

RESOLUTION NO. 05-23

RESOLUTION 05-23 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO ALTO WATER DISTRICT APPROVING THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN AS REQUIRED BY SENATE BILL 552.

WHEREAS, In September of 2021 Senate Bill 552 (SB552) was signed by Governor Newsom and enacted into law;

WHEREAS, SB552 included new responsibilities and requirements at both the state and local levels to help small water suppliers and rural communities to reduce their risk of inadequate water supply amid a water shortage event;

WHEREAS, Community Water Systems with 1,000 – 2,999 connections are required to develop and adopt a Water Shortage Contingency Plan;

WHEREAS, Rio Alto Water District is considered a small community water supplier;


WHEREAS, Rio Alto Water District has prepared the attached “Exhibit A” Water Shortage Contingency Plan in compliance with SB552 and has provided the opportunity for public input at its regular Board Meeting held on May 24, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that, in the absence of significant changes, The Board of Directors of the Rio Alto Water District approve and adopt “Exhibit A” the Water Shortage Contingency Plan;

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Rio Alto Water District Board of Directors at its regular Board Meeting held on May 24, 2023.

AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSTAINING: 0
ABSENT: 1

Signed and approved by me after its passage this 24th day of May, 2023.


Richard Brubaker, President

Attest: 
Martha Slack, General Manager



Rio Alto Water District

22099 River View Drive • Cottonwood, CA 96022

Phone: (530) 347-3835 • Fax: (530) 347-1007 • Website: www.rawd.org

Exhibit A

Water Shortage Contingency Plan

CA5210005

May 25, 2023

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Section II: Public Involvement..... | 3 |
| Section III: Public Education | 3 |
| Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups..... | 3 |
| Section V: Authorization..... | 3 |
| Section VI: Application..... | 3 |
| Section VIII: Summary of Drought Response Stages and Response Actions..... | 5 |
| Stage 1 Triggers -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions | 6 |
| Stage 2 Triggers -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions..... | 6 |
| Stage 3 Triggers -- ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions..... | 6 |
| Stage 6 Triggers -- CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions | 7 |
| Section X: Drought Response Stages | 8 |
| Stage 1 Response -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions..... | 9 |
| Stage 2 Response -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions | 9 |
| Stage 3 Response -- ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions..... | 11 |
| Stage 6 Response -- CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions | 11 |
| Section XI: Enforcement | 12 |
| Section XII: Variances..... | 13 |
| Appendix A: | 14 |
| Appendix B: | 146 |

Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

In order to conserve the available water supply and protect the integrity of public water system (PWS) supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the Rio Alto Water District hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water through this plan.

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Water Shortage Contingency Plan (the Plan) are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply condition are deemed to constitute a waste of water subjecting the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section XI of the Plan.

Section II: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the Rio Alto Water District by means of providing public notice of a public meeting on May 24, 2023 to accept input into the Plan.

Section III: Public Education

The Rio Alto Water District will regularly provide the public with information about the Plan, including information about the conditions under which each stage of the Plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented in each stage. Detailed information on public education is provided in Section X of the Plan.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the Rio Alto Water District is located within the Sacramento River Basin regional water planning area. The regional water planning area assessment documents were considered in the development of the Plan. A copy of the final Plan was posted on our website on May 25, 2023.

Section V: Authorization

The General Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The General Manager, or designee, shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan. The contact information for the General Manager is: (530) 347-3835.

Section VI: Application

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by the Rio Alto Water District. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the Plan may include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other

legal entities.

Section VII: Definitions

For the purposes of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply:

Aesthetic water use: water use for ornamental or decorative purposes such as fountains, reflecting pools, and water gardens.

Commercial and Institutional water use: water use which is integral to the operations of commercial and non-profit establishments and governmental entities such as schools, hospitals, clinics, retail establishments, hotels and motels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Conservation: those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by Rio Alto Water District.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for cleaning a residence, business, industry, or institution.

Industrial water use: the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.

Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, rights-of-way and medians.

Non-essential water use: water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

- (a) irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
- (b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle;
- (c) use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
- (d) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
- (e) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
- (f) use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools;

- (g) use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
- (h) failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s); and
- (i) use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than firefighting or hauling water for a domestic water use.

Section VIII: Summary of Drought Response Stages and Response Actions

The General Manager, or designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a bi-monthly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, that is, when the specified “triggers” are reached.

The triggering criteria described below are generally based on: Elected Official announcements and / or well water level conditions.

The response actions described in subsequent sections of this document are based on the following general precepts:

This table summarizes each water shortage stages, specified triggers, response actions and termination actions. Additional information for each is provided in the subsequent sections.

| Response Stage | Estimated Water Shortage Range* | Trigger | Response Action** | Termination Action |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Stage 1 WATCH | Up to 10% | Projected lack of normal rainfall. | Determine current system wide demand. | Normal rain patterns return. |
| Stage 2 WARNING | Up to 20% | Elected official declaration. | Initiate static water level monitoring on a monthly basis. | End of elected official declaration. |
| Stage 3 ACUTE | Up to 30% | Elected official declaration. | Limit irrigation as required by law. | End of elected official declaration. |
| Stage 4 Intentionally Left Blank | | | | |
| Stage 5 Intentionally Left Blank | | | | |
| Stage 6 CATASTROPHIC | > 50% | Water Outage, Pump Failure. Low Tank Levels. | No irrigation. Determine if stored water volume is adequate until situation is remedied. | Normal water production is restored. |

*Recommended ranges to be consistent with Urban Water Supplier plans

****Recommended that any County Drought Emergency or Statewide Emergency Declaration initiate at least a Stage 2-Response Trigger.**

Section IX: Drought Response Triggers

Stage 1 Triggers -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan annually beginning on June 1st through September 30th.

Requirements for termination

Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 30 consecutive days.

Stage 2 Triggers -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan upon elected official declaration.

Requirements for termination

Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 3 Triggers – ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan upon elected official declaration.

Requirements for termination

Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Stage 6 Triggers – CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation

Customers shall be required to comply with the requirements and restrictions on certain non-essential water uses provided in Section X of this Plan when storage volumes are low in the tanks and/or there is a pump failure that results in the inability to meet demand.

Requirements for termination

Stage 6 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 24 hours. Upon termination of Stage 6, Stage 3 becomes operative unless otherwise specified.

Section X: Drought Response Stages

The General Manager, or designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a bi-monthly basis and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section IX of this Plan, shall determine if a water shortage condition exists and the severity of any such water shortage conditions (e.g., *1-Watch, 2-Warning, 3-Acute, 6-Catastrophic Water Loss*), and shall implement the following notification procedures accordingly:

Notification

Description of Customer Notification Methods:

The General Manager, or designee, shall notify the public by means of one of the following Methods:

- Direct mail to customers.
- Alert on the District's website.

Direct notice will be given to:

- Major water users. (Stage 6).
- Local fire department. (Stage 6).

Drought Responses Actions:

Stage 1 Response -- Water Shortage WATCH Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 10 percent reduction in total water usage.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.

Voluntary Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- (a) Water customers are requested to practice water conservation and to minimize or discontinue water use for non-essential purposes such as ornamental fountains, washing down of sidewalks or hard surface areas.
- (b) Water customers are requested to not irrigate during rain or within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.

Stage 2 Response -- Water Shortage WARNING Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 20 percent reduction in total water usage.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (b) Increase monitoring of groundwater elevations from quarterly to monthly.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall adhere to the watering schedule indicated in the document found in attachment A – *Revised Exhibit A – Three (3) Day Drought Mandated Irrigation Watering Schedule*.
- (b) Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station that utilizes internally recycled water. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the

health, safety, and welfare of the public is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

- (c) Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to midnight.
- (d) Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life.
- (e) The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:
 - i. washdown of any sidewalks, walkways, unless being performed by a County or emergency response employee addressing a public health issue such as fecal waste removal, etc.;
 - ii. washdown of driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
 - iii. use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
 - iv. use of water for dust control;
 - v. flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street; and
 - vi. failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

Stage 3 Response -- ACUTE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 30 percent reduction in total water usage.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for colored water or other water quality issues.
- (b) Increase monitoring of groundwater elevations from quarterly to monthly.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 2 shall remain in effect during Stage 3 with the following modifications:

- (a) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare. Designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed but require a special permit from Rio Alto Water District so that usages can be tracked and assessed.

Stage 6 Response -- CATASTROPHIC Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a greater than 50 percent reduction in total water usage.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

- (a) Decrease flushing from regular flushing routine to only as needed for water quality issues.

Mandatory Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

All requirements of Stage 3 shall remain in effect during Stage 6 with the following modifications:

- (a) Indoor conservation such as utilizing showers instead of baths, decreasing frequency of clothes washing and decreasing toilet flushing.
- (b) All outdoor irrigation is prohibited.

Section XI: Enforcement

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from this water system for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a manner contrary to any provision of this Plan, or in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by General Manager, or designee, in accordance with provisions of this Plan.
- (b) Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the water system, in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violation occurred on the person's property shall constitute a presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violation, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violation.
- (c) Each day that one or more of the provisions in this Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is in repeated violation of this Plan, the water supplier shall, upon due notice to the customer, be authorized to levy fines.

Section XII: Variances

The General Manager, or designee, may grant, in writing, a temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for the public or the person requesting such variance and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- (a) Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which the Plan is in effect.
- (b) Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance shall file a petition for variance with the water system within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the General Manager, or designee, and shall include the following:

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- (b) Purpose of water use.
- (c) Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
- (d) Detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
- (e) Description of the relief requested.
- (f) Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- (g) Alternative water use restrictions or other measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

A decision on the variance request will be returned to the customer within 5 days.

Appendix A:

AMENDED EXHIBIT A – THREE (3) DAY DROUGHT MANDATED IRRIGATION WATERING SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2015 AND REMAINING IN EFFECT UNTIL OTHERWISE NOTIFIED

HOURS PERMITTED: 12:01 A.M. THROUGH 9:00 A.M.

NO OUTDOOR IRRIGATION WATERING IS PERMITTED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:01 A.M. THROUGH 12:00 A.M. NO OUTDOOR IRRIGATION WATERING IS PERMITTED ON MONDAYS.

TIME LIMITS FOR IRRIGATION ZONES MUST BE SET TO PREVENT RUNOFF AT ALL TIMES.

Outdoor irrigation is allowed by the following groups on their respective days of the week;

GROUP #1: TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS

Streets included in Group #1:

Lake California Dr., Sawtooth Dr., Squaw Pl., Baldy Pl., Preston Pl., Sannedrin Pl., Eagle Peak Dr., St. John Pl., Burney Pl., Hayfork Pl., Chimney Rock Dr., Pit River Pl., Prospect Peak Dr., Feather River Pl., Klamath River Pl., Bonanza King Dr., Stoney Creek Pl., Round Mountain Pl., Rainbow Ridge Pl., Castle Crags Pl., Tom Bead Dr., Big Sage Dr., Black Fox Dr., Hatcher Dr., Lola Dr., Sweet Brier Pl., Table Mountain Pl., River View Dr. (Down to Steelhead Landing), Covington Mill Dr., Wildwood Pl., Valley Ford Dr., Feather Falls Pl., Freshwater Dr., Blacktail Pl., Fawn Way, Roe Way, Elkhorn Pl., Buckskin Pl., Buckhorn Pl., Antler Way, Impala Pl., Moose Way, Fallow Pl., Forest Glen Pl., Indian Creek Dr., Redrock Peak Pl., Brokeoff Mountain Pl., Inskip Pl., Big Bend Dr., Loomis Peak Pl., Blue Ridge Mountain. Dr., Beegum Peak Place, Tedrock Mountain Pl., Acacia Pl., Fish Creek Pl., Plumas Pl., Indian Tom Dr., Blue Lake Pl., Cottonwood Dr., Deer Creek Pl., Lake Helen Pl., Cloud Creek Pl., Digger Creek Pl., Antelope Creek Dr., and Squaw Creek Pl.

GROUP #2: WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SUNDAYS

Streets Included in Group #2:

Caramelo St., Zapatero Ln., Querido Dr., Espinazo Way, Azulejo Pl., Racimo Dr., Cereza Pl., Oak Run Pl., Buckeye Pl., Little Valley Dr., Rosewood Pl., Stringtown Pl., Canyon Dam Pl., Stoneyford Pl., Gazelle Pl., White Horse Pl., Fort Seward Pl., Weaverville, Kingsley Cove, Rio Alto Drive, Schooner, Dinghy, Kelp, Sloop, Shoal Pl., Kleat Pl., Sandpiper Ln., Fjord Ln., Seabreeze Pl., Shoreline Dr., Compass Dr.,

Edgewater Dr., Jib Ct., Yawl Pl., Ketch Pl., Starboard Pl., Alee Pl., Yar Pl., Banner Way, Windward Way, North Marina Way, South Marina Way, Finger Point Way, Equestrian Center and all POA commercial properties.

SIMPLY INCREASING YOUR WATERING TIMES ON WATERING DAYS WILL NOT ACHIEVE YOUR 25% REDUCTION.

Appendix B:

Request for Variance from the Water Supply Contingency Plan

Customer Name:

First _____

Last _____

Service Address:

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Purpose of water

use: _____

Provision of the plan from which the applicant is requesting relief:

Detailed description as to how the specific provision of the plan adversely affects applicant:

Description of relief

requested: _____

Period of time for which the variance is

requested: _____

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of General Manager