



For Immediate Release:  
April 7, 2020

Contact:  
Johnny Amaral, [559-799-6192](tel:559-799-6192)  
Alex Biering, [916-628-0431](tel:916-628-0431)

## **Statement from Friant Water Authority on the Bureau of Reclamation's Updated 2020 Water Supply Allocation for the Friant Division:**

Yesterday the Bureau of Reclamation increased the Central Valley Project's 2020 water allocation from 20% to 40% for Friant Division Class 1 contractors. We appreciate Reclamation's quick response to this year's changing hydrology. 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 remains unchanged at zero, reflecting that although hydrologic conditions have improved since Reclamation's initial February allocation, we are nonetheless still experiencing a very dry year. We anticipate that many growers throughout the south San Joaquin Valley and on the Eastside will still need to rely heavily on groundwater supplies, which is likely to further exacerbate the type of regional land elevation subsidence that has so dramatically reduced the capacity of the Friant-Kern Canal and other valley canals. This makes our efforts to fix the Friant-Kern Canal's capacity limitations even more critical and underscores the need for resolving the valley's long-term water imbalance.