



For Immediate Release
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Statement from FWA CEO Jason Phillips on the Updated Friant Division Water Allocation

Earlier today, the Bureau of Reclamation announced an update to Friant Division water allocations. Effective April 18th, the Class 1 allocation increased from 95% to 100% and the Class 2 allocation increased from 0% to 5%.

“Responsive. Prudent. Nimble. Those are the words that best describe the latest update for Friant Division water users”, said Jason Phillips, FWA CEO. “Millerton Reservoir is relatively small, and the recent storms could overwhelm the reservoir if we don’t act quickly. We are grateful that our partners at the Bureau continue to acknowledge an improving water year, and have acted accordingly in a timely manner. The latest decision will help to ensure optimal reservoir management and deliver the maximum amount of desperately needed supplies for the farms and communities on the eastside.”

The Friant Division has two water contract types that reflect its purpose and design as a conjunctive water management project that encourages contractors to store water underground in wet years for use in drier years.

- Class 1 water is the first 800,000 acre-feet of water captured in Millerton Lake under long term contracts. Class 1 contractors are usually cities or districts without access to groundwater supplies.
- Class 2 water is the next 1.4 million acre-feet of water captured in Millerton Lake under long term contracts. Class 2 contractors use much of this for irrigations and groundwater recharge.