

# LAKE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** JUNE 22, 2021

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Lake Arrowhead Community Services District

**FROM:** CATHERINE CERRI, General Manager

**SUBJECT:** CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09  
DECLARING A LEVEL 3 WATER SHORTAGE  
CONDITION

### A. RECOMMENDATION

Consider adopting Resolution 2021-09 Declaring a Level 3 Water Shortage Condition.

### B. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with Ordinance 83, the Board of Directors may declare a water shortage condition when it determines that due to drought, state regulations or other water supply conditions, a reduction in water use of a certain percentage is necessary to make the most efficient use of water and appropriately respond to existing water and regulatory conditions. Factors the Board will consider include but are not limited to, (1) the water level of Lake Arrowhead; (2) rainfall totals; (3) reliability of current and projected groundwater well production, (4) ability to meet demand; (5) State Water Project allocation; and (6) projected water allocations to the District from the Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors declare a Level 3 water shortage condition due to the following factors: (1) the current water level of Lake Arrowhead is 5,102.75 (3.95 feet below full), (2) below normal precipitation has persisted for a second year in a row, (3) groundwater production may decrease with prolonged dry conditions, (4) current customer demand is higher than normal, and (5) State Water Project allocation is only 5%.

A Level 3 water shortage condition is estimated to reduce demand by 30% compared to unconstrained demand with no restrictions. During a Level 3 water shortage condition, irrigation is maintained at 3 days per week but public awareness campaigns are heightened.

## C. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In two separate prior actions, the Board considered adoption of Ordinance 83 and a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) that contain six levels of water shortage with varying actions as shown in the table below.

Level	Permanent Restrictions	Irrigation Days	Turf	Enforcement	Public Info	Drought Rates	Connection Moratorium	Reduction
1	X	3	No new	Maintain	Maintain			10%
2	X	3	Reduce	Maintain	Maintain			20%
3	X	3	Reduce	Increased	Increased			30%
4	X	2	Reduce	Increased	Increased			40%
5	X	1	Reduce	Strict	Persistent	X		50%
6	X	0	No Irrig	Strict	Persistent	X	X	50%+

Projections suggest that the District has enough supply to meet demand, but during dry conditions when the water level of Lake Arrowhead becomes a concern, the District prefers to voluntarily withdraw less from the lake than its full right of 1,566 acre-feet per year. Until additional water sources are developed, the amount of water withdrawn from the lake is driven by customer demand. Restrictions on demand are designed to reduce total withdrawals. The table below includes prior year data for supply and demand, and projections for the current year.

	Prior Year Actuals		Current Year Projection		
	2019	2020	May-2021 YTD	Projected	Total 2021
Surface Water	1,106	1,277	335	913	1,248
Groundwater	198	180	75	147	222
Imported Water	47	46	27	25	52
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>1,522</b>
Demand	1,277	1,507	373	1,108	1,481
Demand Mgmt			(4)	(69)	(73)
<b>Total Demand</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>1,507</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,408</b>

Below are factors as stated in Ordinance 83 for the Board to consider:

(1) As of June 14, 2021, the water level of Lake Arrowhead was 5,102.75 or 3.95 feet below full. With evaporation and projected withdrawals, it is anticipated that the lake will be approximately 7 feet below full by the end of the year.

(2) Rainfall totals for the current calendar year are projected to be 40% of normal with 13.4" of precipitation. Rainfall in 2020 was 71% of normal. The State Water Resources Control Board has sent several notices warning about drought conditions.

(3) The groundwater wells are still producing at normal levels. We often don't see a decline in groundwater until after two dry years. The Operations Department is currently working to bring Well #2 back online. The Blue Jay well won't start production until 2022.

(4) Current demand is still higher than baseline levels. Consumption in May 2021 was 5% lower than May of 2020 but 42% higher than May 2019. Enhanced public information efforts in Level 3 are anticipated to reduce demand by an additional 8%.

(5) The State Water Project allocation for 2021 is extremely low at 5%.

(6) The Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency has confirmed that the amount of imported water requested for 2021 will remain available: 46 acre-feet for the overlap area and 163 acre-feet of supplemental water. The projections in the table above include 52 acre-feet of imported water. If demand is higher than anticipated, the District will purchase supplemental water up to the amount requested.

#### **D. FISCAL IMPACT**

Declaring a Level 3 water shortage condition increases advertising and public information costs. Additional water purchases will also increase expense. There is also a potential loss of revenue associated with lower water use.

#### **E. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Declaring a water shortage is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Water Code Section 10652 because CEQA does not apply to the implementation of the actions taken pursuant to WSCPs.

#### **F. ATTACHMENTS**

- Resolution 2021-09

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAKE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DECLARING A LEVEL 3 WATER SHORTAGE CONDITION**

**WHEREAS**, On January 13, 2006, the State Water Resource Control Board (“State Board”) issued Order WR 2006-0001 (“Order”). The Order, while upholding the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District’s (“District”) pre-1914 water rights for consumptive purposes, limits the District to withdrawals of up to 1,566 acre-feet of water per year from Lake Arrowhead, and;

**WHEREAS**, Due to the limitation imposed upon the District by the Order, the present non-permanent and non-reliable availability of other sources of water and the current demands on the District for water, in a dry year or multiple dry year periods, the available supply of water may be less than necessary to satisfy all needs of the District’s present and/or future customers for all current water usages, and;

**WHEREAS**, the District augments its Lake Arrowhead supply with limited groundwater and State Water Project water pursuant to a contract with the Crestline Lake Arrowhead Water Agency when it is available. These supplies are subject to limitations and in certain conditions, are not reliable, and;

**WHEREAS**, on June 22, 2021, the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District “District” adopted Ordinance No. 83, which established additional water conservation and water shortage requirements pursuant to Water Code Sections 350 and 375 to further prevent the waste and unnecessary and nonessential use of District water, creating 6 levels of water supply shortage conditions based on the severity of conditions with increasing water use restrictions in each level, and;

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Ordinance No. 83, the District is and will continue to be in a water shortage condition until such time as the District secures a predictable and reliable source or sources of water to reliably meet ordinary and future demand.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

1. The Board of Directors has determined in its discretion that due to the severity of the current drought and existing water supply conditions, additional customer demand reduction is necessary to ensure that the District can continue to provide adequate quantities of water for its customers in the near future, and therefore, the Board of Directors hereby declares a Level 3 Water Shortage Condition pursuant to Ordinance No. 83.
2. In addition to water use restrictions already in effect, the following water use restrictions apply during a Level 3 Water Shortage Emergency:

- A. **Limits on Watering Days:** Outdoor irrigation of landscaping with potable water is limited to three days per week on a schedule established and posted by the District. This does not include maintenance of vegetation, including trees and shrubs, that are watered using a hand-held bucket or similar container, or hand-held hose equipped with a positive self-closing water shut-off nozzle or device. Customers are prohibited from increasing the amount of time each day that outdoor irrigation systems are operated above the average daily time such systems were operated prior to a Level 3 Water Shortage Emergency being declared;
- B. **Turf Grass or Lawn:** No new turf grass is allowed. Existing turf grass or lawn must be reduced by 50% when refurbished;
- C. **Public Interaction:** Enhanced enforcement and increased Public Information campaigns will be initiated requesting voluntary reductions from the public.

**APPROVED, SIGNED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District on the 22nd day of June 2021, by the following vote:

**AYES:**  
**NOES:**  
**ABSTAIN:**  
**ABSENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Wurm, President of the Lake  
Arrowhead Community Services District  
Board of Directors

**ATTEST:**

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Field, Secretary of the  
Lake Arrowhead Community Services  
District and to the Board of Directors

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, Kathleen Field, Secretary to the Board of Directors of the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2021-09 was duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District on June 22, 2021.

**AYES:**  
**NOES:**  
**ABSTAIN:**  
**ABSENT:**

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Kathleen Field, Secretary of the Lake  
Arrowhead Community Services  
District and to the Board of Directors