

eWATERLINE

AUGUST 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Jason Phillips
Chief Executive Officer

I don't know about you, but this is one of those times of the year that gets me pumped up. At least for me it is.

I'm not talking about the anticipation of months and months of cold storms blanketing the Sierra Nevada's with snow. No, I'm not talking about reservoirs up and down the state filling up to the brim. I'm talking about the kickoff to the 2023/2024 NFL season. Many people think baseball is the American pastime, but if popularity and TV ratings have anything to say about it, NFL football is by far the most popular professional sport in America.

There's so much planning, preparation, and training that goes into the beginning of the NFL season, but what would the NFL be without farmers and ranchers. Let's talk about that for a second.

What would you grill at a tailgate without farmers and ranchers? What would you serve to family and friends that gather around the television in your home without farmers and ranchers? What would the concession stand at any of the NFL stadiums offer without farmers and ranchers? I could go on and on, but I think you get the point.

Like so many things in the land of abundance, too many luxuries get taken for granted, and no industry feels that more than American agriculture. Especially the farmers in California. Outside of the central valley, when the rest of the country thinks about our state, they think about Hollywood and the tech

Continued on page 2

STATE PROPOSES REGULATION TO MAKE CONSERVATION A WAY OF LIFE

Reprinted from [California Water News Daily](#), August 23, 2023

Moving to bolster California's water supplies and resilience to climate change through long-term water conservation practices, the State Water Resources Control Board released a proposed regulation last week that would establish water efficiency goals for urban retail water suppliers in California.

The proposed regulation was developed to implement 2018 legislation, known as the "Making Conservation a California Way of Life" framework, which directed the board to adopt standards for more efficient urban water use along with performance measures for commercial, industrial, and institutional water use.

Each goal – called an urban water use objective – would take into consideration unique local conditions and special circumstances. Water suppliers, not individual households or businesses, would be held to the specified water use objectives.

If the State Water Board adopts the proposed regulation, the overall estimated reduction in water use would reach 8% in 2030, saving 414,000 acre-feet of water, and 9% in 2035, saving 446,000 acre-feet of water, enough to supply 1.3 million households for a year.

The proposed regulation would require suppliers to annually calculate their objective, which is the sum of efficiency budgets for a subset of urban water uses: residential indoor water use, residential outdoor water use, real water loss, and commercial, industrial and institutional landscapes with dedicated irrigation meters. Each efficiency budget will be calculated using a statewide efficiency standard and local service area characteristics, such as population, climate and landscape area.

To meet their objectives, suppliers are encouraged to use a wide variety of tactics to equip their customers with information and resources to foster wise water use, indoors and outdoors. Examples include education and outreach, leak detection, incentives to plant "climate ready" landscapes, and rebates to replace old and inefficient fixtures and appliances. The state's Save Our Water website offers templates that suppliers can adapt for their needs.

More information, including the water use objective exploration tool, is available on the State Water Board website: [Making Conservation A California Way of Life](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP 18

FWA Executive Committee Meeting
Lindsay, CA
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SEP 25

FWA Finance Committee Meeting
Lindsay, CA
[CLICK FOR INFO](#)

SEP 28

FWA Board of Directors Meeting
Visalia, CA
[CLICK FOR INFO](#)

OCT 16

FWA Executive Committee Meeting
Lindsay, CA
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industry. But the anchor, and the building blocks of our state and culture is production agriculture.

We live in one of only seven Mediterranean climates in the world. Over the course of the last century, visionary leaders decided that building the infrastructure to allow water to flow to this region in a controlled manner was not only important, but a top priority. And because of that vision, communities throughout the Central Valley began to grow and flourish. More than 350 unique crops are grown in the central valley, many of which not only feed the country, but feed the world. In fact, some of the most sought-after products and commodities around the world only come from the central valley. Most of the rest of the world does not have the climate, nor the soil, nor the water infrastructure to be able to do what's done in California, in particular the central valley. That is a fact that is woefully misunderstood, and unfortunately, taken for granted.

The Friant Water Authority believes in, and advocates for, the preservation, promotion, and protection of California agriculture. We always have, and we always will. The place we all call home is unique, and special, and it should be treated that way.

One of the most enjoyable parts of watching football is the camaraderie and fellowship that always seems to come with the gathering around the television. So, as you enjoy the kickoff to the 2023/2024 NFL season, remember to remind your friends and family, especially those not from this area, that without California farmers, most of what they eat, drink, and enjoy in front of the television wouldn't be possible.

Go Niners!



PAUL SOUZA ATTENDS FWA BOARD MEETING

Paul Souza is Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. He has worked in conservation for over 25 years and currently oversees programs in California, Nevada and the Klamath Basin of Oregon. He also leads the region's 50 national wildlife refuges, three national fish hatcheries and 13 fisheries and ecological services field offices from the region's headquarters in Sacramento.



MEET THE FRIANT FAMILY

ERIC LIMAS

General Manager
Several Districts

Eric Limas is the General Manager of Friant Districts; Lower Tule River and Pixley Irrigation Districts, Tea Pot Dome Water District, as well as Vandalia Water District, Campbell-Moreland Ditch Company and Pioneer Water Company on the Tule River system. Limas also manages the Lower Tule River and Pixley ID Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Eric has worked for the Districts since 2002, serving in the following roles; Controller, Business Manager, Assistant Manager, and General Manager. In 2000, he earned his Certified Public Accountant license while working for M. Green and Company, CPAs. He graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness. Eric grew up on a family farm in Tipton and was active in the local 4-H and FFA programs. Eric and his wife Adriane, live in Tulare, and have three grown children: sons, Blake 32, and Breck 22, and daughter Brooklyn 20. Eric and Adriane are also the proud grandparents of Mykah, 4, and Asher, 2.



ERIC LIMAS

VALLEY VIEWS



Pouring and forming of concrete lining in the new Friant-Kern canal. See more details and photos on page 3-4.

JOSH PITIGLIANO

Secretary / Treasurer

Director - Lower Tule River Irrigation District

Josh Pitigliano serves on the Friant Water Authority Board of Directors representing Lower Tule River Irrigation District. He is a fourth-generation farmer and works alongside his father and two brothers. Their diversified farm and farm management business is spread across multiple irrigation districts. Josh attended Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo majoring in Agribusiness with an emphasis in Farm and Ranch management. He served as chairman of the Tulare County Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee and later sat on the Tulare County Farm Bureau board as a director. Josh is married to his wife, Jennifer, for 14 years and counting and have two wonderful boys, Wes and Ike.



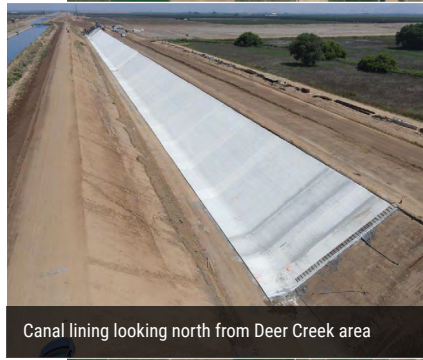
JOSH PITIGLIANO

FRIANT-KERN CANAL MIDDLE REACH CAPACITY CORRECTION CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS UPDATE

With the weather being sunny and clear the entire month, progress was made throughout the month. Canal embankment was placed between Avenue 104 and Road 192 with borrow material from the TBID borrow pit. The completion varies, however, most of the alignment work is 95% complete.

Canal trimming and lining operations have officially commenced this month with work starting on the northern side of Deer Creek as well as on the east side of the excavated canal prism. Trimming was completed from Deer Creek onto Avenue 112. After that, the trimmer was set to the north side of Avenue 112. Canal lining is being placed near Deer Creek and currently there is approximately 1,500 feet of canal lining. Due to the heat, the concrete is being poured and set during the middle of the night to cool correctly.

Deer Creek installed wall formwork along with implementing concrete in sections of the walls. At the Road 192 siphon, formwork, water stops, bulkheads, and reinforcing bars were installed for deck sections and concrete was poured to solidify the work. The same thing happened at Avenue 128 siphon and Road 208 siphon. Terra Bella Avenue had very similar work done as well. Finally Avenue 80 had work done on the foundation and rock slabs. Turnout work was being conducted at SID-S3, SID-S4, Terra Bella ID, Deer Creek Wasteway, and DEID-68 turnouts. Much of this involved formwork removal, installing turnout pipes, and placing in structural backfill.



Canal lining looking north from Deer Creek area



Canal lining machine north of Deer Creek on east side of new canal



Deer Creek siphon cleanup in progress



Deer Creek check structure and wasteway pipes

"FKC Middle Reach Capacity Correction Construction Progress Update" Continued



Avenue 112 siphon



Road 208 siphon - transition wall and deck for the flat section in progress



Avenue 128 siphon - sloped deck reinforcement and falsework in progress



Avenue 80 siphon - slabs curing and wall reinforcement in progress

IN THE NEWS

"Kern Groundwater Authority GSA," Water Wrights, August 23, 2023.

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"Why You Should Attend the Friant Meeting Thursday," Water Wrights, August 29, 2023.

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"Southern California's 'water doctor' pushes for transformation to adapt to climate change," LA Times, August 23, 2023.

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"The Big Melt Transformed California," San Francisco Chronicle, August 23, 2023.

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"Sweeping California Water Conservation Rules Could Force Big Cuts in Some Areas," Los Angeles Times September 7, 2023.

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"The EPA Removes Federal Protections for Most of the Country's Wetlands," NPR, August 29, 2023.

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