# Mammoth Community Water District

*Water is our Future*

## Water Shortage Contingency Plan

May 2026

# Acronyms & Abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| **Board** | The MCWD Board of Directors |
| **District** | Mammoth Community Water District |
| **DWR** | Department of Water Resources |
| **ERP** | Emergency Response Plan |
| **GWTP** | Ground Water Treatment Plant |
| **Level** | Water Conservation Level |
| **MAWA** | Maximum Applied Water Allowance |
| **MCWD** | Mammoth Community Water District |
| **The Plan** | This Water Shortage Contingency Plan |
| **WSCP** | Water Shortage Contingency Plan |
| **WW** | Wastewater |
| **UWMP** | Urban Water Management Plan |

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# 1 Water Supply Reliability Analysis

Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD or The District) supplies water for municipal purposes only. All of MCWD's water resources are located in the Mammoth Basin, with no imported water options. Existing sources of water include surface water, groundwater, and recycled water.

Each year, winter precipitation is received and stored as snow in the Lakes Basin, which feeds MCWD's surface water resources as the weather warms. Surface water supply is stored and diverted from Mammoth Creek at Lake Mary. Lake Mary is relatively small with a storage capacity of about 606 acre-feet. Because of this storage limitation, high spring runoff flows typically cannot be fully utilized as allowed under MCWD's water right permit and licenses because of capacity limits at the treatment plant and because runoff generally occurs prior to the irrigation season when demand is relatively low.

The groundwater aquifer pumped by MCWD wells is used to augment surface water supplies. MCWD utilizes groundwater from nine production wells in the Mammoth Basin to supplement its primary surface water supply. Thus, annual groundwater production is based on the difference between annual service area demands and surface water availability. Groundwater supply can be limited by the capacity of the District's nine wells, groundwater level drawdown impacts on well production and the ability of the two Groundwater Treatment Plants (GWTPs) to effectively treat and remove naturally occurring drinking water contaminants such as arsenic, iron and manganese.

MCWD also utilizes reclaimed wastewater treated to Title 22 requirements and recycled for golf course irrigation and in-District construction uses. The District is applying to expand its recycled water program to include construction water uses outside of the District.

The District maintains regulations prohibiting water waste at all times and is prepared for water shortages or the need for water conservation resulting from short-term emergencies or naturally occurring drought shortage conditions. Multiple factors such as the water content of the snowpack, declining groundwater levels, Lake Mary storage capacity, creek flows and the water availability of prior runoff years could trigger a water shortage. The District closely monitors surface water supplies and water levels in production wells. Water shortages or needs for conservation may also result from unplanned emergencies such as mechanical breakdown of treatment/production facilities or natural or human caused disasters. Determination of and preparation for a water conservation condition is described in the subsequent sections of this plan.

# 2 Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment Procedures

## 2.1 Decision-Making Process for Implementing Water Conservation Levels

The Board of Directors (Board) may declare a Water Conservation Level (Level) when there is a projected imbalance of water supply and peak demand. Once a resolution has been adopted declaring a Water Conservation Level, the Board may implement any of the five conservation levels deemed necessary to match water savings to available supply. Each Conservation Level corresponds to the estimated imbalance between supply and demand shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Conservation Level Triggers

| Conservation Level | Estimated Imbalance between Supply and Demand |
|---|---|
| Level 0 | Up to 10% |
| Level 1 | Up to 20% |
| Level 2 | Up to 30% |
| Level 3 | Up to 40% |
| Level 4 | Up to 50% |
| Level 5 | 50% or more |

The determinations of the appropriate level of water conservation conditions shall be supported by a recommendation from the General Manager or their designee, along with a written explanation of the existence of the facts and circumstances supporting the determination. The determination will be guided by the data and methodologies discussed in Section 2.2 of this Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). The District shall post notice of the Water Conservation Level on its website and include it in its regular billing statement or in a separate mailing to the District's customers. The District may publish a notice of the declared Water Conservation Level in a newspaper circulated within the District service area.

While Level 0 conservation measures are always in place, the conservation measures applicable to Water Conservation Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 take effect seven days following the date of mailing notice of the declared level.

The Board of Directors, by motion, may declare an end to a particular Water Conservation Level upon the recommendation of the General Manager or their designee at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

## 2.2 Data and Methodologies Triggering Water Conservation Levels

The Mammoth Community Water District relies on a mix of water supplies from surface water, groundwater, and reclaimed water. There is no option to import water into the service area due to its isolated location on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The quantity of MCWD's supply may be limited by a number of factors listed in Table 2 below.

## Table 2: Water Supply Quality Factors

| MCWD Water Supply Quantity Factors | |
|---|---|
| **Supply** | **Factors** |
| Surface Water | Annual water content of the snowpack in the Mammoth Basin<br>Timing and quantity of the surface water runoff<br>Water right restrictions contained in licenses and permits<br>Storage capacity<br>Maintenance of infrastructure<br>Natural Disasters |
| Groundwater | Annual water content of the snowpack in the Mammoth Basin<br>Soil moisture content<br>Maintenance of infrastructure<br>Natural Disasters<br>Contamination of supply |
| Recycled Water | Amount of wastewater entering the Treatment Plant (Recycled Water)<br>Storage capacity<br>Maintenance of infrastructure<br>Wastewater treatment plant disruptions |

April 1 is considered the start of the water year. Therefore, every year in the first two weeks of April, staff assesses the water content for the coming water year. The District assesses water supply availability with the assumption that the following year will be a dry year. The methodologies below were developed based on such an assumption.

The District has six standard Water Conservation Levels. Level 0 (Permanent Water Conservation Requirements) is always in place as a prohibition against water waste. The five additional Water Conservation Levels that may be implemented due to factors that threaten or limit the existing water supply are implemented using the data and methodologies described in Table 3 below.

A Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 Water Conservation Level may be declared if the flow in Mammoth Creek is or is projected to be insufficient to meet the minimum stream flow requirements in the District's water right licenses and permits. Each Level may also be declared based on the factors provided in Table 3.

## Table 3: Water Conservation Level Triggers

| Water Conservation Level Triggers | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Level** | **Water Content at Mammoth Pass** | **Water Content & Previous Year's Water Content** | **Water Content & Previous 3-year Average** | **Predicted Groundwater Supply** | **Anticipated Infrastructure Maintenance** | **Aquifer Recharge** | **Natural Disaster** |
| **Level 1** | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth pass is 60% or less. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 70% or less and the previous year's snow water content at Mammoth Pass was less than 60%. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 70% or less and the 3-year average snow water content at Mammoth Pass is less than 60%. | If the percentage of groundwater is predicted to be 75% or more of the overall water supply. | Required infrastructure maintenance is anticipated to cause an imbalance in projected supply and demand. | Water resources monitoring data indicates that aquifer recharge is insufficient and requires a 10% reduction in demand to promote recharge and prevent further drawdown. | A natural disaster or contamination of water supply has occurred that requires a 10% reduction in water demand. |
| **Level 2** | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 50% or less. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 60% or less and the previous year's snow water content at Mammoth Pass was less than 50%. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 60% or less and the 3-year average snow water content at Mammoth Pass is less than 60%. | If the percentage of groundwater is predicted to be 80% or more of the overall water supply. | Required infrastructure maintenance is anticipated to cause an imbalance in projected supply and demand. | Water resources monitoring data indicates that aquifer recharge is insufficient and requires a 20% reduction in demand to promote recharge and prevent further drawdown. | A natural disaster or contamination of water supply has occurred that requires a 20% reduction in water demand. |
| **Level 3** | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 30% or less. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 40% or less and the previous year's snow water content at Mammoth Pass was less than 50%. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 60% or less and the 3-year average snow water content at Mammoth Pass is less than 50%. | If the percentage of groundwater is predicted to be 85% or more of the overall water supply. | Required infrastructure maintenance is anticipated to cause an imbalance in projected supply and demand. | Water resources monitoring data indicates that aquifer recharge is insufficient and requires a 30% reduction in demand to promote recharge and prevent further drawdown. | A natural disaster or contamination of water supply has occurred that requires a 30% reduction in water demand. |
| **Level 4** | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 10% or less. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 30% or less and the previous year's snow water content at Mammoth Pass was less than 20%. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 40% or less and the 3-year average snow water content at Mammoth Pass is less than 50%. | If the percentage of groundwater is predicted to be 90% or more of the overall water supply and aquifer levels dictate that a 40% reduction of typical demand is necessary to meet overall water demand. | Required infrastructure maintenance is anticipated to cause an imbalance in projected supply and demand. | Water resources monitoring data indicates that aquifer recharge is insufficient and requires a 40% reduction in demand to promote recharge and prevent further drawdown. | A natural disaster or contamination of water supply has occurred that requires a 40% reduction in water demand. |
| **Level 5** | | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 15% or less and the previous year's snow water content at Mammoth Pass was less than 40%. | April 1 snow water content at Mammoth Pass is 20% or less and the 3-year average snow water content at Mammoth Pass is less than 40%. | If the percentage of groundwater is predicted to be 90% of the overall water supply and aquifer levels dictate that a 50% reduction of typical demand is necessary to meet overall water demand. | Required infrastructure maintenance is anticipated to cause an imbalance in projected supply and demand. | Water resources monitoring data indicates that aquifer recharge is insufficient and requires a 50% reduction in demand to promote recharge and prevent further drawdown. | A natural disaster or contamination of water supply as occurred that requires a 50% reduction in water demand. |

# 3 Six Standard Water Conservation Level Trigger Responses

## 3.1 Purpose

The District developed six standard Water Conservation Levels (Level 0 – Level 5) to ensure water supply reliability. Permanent and mandatory water management requirements (Level 0) are necessary to conserve water, enable effective water supply planning, assure reasonable and beneficial use of water, prevent the waste or unreasonable use of water, and prevent unreasonable methods of use of water by all District water users. These levels are available to ensure that the District has adequate supplies of water to meet the needs of the public, and further the public health, safety, and welfare, recognizing that water is a scarce natural resource that requires careful management not only in times of drought, but at all times. This WSCP establishes regulations to be implemented when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan, when the specified "triggers" are reached. In addition to the Level 0 Permanent Conservation Level, this plan establishes five levels (Level 1 – Level 5) of actions which may be implemented when triggers are reached, increasing restrictions on water use in response to decreases in available water supplies or water production capabilities. Levels 1 through 5 Water Conservation measures are mandatory and require increasingly restrictive measures in order to attain escalating conservation goals. All levels are reinforced through public education and awareness measures, as well as by enforcement as described in Section 6.

## 3.2 Application of the WSCP

1. This WSCP applies to any person using potable or raw water provided by the District, including persons located outside of the District's service area who receive water service.
2. The WSCP does not apply to uses of water necessary to protect public health and safety or for essential government services, such as law enforcement, fire, and other similar emergency services.
3. Nothing in this WSCP is intended to affect or limit the ability of the Board or General Manager to declare and respond to an unforeseeable disaster or water emergency, such as an earthquake or other major disruption of the District's water supply, pursuant to applicable state or local laws or the District's ordinances, rules, regulations, or policies.

## 3.3 Level 0 - Permanent Water Conservation Requirements

**Prohibition Against Waste -** Because Mammoth Lakes is a semi-arid region, water conservation must be practiced on a regular, year-round basis. California, including Mammoth Lakes, has historically experienced severe and extended drought periods which have the potential to limit available water supplies for the Mammoth Lakes community's current and future population. Therefore, it is critical that the public remain water conscious and conserve water at all times.

### 3.3.1 Level 0 Water Conservation Mandatory Requirements

The following water conservation requirements shall be in effect at all times regardless of whether any declared Water Conservation Level is in effect and are permanent and mandatory. These requirements are necessary to conserve water, enable effective water supply planning, assure reasonable and beneficial use of water, and prevent waste or unreasonable use of water. Violations will be considered a waste and unreasonable use of water and are subject to penalties as provided in Section 6.4 of this WSCP and by other applicable law.

## Table 4: Level 0 Water Conservation Mandatory Reductions

| Level 0 Water Conservation Mandatory Reductions | |
|---|---|
| **Conditions and Mandatory Reductions for Level 0 always remain in effect.** See Section 3.4.10 for Exemptions from Permanent and Water Level Condition Restrictions. | |
| Board Determination | Any other measures that the Board determines will promote the appropriate level of water use reductions under each Water Conservation Level and that are specified in any motion or action adopted by the Board. |
| Construction and Maintenance Water | Water used for general construction and maintenance activities, including dust control, compaction, and concrete curing, may come from one of two sources, potable or reclaimed. Potable water may be used from a fire hydrant meter supplied by the District or a metered connection if connection fees have been paid. Either potable water source requires payment for the water used. Reclaimed water is available from the District's wastewater treatment plan at no cost. The use of construction water will be subject to inspection and possible termination if any pooling, ponding, or other waste of water occurs. |
| Decorative Water Features | Decorative water features are required to have a functioning recirculation system if using potable or raw water. |
| Dining Establishments | Drinking water shall only be served to customers upon request. |
| Hand-Watering | Hand-watering with auto shut-off is permitted on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday between 5 p.m. and 10 a.m. |
| Hard Surface Areas - Washing | Washing down hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or garages is prohibited unless the hose is equipped with a functioning automatic shut-off device. |
| Hose Equipped with Irrigation Device | A hose connected to an irrigation device, e.g., landscape sprinkler, must be equipped with a timer that will automatically shut off the water supply after a set amount of time. Timers may not be set to run for more than two hours. |
| Hotel or Motel Linen Laundry | The owner or operator of a hotel, motel, or other establishment that offers or provides lodging or rental accommodations for compensation shall provide customers with the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. They must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language. |
| Irrigation (Landscape): Permitted Hours/Days | The watering of vegetation outside of any building is permitted between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and between 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. No irrigation is permitted between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Customers with even numbered addresses are permitted to water outside vegetation only on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Customers with odd numbered addresses are permitted to water outside vegetation only on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. Customers with a District approved irrigation plan and irrigation meter who do not exceed 100% of the District Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) shall not be subject to the day of week requirements but shall comply with the time-of-day prohibitions. |
| Irrigation Requirements - Additional | No person shall cause or permit the following:<br>i. Misting of irrigation devices;<br>ii. Operation of a broken sprinkler head; or<br>iii. Operation of a sprinkler head out of adjustment and the arc of the spray head is over a street, parking area, or other impervious surface. |
| Irrigation Water - Excessive Application | Excessive application of water on landscapes without a dedicated irrigation meter may be subject to requiring a customer to implement a MAWA budget. Excessive use will be determined by considering appropriate standards of peak water consumption and size of irrigated area. Customers who are converted to a MAWA budget and excessively use water will become subject to the provisions contained in the MCWD Water Code for MAWA accounts. |
| Landscaping and/or Turf - Existing | 100% of existing landscaping may be replaced or reseeded.<br>i. If rehabilitating 2,500 sq. ft. or greater of landscape, approval and compliance with the Town of Mammoth Lakes Water Efficient Landscape Regulation is required. |
| Landscaping and/or Turf - New | New landscaping projects shall comply with the applicable requirements of the Town of Mammoth Lakes Water Efficient Landscape Regulations and the Mammoth Community Water District Code. Landscaping plans approved by the Town shall be provided to the District. |
| Leaks | No person shall permit leaks of water that he/she has the authority to eliminate. Repair or prevention of all water leaks shall be carried out within five days of discovery by the customer or notification by the District. |
| MAWA Exceedance | A customer with a separate irrigation meter shall not exceed 125% of the District MAWA. |
| Runoff and Ponding | No person shall cause or permit any District-supplied water furnished to any property to flow from any house, pipe, valve, faucet, sprinkler, or irrigation device at a distance of 50 feet or greater if such flow can reasonably be prevented. No person shall allow water to pond greater than 0.25 inch in a street, parking area, or on other impervious surfaces. |
| State Requirements | Restrictions of water use established by the State Water Board under an emergency regulation shall be enforced while such restrictions are in effect. |
| Swimming Pools and Spas | Overfilling of swimming pools and spas such that overflow water is discharged onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter, or ditch is prohibited.<br>Covers are required on top of pools and spas to reduce evaporation during the hours that the pool or spa is closed. |
| Vehicle Washing | A hose used to wash commercial and noncommercial vehicles, boats, trailers and other types of vehicles is required to have a functioning automatic shut-off device. |

## 3.4 Water Conservation Levels 1-5

There are five additional Water Conservation Levels which may be implemented after the District Board of Directors, by resolution, has declared the threat of a water shortage or the need for conservation and declared a water shortage condition Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 based on the projected imbalance in available water supply and projected peak demand. Whenever the Board has made such a declaration, and during the course of such threatened or existing water shortage, the Board, by motion, may implement any Conservation Level as it deems necessary, and shall authorize the General Manager and District staff to enforce it.

Any Conservation Level restricting water use implemented by the Board shall remain in effect until the Board, by motion, determines otherwise. Under Levels 1-5, each consumer shall reduce their demand by the percentage below that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013, specified for each Level. The reduction percentage can be viewed in Table 5 below.

### Table 5: Reduction of Demand

| Conservation Level | Reduction of Demand – Compared to the Same Month in 2013 |
|---|---|
| Level 0 | --- |
| Level 1 | At least 10% |
| Level 2 | At least 20% |
| Level 3 | At least 30% |
| Level 4 | At least 40% |
| Level 5 | At least 50% |

This reduction will ensure that sufficient supplies will be available to meet anticipated demands, as determined by the methodologies set forth in Section 2.2 of this WSCP. Upon such declaration, the General Manager or their designee shall take the necessary actions to implement the Water Conservation Level 1-5 water conservation practices identified below in Section 3.4.1.

The five additional levels of Water Conservation and the approximate conditions are described below. Measures to reduce water demand are targeted to the shortage condition and apply to potable and raw water uses.

### 3.4.1 Levels 1-5 Water Conservation Mandatory Reductions

**Table 6:** Levels 1-5 Water Conservation Mandatory Reductions

| Conservation | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Required Compliance** | All customers shall be required to comply with all Level 0 Permanent Water Conservation measures in Section 3.3 and the following additional measures below. | All water customers shall be required to comply with all Level 0 and Level 1 Water Conservation measures and shall comply with the following additional conservation measures. | All water customers shall comply with all Level 0, Level 1, and Level 2 Water Conservation measures and shall comply with the following additional measures. | All water customers shall be required to comply with all Level 0, Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Water Conservation measures, and shall comply with the following additional measures. | All water customers shall be required to comply with all Level 0, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Water Conservation measures and shall comply with the following additional measures. |
| **Hand-Watering** | | | Hand-watering with auto shut-off is permitted on Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. | | |
| **Hard Surfaces** | No hard surfaces including sidewalks, driveways, parking areas or decks may be washed or hosed down with water supplied through the District's water system, unless authorized by health or safety requirements. | | | | |
| **Hoses** | All hoses shall be equipped with a functioning automatic shut-off device. | | | | |
| **Irrigation Days*** | | | Customers with even numbered addresses are permitted to water outside vegetation only on Wednesday and Saturday. Customers with odd numbered addresses are permitted to water on Thursday and Sunday. | Customers with even numbered addresses are permitted to water outside vegetation only on Wednesday. Customers with odd numbered addresses are permitted to water only on Thursday. | All landscape irrigation shall be prohibited. -Golf courses, public parks, school playing fields, and landscape products of commercial growers and nurseries are exempt as set forth in 3.4.2. -Hand-watering existing landscapes with a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle is exempt as set forth in 3.4.6.e. |
| **Irrigation Hours** | 1 a.m. - 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. | 1 a.m. - 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. -11 p.m. | 1 a.m. – 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. – 11 p.m. | 4 a.m. – 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. | NONE allowed |

| Conservation | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Landscaping or Turf - Existing** | No more than 5% of an existing turf area may be replaced or reseeded. | No turf areas shall be replaced or reseeded without District approval of a Landscape Plan. | Existing turf shall not be reseeded or replanted. | Existing non-turf landscape shall not be replaced or reseeded. | |
| **Landscaping or Turf - New** | New non-turf landscaping, including bedding plants and trees, shall be permitted only if watered by drip, micro-sprinkler, or micro-sprayer systems. Overhead watering shall only be allowed for turf areas. | All new landscape shall be watered by drip, micro-sprinkler, or micro-sprayer irrigation systems. | No new turf/sod shall be planted. | | |
| **MAWA (5,000+ sf of landscape requires compliance)** | | Customers with a monthly MAWA may not have monthly water use exceeding 100% of the monthly allowance. | Customers with a monthly MAWA may not have monthly water use exceeding 80% of the monthly allowance. | Customers with a monthly MAWA may not have monthly water use exceeding 60% of the monthly allowance. | |
| **Pools/Spas** | | | | | Filling or refilling of residential pools and spas is prohibited. |
| **Repairs** | | Repair or prevention of all water leaks shall be carried out within 3 days of discovery by the customer or notification from the District. | All water leaks, breaks, or other plumbing malfunctions shall be repaired within 2 days of discovery by the customer or notification by the District, with the exception of rental properties. In order to comply with State laws regarding the provision of notice to tenants, rental properties shall have up to 3 days to repair interior unit leaks. | | All water leaks, breaks, or other plumbing malfunctions shall be repaired within 1 day of discovery by the customer or notification by the District, with the exception of rental properties. In order to comply with State laws regarding the provision of notice to tenants, rental properties shall have up to 3 days to repair interior unit leaks. |
| **Vehicle Washing** | | | | | Vehicle washing may only be conducted at or by businesses licensed for such activity and which have a process to recycle wash water. |

*Customers who do not have a numbered address will be notified by the District of their watering days.

### 3.4.2 Golf Course, Public Park, and School Playing Field Water Restrictions

During a declared Water Conservation Level, golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields using potable or raw water shall be subject only to the following water restrictions for irrigation. Golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields utilizing recycled water for irrigation are exempt from this restriction as provided in Subsection 3.4.6. Owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields subject to these provisions shall comply with the restrictions in Table 7 below:

**Table 7:** Golf Course, Public Park, and School Playing Field Water Restrictions

| Golf Course, Public Park, and School Playing Field | |
|---|---|
| **Level** | **Water Restrictions** |
| **Level 1** | The owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall submit a Water Conservation Plan to the District. The plan shall describe existing and planned methods for reducing water by **10% below** that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013. The Water Conservation Plan shall be approved by the General Manager. Golf Courses, public parks and school playing fields shall be subject to the Level 1 irrigation water restrictions until their plan is approved. |
| **Level 2** | The owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall submit a Water Conservation Plan to the District. The plan shall describe methods for reducing water use by **20% below** that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013. This Water Conservation Plan shall be approved by the General Manager. Golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall be subject to the Level 2 irrigation water restrictions until their plan is approved. |
| **Level 3** | The owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall submit a Water Conservation Plan to the District. The plan shall describe methods for reducing water use by **30% below** that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013. This Water Conservation Plan shall be approved by the General Manager. Golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall be subject to the Level 3 irrigation water restrictions until their plan is approved. |
| **Level 4** | The owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall submit a Water Conservation Plan to the District. The plan shall describe methods for reducing water use by **40% below** that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013. This Water Conservation Plan shall be approved by the General Manager. Golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall be subject to the Level 4 irrigation water restrictions until their plan is approved. |
| **Level 5** | The owners of golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall submit a Water Conservation Plan to the District. The plan shall describe methods for reducing water use by **50% below** that consumer's demand in the same month in calendar year 2013. This Water Conservation Plan shall be approved by the General Manager. Golf courses, public parks, and school playing fields shall be subject to the Level 5 irrigation water restrictions until their plan is approved. |

### 3.4.3 School and Town Playing Fields

Whenever the Board of Directors declares a Water Conservation Level, it may, if in the public interest, permit the irrigation of the playing fields at the following locations: Mammoth High School, Mammoth Middle School, Mammoth Elementary School, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes Shady Rest Park on days and during times fixed by motion of the Board of Directors.

### 3.4.4 Recycled Water

The water restrictions set forth in this Section 3.4 shall not apply to the use of recycled water for any purpose.

### 3.4.5 Variances

1. Variance Request. If, due to unique circumstances, a specific requirement of this WSCP would result in an undue hardship to a customer using District water or to a property upon which such water is used, then the customer may apply for a variance to the designated requirement under this Subsection 3.4.5.

2. Findings Required. The variance may be granted, or conditionally granted, only upon a written finding of the existence of facts demonstrating an undue hardship to a customer or to property upon which water is used, that is disproportionate to the impacts to District water users generally or to similar property or classes of water user due to specific and unique circumstances of the user or the user's property.

3. Application. An application for a variance shall be on a written form prescribed by the General Manager or their designee. The written application shall be accompanied by photographs, maps, drawings, or other pertinent information, as applicable, including a written statement by the applicant explaining the basis for the variance requested and reasons supporting the request.

4. Approval Authority. The General Manager or their designee will exercise approval authority and act upon any completed application after submittal and may approve, conditionally approve, or deny the variance. The applicant requesting the variance will be promptly notified in writing of any action taken. The decision of the General Manager or their designee shall be final unless the applicant files a written appeal to the District Board of Directors within 10 days following the date of the decision. Unless specified otherwise at the time a variance is approved, the variance shall apply to the subject property only during the term of the applicable Water Conservation Level condition.

5. Required Findings for Variance. An application for a variance will be denied unless the General Manager or their designee finds, based on the information provided in the application, supporting documents, and such additional information as may be requested, and on water use information for the property as shown by the records of the District, that:

    a) The variance does not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with the limitations upon other District customers;

    b) Because of special circumstances applicable to the property or its use, the strict application of this WSCP would have a disproportionate impact on the property or use that exceeds the impacts upon District customers generally;

    c) The approval of such variance will not materially affect the ability of the District to effectuate the purposes of this WSCP and will not be detrimental to the public interest; and

    d) The condition or situation of the subject property or the intended use of the property for which the variance is sought is not common or general in nature or application.

6. No relief shall be granted to any customer for any reason in the absence of a showing by the customer that the customer has achieved the maximum practical reduction in their water consumption.

### 3.4.6 Exemptions from Permanent and Water Conservation Level Restrictions

a) The following are exempt from the watering day restrictions specified in Section 3.3.1, but are subject to the watering hour restrictions:

   i. Irrigation systems with a separate irrigation meter where the customer has a District approved MAWA irrigation plan and the customer does not exceed 100% of the District's MAWA;

   ii. Use of recycled water that is not supplemented by potable or raw water supplied by the District, as long as the recycled water supply is available; and

   iii. Public parks, school playing fields and golf courses.

b) In permanent Level 0 conditions only, upon written request to the District, a customer may receive an exemption for up to 30 days from the restrictions on days and hours of irrigation provided in Section 3.3.1, to permit planting of new seed or installing of new turf. The 30-day exemption commences from the date of installation of the turf or the initial seeding. Exemptions for longer periods will require approval from the District Board of Directors.

c) Commercial plant nurseries shall be exempt from the restrictions on days and hours of irrigation set forth in Section 3.3.1.

d) Hand-watering from a watering can shall be exempt from the restrictions on days and hours of irrigation set forth in Section 3.3.1.

e) Other variances from the water restrictions set forth in Section 3.3.1 may be granted by the General Manager or their designee pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.4.5.

# 4 Response Actions for Water Conservation

## 4.1 Supply Augmentation

Given its remote location and the lack of additional available water sources, the District does not have any feasible water supply augmentation options.

## 4.2 Demand Reduction

Demand reduction actions developed to address supply shortages and conservation needs are described in detail in Section 3, Six Standard Water Conservation Level Trigger Responses.

Supplemental to the Standard Water Conservation Levels, MCWD manages water conservation programs to reduce water demand. These programs include:

- Public information campaigns promoting water use efficiency and conservation.
- Water use information provided to customers to explain their water demand.
- Rebates and giveaways of low-water use plumbing fixtures and devices.
- Rebates for landscape irrigation efficiency improvements and devices.
- Turf Replacement Rebate Program for rebates when converting turf grass to a water efficient landscape.
- Reducing system water loss in the MCWD system through leak detection and repair and other measures.
- Tracking water use for irrigation compliance.

Details and descriptions of these programs are provided in Chapter 9, Demand Management Measures, of the District's Urban Water Management Plan.

## 4.3 Operational Changes

During potential and declared water shortages, the District makes several operational changes in order to prepare.

Surface water is almost entirely gravity fed to the distribution system. Therefore, conservation of stored surface water is initiated to retain a minimum storage level in Lake Mary of approximately 200 acre-feet. This stored surface water would supply roughly a month of peak water demand to accommodate for a groundwater emergency or other natural disaster.

Additionally, the distribution system is set up for a pumping scenario to enable the District to supply primarily groundwater to maintain surface water for reserves.

## 4.4 Additional Mandatory Restrictions

Mandatory Restrictions are described in detail in Section 3, Standard Water Conservation Levels.

## 4.5 Emergency Response Plan

To respond to emergency water shortage situations, MCWD regularly updates its Emergency Response Plan (ERP), which contains actions to maintain service or restore service in instances of disruption. In addition to response actions, the ERP includes estimates of water requirements for various types of emergencies and the capability for the system to meet these requirements. Table 8 below provides a list of water emergency scenarios for which the District has action plans:

### Table 8: Emergency Response Plan Scenarios Regarding Water Supply

| Emergency |
|---|
| Loss of power at the surface water treatment plant |
| Loss of power at the groundwater treatment plant(s) |
| Loss of access and power to Lakes Basin facilities: surface water treatment plant and wastewater (ww) lift stations. |
| Loss of power and access in Old Mammoth area: GWTP No. 1, 4 production wells and 1 sewer lift station impacted. |
| Chlorine gas leak at water treatment or wastewater plant. |
| Major earthquake and/or volcanic eruption: loss of power, treatment facilities, water storage tanks, underground pipe breakage, and release of hazardous chemicals. |
| Wildfire consideration |

## 4.6 Seismic Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan

MCWD ensures all new construction and repairs are designed to ASCE 7-22 seismic structural standards and has included this as part of the Strategic Plan. In 2025 the District hired a structural consultant to prepare a Seismic Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan. Staff are currently working to address the recommended retrofits that resulted from the assessment.

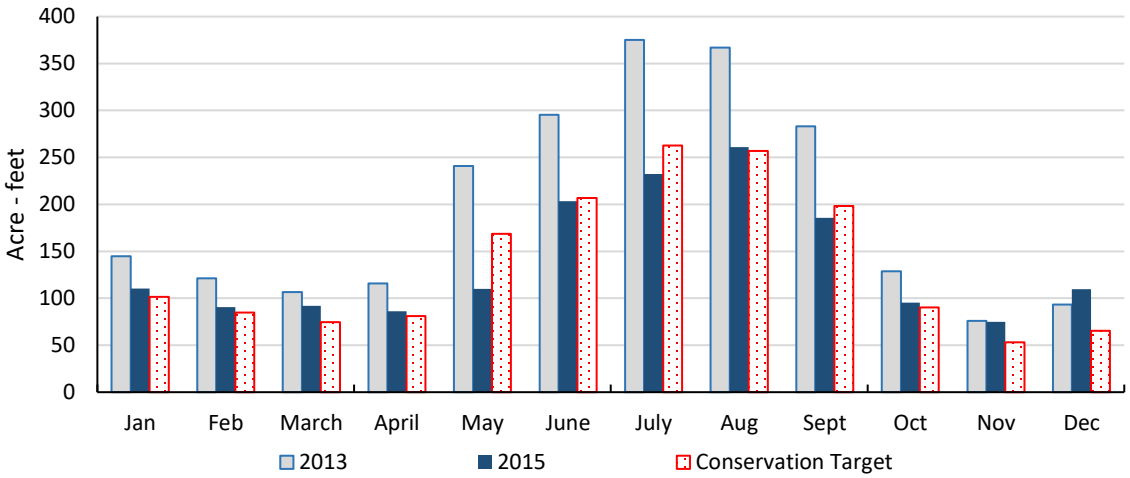
## 4.7 Shortage Response Action Effectiveness

During the four-year drought period from 2012 to 2015, the District implemented various Water Conservation Levels. Figure 1, Actual Demand 2013 (comparison year), 2015, and MCWD 30% Reduction Target, shows actual water demand reductions during the Water Conservation Level 3 restrictions that

were implemented in April 2015. In November 2015, a new customer with significant water demand was connected to the MCWD system. Also, winter transient occupancy was higher than in 2013.

Emphasizing irrigation efficiency has been the most effective demand reduction program implemented by MCWD. However, variations in the timing of the beginning and end of the irrigation season, monthly temperature variations and summer precipitation can complicate the calculation of conservation from landscape management regulations. In June 2015, the state set a cumulative reduction level of 20% for MCWD using 2013 as the baseline year. MCWD met the state requirements with a 28.2% cumulative reduction in December 2015. Significant water savings were obtained during the 2015 irrigation season under Water Conservation Level 3 restrictions as demonstrated in Figure 1 below. Implementing and enforcing water conservation has been effective at reducing demands such that state and MCWD goals are being met.

Figure 1: Actual Demand 2013 (Comparison Year), 2015 and MCWD 30% Reduction Target




# 5 Communication Protocols

The General Manager or their designee may publish a Notice of the Determination of the existence of a declared Water Conservation Level in a newspaper circulated within the District. The District shall post notice of a declared Water Conservation Level on its website and include it in its regular billing statement or in a separate mailing, or emails, to all of the District's customers. The District may also utilize customer bills, social media, and group messenger software to notify customers of Water Conservation Levels.

# 6 Compliance and Enforcement

The following provisions apply to the enforcement of the permanent Water Conservation Level 0 requirements and the five additional Water Conservation Level requirements in Section 3, Six Standard Water Conservation Levels, of this WSCP.

## 6.1 Single-Family Residential, Commercial, and Other

For single-family residential, commercial, or other customers served by one meter or two meters where one is for inside use and another is for outside use, such as for irrigation of landscaping, the following shall apply:

### Table 9: Water Violations for Single-Family Residential, Commercial and Other Users

| Single-Family Residential, Commercial, and Other | |
|---|---|
| **Number of Violations** | |
| **1-2** | For a customer's first two violations of the permanent Water Conservation requirements (Level 0) or water restrictions during a declared Water Conservation Level, the District will issue warnings. For each warning, the District first will make one attempt to contact the customer, or other person at the premises about the observed violation and follow up any such verbal warning with a written confirmation of the violation. If such contact is unsuccessful, the District will mail a written notice of the violation to the customer. If the warning was orally communicated, the customer will have 48 hours to correct the violation. Otherwise, the customer will have 7 days from the date of the written notice to correct the violation. |
| **3 or More** | Upon the occurrence of three or more violations, the District will notify the customer in writing by mail of the violation. The customer will have 7 days from the date of the notice to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, a daily fine, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule, will be imposed and charged to the customer's account until the earlier of: (i) the violation is corrected, or (ii) the District disconnects the customer's irrigation meter or installs a flow restrictor pursuant to violations for 4 or more restrictions as stated below. |
| **4 or More of Watering Restrictions** | When at least four violations have been committed, involving the watering of landscaping or vegetation (including multiple violations of the same restriction), then the District, upon notice pursuant to Section 6.6 below, may disconnect the customer's irrigation meter or restrict water flow to the property. If the customer's landscaping or vegetation is separately metered, the corresponding connection may be disconnected. If the landscaping or vegetation is not separately metered, then the District may install a flow restrictor on the customer's meter in order to reduce water service to essential uses only (i.e., household or inside uses). A customer with four or more irrigation violations, and a single meter serving the property, may choose to install separately metered systems for inside and outside use. If this option is selected, the District will install a flow restrictor until the separate systems are operational to the District's satisfaction and disconnect the outside system. |
| **4 or More of Any Restrictions** | If there are at least four violations of any Water Conservation Level restrictions of any nature, then the District, upon notice pursuant to Section 6.6 below, may install a flow restrictor on the customer's meter in order to reduce water service to essential uses only. If a customer has a separate meter for irrigation of landscaping or vegetation, the District may disconnect that meter in lieu of installing a flow restrictor. |
| **Disconnected or Reduced Service** | In the event that service is disconnected or reduced pursuant to violations for 4 or more restrictions as stated above, service shall not be restored, and flow restrictors shall not be removed until the customer pays the District the appropriate fees as described in the Master Fee Schedule. A fee per disconnected meter and fee per flow restrictor installation shall be imposed to reimburse the District for its costs in disconnecting or reducing service, and then restoring service, and a fine for violating this WSCP, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule. The District shall have 5 working days from the date of a customer's payment of applicable fees and fines to restore service and/or remove the flow restrictors. Upon restoration of service, the customer will be subject to the provisions of this Section 6.1 except the customer will be considered to have already received two warnings. |

## 6.2 Multi-family Residential, Commercial and Other Users

For multi-family residential customers (condominiums, duplexes, triplexes, apartments, trailer parks, and others), and commercial and other customers with more than one meter or two meters, where one meter is for inside use and the other is for outside use such as for irrigation of landscaping, the following shall apply:

### Table 10: Water Violations for Multi-Family Residential, Commercial and Other Users

| Multi-Family, Residential, Commercial and Other Users | |
|---|---|
| **Number of Violations** | |
| **1. Violations concerning or relating to common areas, landscaping, or vegetation.** | |
| **1-2** | For the first two violations of any Water Conservation Level restrictions by a customer or their agents or employees involving common areas, landscaping or vegetation, the District will issue warnings. For each warning, the District first will make one attempt to contact the customer or other person at the premises about the observed violation and follow-up any such verbal warning with a written confirmation of the violation. If such contact is unsuccessful, the District will mail a written notice of the violation to the customer's billing address. If the warning was orally communicated, the customer will have 48 hours to correct the violation. Otherwise, the customer will have 7 days from the date of the written notice to correct the violation. |
| **3 or More** | Upon the occurrence of three or more violations, the District will notify the customer in writing by mail of the violation. The customer will have 7 days from the date of the notice to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, a fine of $50 per day will be imposed and charged to the customer's account until the earlier of: (i) the violation is corrected, or (ii) the District disconnects the customer's irrigation meter or installs a flow restrictor pursuant to violations for 4 or more restrictions as stated below. |
| **4 or More** | When at least four violations have been committed by a customer or their agents or employees involving common areas, landscaping, or vegetation, then the District, upon notice pursuant to Section 6.6, may disconnect all of the customer's irrigation meters if the customer's common areas, landscaping, or vegetation are separately metered. If the common areas, landscaping, or vegetation are not separately metered, then the District may install flow restrictors on each of the customer's meters in order to reduce water service to essential uses only (i.e., household or inside uses). A customer with four or more violations and a single meter may choose to install separately metered water systems for inside and outside use, in which event the outside water system only will be disconnected. If the customer chooses to install separately metered systems, then the District may install flow restrictors until the separate systems are operational to the District's satisfaction. |
| **2. Violations associated with accessory dwelling units, businesses, or other individual units:** | |
| **1-2** | For the first two violations of Water Conservation Level restrictions associated with an accessory dwelling unit, business, or other individual unit, the District will issue warnings to the occupants thereof, and the customer, if different from the occupant. For each warning, the District first will make one attempt to contact the customer or other person at the premises about the observed violation and follow-up any such verbal warning with a written confirmation of the violation to the customer. If such contact is unsuccessful, the District will mail a written notice of the violation to the customer. If the warning is orally communicated, the customer will have 48 hours to correct the violation. Otherwise, the customer will have 7 days from the date of the written notice to correct the violation. |
| **3 or More** | Upon the occurrence of three or more violations, the District will notify the occupant and customer in writing by mail of the violation. The occupant or customer will have 7 days from the date of the notice to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, a fine of $50 per day will be imposed and charged to the customer's account until the earlier of (i) the violation is corrected, or (ii) the District disconnects the irrigation meter or installs a flow restrictor pursuant to violations of 4 or more restrictions, as stated below. |
| **4 or More** | When at least four violations have been committed, the District, upon notice pursuant to Section 6.6 below, may install a flow restrictor on the meter serving the dwelling unit, business, or other individual unit in order to reduce water service to essential uses only. If the meter provides service to other dwelling units, businesses, or other individual units, or to common areas, landscaping, or other vegetation, then those affected thereby who are unrelated to the violations may elect to install separate meters. However, the District may install the flow restrictor until the separate meters have been installed and are operational to the District's satisfaction. |
| **3. Restoration of Service and/or Removal of Flow Restrictors:** | |
| | In the event that service is disconnected and/or reduced pursuant to any subsections above, the customer, or other affected person, may request reconnection and/or removal of the flow restrictor upon payment of a fine for violating this WSCP, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule, and the following fees. A fee per disconnected meter and a fee per meter on which a flow restrictor is installed, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule. The District shall have five working days within which to restore service and/or remove the flow restrictor after a request therefore by the customer, or other affected person, and payment of the fine and costs to restore service. Upon restoration of service, the customer will be subject to the provisions of this Section 6.2, except the customer will be considered to already have received two warnings. |

## 6.3 Food Service and Lodging Establishments

For food service and lodging establishments, the following shall apply:

### Table 11: Water Violations for Food Service and Lodging Establishments

| Number of Violations | |
|---|---|
| 1-2 | For a food service's or lodging establishment's first two violations of the permanent Water Conservation (Level 0) or water restrictions imposed during a declared Water Conservation Level related to serving water or failing to notify customers regarding an option to reduce linen service, the District will issue warnings. For each warning, the District first will make one attempt to contact the owner or manager, or other person at the premises of the observed violation, and follow-up any such verbal warning with a written confirmation of the violation. If such contact is unsuccessful, the District will mail a written notice of the violation to the business. |
| 3 or More | Upon the occurrence of three or more violations, the District will impose a fine, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule, for each additional violation, to be collected on the water bill. |

## 6.4 Fees and Fines

In addition to any other fees and fines imposed by this WSCP, there also shall be a monthly fee, as stated in the Master Fee Schedule, imposed on each customer whose service has been reduced through the installation of a flow restrictor for each month or part thereof that the flow restrictor is in operation. The purpose of this fee is to reimburse the District for its costs of administering and processing flow restrictors and in monitoring the customer's water use and the proper operation of the flow restrictor. The fee provided in this Section 6.4 shall be subject to the collection and enforcement provisions of the MCWD Water Code.

## 6.5 Appeals

1. Any person who wishes to object to the enforcement of this WSCP may submit a written appeal to the General Manager of the District within 10 days following the date of the challenged action. The appeal shall set forth the events and circumstances concerning the challenged action, the nature of the action from which relief is sought, the reasons for why the appeal should be granted, and all supporting documentation. The General Manger shall review the appeal and render a decision on it within 10 days of its receipt.

2. If the appellant is not satisfied with the General Manager's decision, they may appeal that decision to the Board of Directors within 10 days following the date that the General Manager's determination is made. The General Manager shall then submit such appeal, together with his/her recommendations, to the District Board of Directors, which shall review the matter and schedule a hearing within 60 days from the date the appeal is submitted to the Board. At the hearing, the Board will receive testimony and evidence from both the appellant and staff. After the hearing, the Board will deliberate and prepare a written decision summarizing its findings and decision, which shall be sent to the appellant within 30 days after the hearing.

3. A decision made by the Board of Directors is final. An appellant may only challenge a decision by the Board by filing a legal action against the District within the time limits set forth in Section 53069.4 of the Government Code, or as otherwise provided by law.

## 6.6 Notice

Notwithstanding any other provision of the MCWD Water Code, any disconnection or reduction in service may be made after providing 48 hours' advance written notice thereof if such notice is personally served on the customer and violator, if different from the customer, and other affected person, or after providing one week's advance written notice thereof if such notice is mailed to the customer and violator, if different from the customer, and other affected persons.

The provisions of the MCWD Water District Code shall not apply to this WSCP. Written notice given by mail pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the United States Post Office Box for delivery by first class mail. Registered or Certified mail is not required. The customer shall be responsible for notifying the District to whom notices under this WSCP should be mailed if other than the customer.

## 6.7 Accumulation of Violations

Violations of water restrictions under the Six Standard Water Conservation Levels (Section 3) of this WSCP, shall not accumulate from one year to the next year.

## 6.8 Criminal Penalties

In addition to the above administrative penalties and remedies, violators of water conservation requirements imposed by the District in response to the declaration of a Water Conservation Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 and which would otherwise violate any applicable provision of the MCWD Water Code, may be subject to criminal penalties in accordance with California Water Code section 31029.

# 7 Legal Authorities

The District has the authority, based on water supply conditions, to declare a Shortage Condition and to implement water conservation measures under its enabling act, the County Water District Law, Water Code sections 30000 and following, and particularly Water Code sections 31025 through 31029. Also, the District is empowered to declare a water shortage emergency and enforce it under Water Code sections 350 through 359. In addition, the District has enacted by ordinance a comprehensive Water Code, which includes prohibitions on water waste and water conservation measures, as well as enforcement measures for violation. The Water Code as enacted includes enforcement authority under Government Code section 53069.4. This WSCP, when adopted, will provide additional authority. The District does not have any water supply contracts as it is completely self-supplied. The District shall coordinate with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, within which it provides water supply services, for the possible proclamation of a local emergency under the California Emergency Services Act (Article 2, Section 8558 of the California Government Code).

Protocols for coordination with agencies within the District's service area in the event of a local emergency will be followed as outlined in the District's Emergency Response Plan. Contact numbers for agencies within the service area are listed below:

| | |
|---|---|
| Town of Mammoth Lakes | 760.965.3600 |
| Mammoth Lakes Police Department | 760.965.3700 |
| Mammoth Lakes Fire Department | 760.934.2300 |

# 8 Financial Consequences of WSCP

The District's financial exposure to water shortages is moderated by its rate structure, which relies primarily on fixed charges. Approximately 10 percent of total District revenue is derived from volumetric (consumption-based) charges. As a result, reductions in water demand during shortage conditions have a limited impact on overall revenue. Based on current rates, each 10 percent reduction in water use corresponds to an estimated 1.3 percent reduction in total revenue, or approximately $290,000 annually.

In addition to reduced revenues, water shortages may increase operational costs. As surface water supplies decline, the District relies more heavily on groundwater, which is more expensive to pump, treat, and distribute. The incremental cost associated with increased groundwater use is estimated at approximately $160,000 annually under a 30 percent reduction scenario.

The District maintains operating reserves to ensure financial stability during periods of reduced revenue and increased costs. The reserve policy for water operations is equal to approximately nine months of operating expenses, or about $5.1 million. Based on planning-level estimates, a single year with a 50 percent reduction in water supply would result in an approximate revenue loss of $1.45 million. A multi-year drought scenario consisting of three consecutive years at a 30 percent reduction would result in a cumulative revenue loss of approximately $2.64 million. Existing reserves are sufficient to absorb these impacts in the near term while maintaining ongoing operations.

## 8.1 Financial Impact by Water Shortage Level

Table 8-8 summarizes the estimated financial impacts associated with each level of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. These estimates are planning-level approximations intended to illustrate the relative magnitude of revenue reductions and cost increases under varying shortage conditions.

Table 12: Fiscal Impacts of Water Restrictions on Revenue

| Financial Impacts by Water Shortage Level | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **WSCP Level** | **Demand Reduction** | **Estimated Revenue Impact** | **Estimated Cost Impact** | **Overall Financial Impact** |
| **Level 0** | Up to 10% | ~ $290,000 reduction | Minimal | Low |
| **Level 1** | Up to 20% | ~ $580,000 reduction | Minor increase | Low to Moderate |
| **Level 2** | Up to 30% | ~ $870,000 reduction | Moderate increase | Moderate |
| **Level 3** | Up to 40% | ~ $1.16 million reduction | Increased groundwater use | Moderate to High |
| **Level 4** | Up to 50% | ~ $1.45 million reduction | Higher operational costs | High |
| **Level 5** | Greater than 50% | Greater than $1.45 million | Significant cost increases | Very High |

## 8.2 Financial Mitigation Measures

The District has several tools available to manage the financial impacts of water shortages. Primary mitigation measures include the use of operating reserves to offset temporary revenue shortfalls and

increased costs. In addition, the District may defer planned capital expenditures or reallocate funding between operating and capital accounts as necessary to maintain essential services.

If drought conditions are severe or prolonged, the District may consider additional measures such as rate adjustments, consistent with applicable legal requirements. These actions would be evaluated based on the magnitude and duration of the shortage and the District's overall financial condition.

## 8.3 Conclusion

The District's primary reliance on fixed charges, combined with its reserve policy, provides a high degree of financial stability during water shortage conditions. Planning-level analysis indicates that the District can absorb the financial impacts of moderate to severe short-term shortages using existing reserves while maintaining operational continuity. More extreme or prolonged drought conditions may require implementation of additional financial mitigation measures to ensure long-term fiscal sustainability.

# 9 Monitoring and Reporting

During a declared Water Conservation Level, MCWD staff will continuously monitor water supply and demand. Customer water usage is used to evaluate the effectiveness of Water Conservation Level restrictions and consumption reduction programs. Since 2015, customers may view their hourly usage online by the following day. Hourly usage data allows MCWD staff to evaluate customer compliance with District regulations. When supply conditions and data analysis warrant, the General Manager will recommend to the Board that it either increase or decrease the Water Conservation Level or terminate the restrictions per the water supply and demand assessment procedures described in Section 2 of this WSCP.

# 10 WSCP Refinement Procedures

The District will utilize the WSCP as a dynamic tool that can be refined to ensure that it is effective. As the District monitors projected supply and demand throughout the year, and especially at times when a threatened or actual water supply shortage exists, the District will adjust procedures and implement actions to ensure that the WSCP is serving as an adequate and appropriate water shortage mitigation plan. This WSCP can be modified, through motion by the Board of Directors, at any time to ensure it is a dynamic plan that is adjusted as needed based on monitoring and reporting.

# 11 Special Water Feature Distinction

MCWD uses the Health and Safety Code Section 11592(a) definition of swimming pools and spas.

*Health and Safety Code Section 11592(a): "Swimming pool" or "pool" means any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches deep. "Swimming pool: includes in-ground and above ground structures and includes, but is not limited to, hot tubs, spas, portable spas, and non-portable wading pools."*

Water features have been defined by MCWD conservation staff as ponded or running water structures designed to receive potable, raw, or recycled water from MCWD and used for ornamental purposes. The

most prominent water features in MCWD's service area are golf course ponds. Ponds that are used to hold irrigation water are allowed under conditions specified in MCWD's Code.

# 12 Plan Adoption, Submittal and Availability

Guidelines require that, prior to adoption of the WSCP, the District must provide a draft for public review and provide notice to the public and specified public agencies of a public hearing to accept comments. The District's Board of Directors will consider adopting the WSCP, with or without changes, following the public hearing. After the WSCP is adopted, a copy of the WSCP must be filed with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and certain other agencies within 30 days of adoption.

## 12.1 Notice of Public Hearing

The draft of this WSCP was made available to the public for review at the Mammoth Lakes branch of the Mono County Public Libraries and the District office, as well as made available for download from the District's website. A link to the draft WSCP was provided to the Town Manager of the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Mono County Administrative Officer, via email notification. A Notice of Public Hearing on the proposed updated WSCP, which included information on obtaining copies of the draft plan for review and comment, was published in the local paper for two successive weeks, May xx, and May xx, 2026, and posted on the District's website. News releases were provided to the local radio stations. The Notice of Public Hearing is provided in Appendix A.

## 12.2 Public Hearing and Adoption

The public hearing and subsequent consideration for adopting this WSCP occurred on May 21, 2026. During the hearing, the Board received a brief staff presentation on the WSCP. Resolution No. 05-21-26-xx adopting the updated WSCP was passed. The Board of Directors' resolution approving this WSCP is attached as Appendix B.

## 12.3 Plan Submittal and Public Availability

DWR and the State Library will receive a copy of the final WSCP within 30 days of adoption by the District's Board of Directors. In addition, copies will be provided to the planning departments of the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County within the same timeframe. An electronic copy will be available from MCWD's website: www.mcwd.dst.ca.us and a hardcopy can be viewed at the District's office located at 1315 Meridian Boulevard, Mammoth Lakes, California during regular office hours.

## 12.4 Amending an Adopted WSCP

Subsequent to adoption, any amendments or changes to the WSCP will comply with the same procedures for adoption and submittal to state and local agencies as described in this Section 12.

# Appendices

## Appendix A: Notice of Public Hearing

**Mammoth Community Water District**

**Notice of Public Hearing Regarding the Intent to Adopt a 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Plan**

The Mammoth Community Water District (District) will be holding a public hearing regarding its draft 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) at 5:30 p.m. on May 21, 2026, at the District office, 1315 Meridian Blvd., Mammoth Lakes, California 93546. The draft 2026 WSCP provides measures for conserving water when the District water supply is in a shortage condition due to drought or other emergencies.

The public is invited to provide comments during the hearing in person at the District office or by the remote attendance methods provided below. For members of the public interested in viewing and having the ability to comment at the public hearing via Zoom, an internet-enabled computer equipped with a microphone and speaker or a mobile device with a data plan is required. Use of a webcam is optional. You also may call in to the hearing using teleconference without video. Members of the public who wish to participate in the hearing may do so by joining the following Zoom Videoconference Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/7609342596 (meeting ID: 760 934 2596) OR join via teleconference by dialing 1-669-444-9171, 760-934-2596#

Copies of the draft 2026 WSCP are available for public inspection at the District office, on the District website, www.mcwd.dst.ca.us, and at the Mammoth Lakes Public Library at 400 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes, California.
**Comments, concerns, or suggested revisions on the draft 2026 WSCP must be submitted by close of the public hearing on May 21, 2026.** In addition, oral comments may be submitted on the plan during the hearing. Correspondence prior to the hearing may be transmitted to:

**U.S. Mail**: Mammoth Community Water District
WSCP
P.O. Box 597
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

**Email:** mdraper@mcwd.dst.ca.us
Subject: WSCP

# Appendix B: Resolution Approving the WSCP

Adopted
05-21-2026

## RESOLUTION NO. 05-21-26-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE
2026 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

WHEREAS, the California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), Water Code section 10632.3, states that the board defer to implementation of locally adopted Water Shortage Contingency Plans (WSCP) to the extent practicable;

WHEREAS, the WSCP can be updated as needed;

WHEREAS, the WSCP provides actions for how to proceed through various levels of water shortage;

WHEREAS, each update to the WSCP will be noticed for a public hearing and after adoption to be filed with the Department of Water Resources and certain other agencies and made available to the public no later than 30 days after adoption;

WHEREAS, the Mammoth Community Water District is an urban water supplier and has developed a WSCP;

WHEREAS, the Mammoth Community Water District coordinated with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, provided draft copies to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Inyo National Forest, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program, published two public hearing notices in a local newspaper of general circulation, and provided the public the opportunity to review and comment on the draft plan; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on May 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in person and virtually via Zoom, to allow for community input regarding the WSCP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District as follows:

1. The Board finds that the proposed MCWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan contains all of the elements required and therefore approves and adopts the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the methods stated therein for addressing water shortage conditions.

2. The General Manager or his designee is authorized and directed to file the MCWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan with the California Department of Water Resources, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and the County of Mono within 30 days of its adoption.

3. The General Manager or his designee will make a copy of the District's adopted Water Shortage Contingency Plan available for public review during normal business hours within 30 days of its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District at a regular meeting held on the 21st day of May 2026 by the following vote of the Board:

| | |
|---|---|
| AYES: | Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSENT: | None |
| ABSTAIN: | None |

MAMMOTH COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

Thomas R. Smith, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Clay Murray, Secretary
Board of Directors