

LAKE CHELAN RECLAMATION DISTRICT

NOTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL USBR WATER ALLOCATION

To all property owners within the Lake Chelan Reclamation District boundaries:

Greetings:

The Lake Chelan Reclamation District (the “District”) is a municipal entity responsible for the delivery of irrigation water to irrigable properties within the District boundaries. The District was formed by act of Congress and operates through the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (“USBR”). The District has a contract with the USBR that historically has allowed the District to service 6,336 acres of property within the District boundaries with irrigation water for commercial agricultural purposes.

Recently the District obtained authorization from the USBR to provide water to additional properties located within the District boundaries. There will be some limitations on what properties will be eligible for this additional water. The property must be classified as irrigable, it must be within the District boundaries, it must be accessible to the District for purposes of water delivery, and the owners must commit to using the property for commercial agricultural purposes.

The District has a statutory obligation to charge a one-time assessment (purchase) for properties receiving additional waters. The price must be based on the benefit that accrues as result of the water delivery. The District is in the process of determining the one-time purchase price but it will be approximately in the range of \$7,500 - \$10,000 per acre. Property owners will be assessed the normal annual irrigation water charges after delivery of the additional water begins.

Property owners who desire to apply for this additional water will have the ability to pay the one-time assessment over time under a payment plan with the District.

The District will require that the owners of the property seeking additional water submit a Pre-Application Form. That will place the applicant on a priority list. The applicant will be required to pay a \$1,000 deposit, which will be refunded if the applicant ultimately does not receive additional water. The District will process applications on a first come-first serve basis, with consideration of those applications that are already pending (waiting list) with the District. There will be limits on the number of acres that can be requested through this application process.

A full explanation of the additional water policy is available on the District website, along with the pre-application form. There will also be a public meeting held March 13th at 8 a.m. to discuss the per acre purchase price.

If you are interested in applying for this additional water, you should complete and submit your pre-application form to the District. The District manager or staff will be available to meet with you to review and ensure that your application is complete.