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August 12, 2020

At the District board meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, the board agreed that the end of the rotation period needed to be fair and equitable to all the District patrons. To date, each rotation has been on 4 times. Beginning today, August 12, 2020, we will increase the amount of water we take out of the river and will deliver water to all District patrons at 4.5 gpm per acre 24/7 for the remainder of the time the water is available. Our calculations show the water will last 3 to 4 days at which time we will shut the main headgate at the river until September 15, 2020.

This will be the last communication from the office regarding the water delivery at this time.

During the shoulder season which begins September 15th, if possible, water will again be delivered to all the District patrons 24/7 until the end of the season.

This has been an extremely difficult season for our patrons, our board, and staff. The decisions made regarding the rotations were discussed at length and were not taken lightly. The field staff have been working tirelessly arriving at work anywhere between 1:30 and 3:00 am each day, staying late into the night to ensure everything is running as smoothly as possible. Switching rotations was extremely difficult for the field staff as they worked 12 to 16 hours days. Without their hard work and dedication this rotation would not have been possible.

The rotation was not the most desirable solution for anyone, but we were able to deliver some water to our patrons and we were able to stretch out the amount of time that water was available by three weeks.

To our patrons, we know for many this rotation did not go as planned for you and many of you have suffered loss of crops, landscaping, and loss of water for your animals. We appreciate your understanding during this time, and we thank those of you who called and wrote with words of encouragement even though it was a hard time for you as well. Without a doubt, this irrigation season has hurt many people.

We will continue to do our best as we move forward to find solutions for situations such as these that may arise again in the future.

We encourage and request everyone's feedback and suggestions. Please do so by responding to this email. We value your opinion.