

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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Agricultural Water Suppliers and Interested Parties

Subject: Significant Changes to the 2015 Agricultural Water Management Plan Guidebook

The Agricultural Water Management Plan Guidebook (Guidebook) was prepared by Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff to assist agricultural water suppliers in understanding and complying with the requirements of SB X7-7 Water Conservation Act (Steinberg, Statute of 2009), (Section I, Part 2.55, Division 6 of the California Water Code). This Guidebook also explains to water suppliers how to comply with Governor Brown's Executive Order B-29-15 requirements (see directives 12 and 13).

Changes throughout document

- Removal of Agricultural Water Management Council (Council) MOU process as an Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP) submittal option as the Council dissolved in the spring of 2013 and therefore no longer endorses plans.
- Addition of Governor Brown's Executive Order B-29-15 (April 1, 2015), directing all agricultural water suppliers to include a detailed drought management plan in their AWMP, and to include quantification of water supplies and demands for 2013, 2014, and 2015. The Executive Order also directed all agricultural water suppliers that provide water to 10,000 to 25,000 irrigated acres to develop an AWMP and submit it by July 1, 2016. The Executive Order applies to all agricultural suppliers over the irrigated acreage threshold, including USBR contractors.

Changes by section

- Section 1.4.A: Update on California's drought and Governor's Executive Order
- Section 2: Updated checklist to include Executive Order requirements
- Section 3.2.B.4: Drought Management Plans added to Water Shortage Allocation Policies
- Section 3.3: Updated quantification of water supplies and demands for 2013, 2014, and 2015
- Section 3.6: Climate Change: revised guidance
- Section 4: Per Water Code, DWR will accept water conservation plans that were deemed sufficient by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation within the last 4 years (12/31/2011)
- Section 4.2.B: Updated to include Executive Order requirements.
- Appendix A1: Updated AWMP template to include Executive Order requirements
- Appendix B1: Updated FAQs to include Executive Order
- Appendix B2: Updated Figure 1 to reflect Executive Order
- Appendix B4: Revised Farm Gate Delivery Form (8/2013) to replace an older version

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call Marty Berbach at (916) 651-9216 or by e-mail at Marty.Berbach@water.ca.gov

Attachments