

# Reporting, Measuring, and Planning Requirements FOR AGRICULTURAL WATER USERS

2023  
UPDATE

## Water Right Reporting

(Water Commission Act, 1913; SB X7-8, 2009; SB 88, 2016; SB 155, 2021)

- Annual water right reports must be submitted electronically by all water right holders to the SWRCB by February 1 of each year.
- The annual reports are to include monthly diversion and use quantities for the prior water year (October 1 – September 30).
- The SWRCB may require more frequent reporting requirements during times of water shortage.

## Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

(AB 390, 1999)

- Property owners of irrigated agricultural lands must comply with Waste Discharge Requirements as an individual or through participation in a coalition group.
- The Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition and California Rice Commission Coalition assist growers in the Sacramento basin through surface water and groundwater quality monitoring.

## Measurement of Diversion and Use

(SB 88, 2016)

- Water right holders who divert or are authorized to divert more than 10 AF per year are required to measure their surface water diversions.
- Measurement options include measurement devices, Measurement Methods, and Alternative Compliance Plans, which are described on the SWRCB's website (see **Resources** section for link).
- The measurement equipment must meet certain accuracy standards and data must be recorded at a specified frequency (see **Table 1**).
- The installation and accuracy of the measurement device must be documented by a Qualified Individual.

## Agricultural Aggregated Farm-Gate Delivery Report

(AB 1404, 2007; AB 1668, 2018)

- Agricultural water suppliers delivering 2,000 AF per year or serving 2,000 or more acres must submit an Agricultural Aggregated Farm-Gate Delivery Report.
- The reports must be submitted electronically by April 1 of each year and are to include monthly or bimonthly aggregated farm-gate delivery quantities organized by groundwater basin/sub-basin number.

**Table 1. Measurement Thresholds and Requirements**

Direct Diversion	Storage	Required Accuracy of Device	Required Monitoring Frequency	Telemetry
≥ 1,000 AF/year	≥ 1,000 AF	Installed before 1/1/16: 15%	Hourly	Diverter who diverts: > 10,000 AF annually > 30 CFS by direct diversion during Jun. through Sept. 30 > 10,000 AF capacity of pond/reservoir In certain areas (see Measurement Regulation)
≥ 100 AF/year	≥ 200 AF	Installed after 1/1/16: 10%	Daily	
	≥ 100 AF	15%	Weekly	
> 10 AF/year	≥ 50 AF			
	> 10 AF		Monthly	

## CASGEM Monitoring and Reporting

(SB X7-6, 2009)

- Designated CASGEM Monitoring Entities collect groundwater elevation measurements and report the data online on a semi-annual basis.

## Federal Water Management Plans

(PL 102-575, 1992)

- Water supply contract holders must prepare and submit a WMP pursuant to CVPIA requirements – those who receive less than 2,000 AF of water per year for irrigation or irrigate less than 2,000 acres of land are exempt.
- The CVPIA criteria requires implementation of five “non-exemptible” Best Management Practices.
- A guidebook is provided by Reclamation to assist water supply contract holders with preparing a WMP.
- WMPs are to be updated every five years and submitted to Reclamation.

## Sustainable Groundwater Management

(AB 1739, SB 1168, and SB 1319, 2014)

- Locally formed Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) prepared and adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plans for each subbasin by January 31, 2022.
- Measuring, monitoring, and management actions will be undertaken thereafter with a report due by April 1 of each year and plan updates every five years.

## State Water Management Plans

(SB X7-7, 2009; AB 1668, 2018)

- Agricultural water suppliers providing water to more than 25,000 acres (excluding recycled water deliveries) must prepare and submit an AWMP pursuant to SB X7-7.
- The criteria require implementation of turnout level measurement and volumetric pricing of water deliveries.
- AWMPs are to be updated every five years and submitted electronically to DWR.
- Guidebooks are provided by DWR to assist water suppliers with preparing an AWMP.
- AWMPs must include an annual water budget based on a quantification of all inflow and outflow components of the water suppliers’ service area, as well as an identification of water management objectives based on the budget and a quantification of water use efficiency within the service area based on one of four approved methods.
- AWMPs must include a drought plan that describes the actions of the water supplier related to drought preparedness and management of water supplies and allocations during drought conditions.

## Resources

- [Water Division and Use Reporting](#)
- [Water Measurement Regulations](#)
- [Water Use Efficiency/Water Management Plans](#)