

RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Category:	Water	Policy # 85-1
Title:	Water Service to Agricultural Lands	

PURPOSE

INTRODUCTION: The Cosumnes Irrigation Association (CIA) provides irrigation water to agricultural lands on the Granlee, Carlson and Maun Ranches at Rancho Murieta by diversion of Cosumnes River water flows through the CIA ditch which flows through Rancho Murieta.

In years of normal and above normal runoff there is adequate water to meet the irrigation needs of these ranches. Since there are no facilities in the CIA ditch system to store water seasonally for use, in years of sub-normal flows there is a shortage of irrigation water. Under drought conditions similar to the year 1977, the entire Cosumnes River basin suffers from a lack of storage in the basin.

NEED: The ranch lands within the Rancho Murieta Community Services District are in need of a supplemental water supply during sub-normal water years (like 1976) to complete irrigation in the latter part of the season so that a crop may be brought to harvest. The ranch owners recognize that in a drought year (like 1977) there is insufficient water storage with present facilities to provide any water for irrigation purposes. Under these circumstances, the ranch owners will most likely not plant a crop in a drought year. However, in a sub-normal year (like 1976) the ranch lands may need up to 200 acre feet of stored water for irrigation purposes.

POLICY: Recognizing that use of stored water at Rancho Murieta is primarily for residential and related purposes, but that present use is substantially less than that required for ultimate residential buildout, CSD is willing over the next five years to annually make available up to 200 acre feet of stored water for irrigation purposes on ranch lands within the District during years of sub-normal river runoff (like 1976); provided however, that in drought years (like 1977), stored water will not be available for irrigation purposes on agricultural lands.

The price for stored water released to the CIA ditch shall reflect the costs of placing the water into storage by pumping from the river and is presently set at \$16.00 per acre foot subject to review reflecting increase in cost for pumping and other storage charges.

Over the next five years, the District shall entertain an application for use of up to 200 acre feet of water from reservoir storage in years of sub-normal river runoff as measured at the Michigan Bar Gaging Station (like 1976 runoff) but not in years of above normal or drought years (like 1977). The cost of such stored water for irrigation of agricultural lands shall be \$16.00 per acre foot subject to annual review to reflect changes in storage and operations costs.

Approved by CSD Board of Directors	March 13, 1985
---	----------------