

## Frequently Asked Questions and Responses

The underlying premise of Klamath Drought Response Agency Programs is (including past programs) to support those that increase supply (2020 Groundwater Supplementation) or decrease demand (unirrigated lands; 2020 Drought Response Program) with the goal of supporting a Basin-Wide sharing of the overall shortage of Klamath Project water supply.

2020 is proving to be the worse surface water supply year in recent years; second only to 2001. In some regards it could be even worse if we/the Basin does not act immediately. Many of the frequently asked questions have been related to the fact that Warren Act Contractors (aka B Contracts) have been informed of the implementation of a 2020 Reclamation Drought Plan that results in a minimal water supply on a per acre basis. This generates creative plans and proposals by many within the Basin. The DRA is providing responses to these questions in an effort assist all within the Basin as identified in the underlying premise above. All transfers of surface water or groundwater must be accomplished through the appropriate/common means (OWRD and District). While these questions and answers respond to general concerns, the payment and eligibility determinations are based upon the facts and circumstances of each applicant.

- If the owner/irrigator of a parcel wants to participate in the **2020 Groundwater Supplementation Program**, can he transfer the available surface water to another parcel?
  - Response: Yes. This supplements the overall Basin supply.
- Can a person who uses groundwater to supplement their Warren Act contract 0.25AF/ac allotment participate in the **2020 Groundwater Supplementation Program**?
  - Response: Yes, assuming the groundwater well meets all other criteria of the 2020 Groundwater Supplementation Program.
- What is intended for as to when a lift pump qualifies under the **2020 Groundwater Supplementation Program**?
  - Response: If an owner/irrigator needs to use a lift pump in order to transport the groundwater to the place of use that he did not have to use for surface water irrigation then it qualifies as part of the program.
- If an owner/irrigator of a parcel wants to participate in the **2020 Drought Response Program**, can he transfer his surface water elsewhere (particularly his .25 acre foot Warren Act allotment)?

- Response: No. This would not reduce the demand for surface water. It should be noted that by not irrigating and not transferring any surface water allotment the participant will be paid the same as other participants that may have had a full surface water allotment.
- If an owner participates in the **2020 Drought Response Program** (use no irrigation water) can a cutting of hay be made if there is enough growth?
  - Response: Yes. The District(s) will verify the amount of acreage not irrigated.
- After enrolling in the **2020 Drought Response Program**, the applicant decides to irrigate some or all of applied for acreage, what happens?
  - Response: The District(s) will verify the amount of acreage not irrigated. For example, if the District determines that half of the applied for acreage was irrigated, then the applicant will only be reimbursed for the acres not irrigated. It would be a responsible action of the owner to inform the DRA of the reduction of the acreage when the change was made. This would avoid potential revocation of the applicant's entire acreage. Relief payments will not be made for any acreage that is irrigated between March 1, 2020 and October 31, 2020.
- What is a "clear boundary"?
  - Response: If DRA consultants, working with District staff can visually confirm a boundary to delineate irrigated and unirrigated acres then it is a "clear boundary", pending final decision of the DRA Board of Directors.
- Does the applicant need to fill out the contract at time of the application submittal?
  - Response: This is not a requirement but would assist with processing. Contracts will be completed and executed ASAP upon completion of the application period; currently May 15.