



**For Immediate Release:
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**FROM FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY ON THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S UPDATED 2020 WATER
SUPPLY ALLOCATION FOR THE FRIANT DIVISION**

Today the Bureau of Reclamation increased the Central Valley Project's 2020 water allocation from 40% to 55% for Friant Division Class 1 contractors. As when the allocation was first updated on April 6, we want to thank and recognize Reclamation for their prompt response to the continuing changes in this year's hydrology, especially from recent storms. The opportunity to update this year's allocation was also made possible through Reclamation's use of snowpack data and runoff forecasts of the San Joaquin River watershed that were developed through the Airborne Snow Observatory. With highly detailed and accurate data in hand about water availability and current conditions in the upper watershed from just last week, Reclamation could more confidently allocate more water for the farms and cities in the Friant Division. This increased allocation will help save some small farms from going under this year and will also reduce groundwater overdraft.

The water supply allocation for Friant Division Class 2 contractors still remains at zero, reflecting that despite the positive effect of recent storms, 2020 is still a very dry year. Under these conditions, many growers throughout the south San Joaquin Valley and on the Eastside will likely still need to rely heavily on groundwater supplies, with potential further subsidence-related impacts to valley canals such as the Friant-Kern Canal. We will continue moving urgently to address conveyance limitations on the Friant-Kern Canal and work with our local, regional, state, and federal partners to promote policies and actions that help resolve the valley's long-term water imbalance.