Conservation Legislation (AB 1668 and SB 606). The District has, however, been involved in other water management efforts, as itemized below.

A. Description of Previous Water Management Activities

On October 12, 2004, the District Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Water Management Plan (WMP) prepared in compliance with AB 3616 Agricultural Water Suppliers Efficient Water Practices Act of 1990, in accordance with the January 1, 1999 Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Efficient Water Management Practices by Agricultural Water Suppliers in California. The WMP was endorsed by the Agricultural Water Management Counsel on August 17, 2005.

In 2012, the District prepared and submitted the “2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan” in compliance with SB X7-7. The objectives of the AWMP were to evaluate the District’s current water management practices and identify areas where significant improvements have been made, identify areas to improve the efficiency of water use within the District, and consider past and future water management strategies to increase the reliability of water deliveries to the District. The 2012 report concluded that the District had fully implemented all of the critical and the applicable conditional EWMPs.

In 2015, an update was made to the 2012 AWMP to incorporate the requirements from the Governor’s April 1, 2015 Executive Order (B-29-15) to include in the AWMP a detailed drought management plan in addition to quantification of water supplies and demands for the 2013, 2014, and 2015 years to the extent data is available. The update also included information that identified areas to improve the efficiency of water use within the districts and to continue to evaluate the District’s water management practices. The 2015 update also considered past and future water management strategies to increase the reliability of water deliveries to the Districts.

This 2020 AWMP is being written in response to the 2018 Water Conservation Legislation (AB 1668 and SB 606). Additionally, it will provide updated information regarding water management practices in the District.

The Westside Water Authority was officially formed in April of 2020 to aide in the joint management of operations, contracts, administration, and water transactions for the Lost Hills Water District, Belridge Water Supply District, Dudley Ridge Water District, and the Berrenda Mesa Water District. Although the WWA manages aspects of the districts, the 4 districts will submit their own AWMP’s to capture the various intricacies of each district. In the future they may be combined to use AWMP as described in water code 10829.

B. Coordination Activities

1. Notification of AWMP Preparation

The Plan was prepared in cooperation with public entities including the Lost Hills Water District (LHWD) and the Belridge Water Storage District (BWSD). **Table 1.** summarizes the agencies and parties notified regarding the coordination, adoption, and submittal activities of the AWMP.

BMWD solicited public input by inviting oral and written comments prior to and during a public hearing on *April 8, 2021*. No comments were received during the public hearing.

Table 1. Summary of Coordination, Adoption, and Submittal Activities for BMWD

Potential Interested Parties	Notified of Plan Preparation	Requested Copy of Draft (Optional)	Commented on Draft/Action Taken by Supplier (Optional)	Notified of Public Meetings	Attended Public Meetings (Optional)	Copy of Adopted Plan/ Amendment Sent
Local County(s)						
Kern County						x
Groundwater Management Entity						
Urban Water Supplier(s)						
Lost Hills UD						
City or County Library						x
Local Agency Formation Commission						
DWR	x					x
Local Newspaper/ Equivalent Process						
Bakersfield Californian						
Other Local Government Agency						
Other Special Districts						
Lost Hills Water District (LHWD)	x					
Belridge Water Storage District (BWSD)	x					x
Dudley Ridge Water District (DRWD)	x					
Semitropic Water Storage District (SWSD)	x					
Regional Agency						
Kern County Water Agency (KCWA)	x					x
Environmental Citizen Group						
Land Use Agencies						
Business Group						
Social Citizen Group						
Other State Government Agency						
Federal Government Agency						
Other (identify)						
District Landowners /Water Users						
Ag Water Management Council						
Website						Plan to post by May 1, 2021

2. Public Participation

The District provided notice of public meeting to approve and adopt the AWMP in the Bakersfield Californian on March 15 and 22, 2021 (Appendix 1). This notice included the notification of preparation and the notification of the date of the public meeting to be held to review and consider adopting the AWMP.

The District received responses and comments from several landowners regarding the AWMP via email, phone calls, and at a landowner meeting held on April 7, 2021. This AWMP incorporates their input.

C. AWMP Adoption, Submittal, and Availability

1. AWMP Adoption

The District is submitting the AWMP included in this document in accordance with AB 1668 and SB 606 requirements and which has been adopted by the Board of Directors on April 8, 2021. Resolution of Plan Adoption by the Board is included in Appendix 2.

2. AWMP Submittal

Copies of the finalized AWMP have been sent to the following agencies:

- DWR
- Kern County
- California State Library
- Lost Hills UD

3. AWMP Availability

The AWMP will be posted on the District's web site on or before April 4, 2021 and can be viewed in the following link: <http://www.bmwd.org>.

D. AWMP Implementation

Plan implementation began with Board adoption on April 8, 2021 and will continue until the next update. Further details on water use efficiency implementation schedule and documentation are described in Sections VII and VIII.