Water Orders for the 2026 Water Run

May 15, 2026

Dinuba, CA – Alta Irrigation District is issuing this supplemental notice regarding water orders to help clarify the timing on when landowners should place orders with their ditchtenders. **Water orders for the 2026 Water Run may be placed on or after May 21**.

As the canal system is brought back into operation following last season's shutdown, landowners are encouraged to understand the time required for water to move efficiently through the system. The initial flushing of the canal system also removes vegetation, illegally dumped materials, and other debris that accumulated during the offseason and must be cleared to protect system operations.

Because the canals have not carried significant volumes of water since September 2025, infiltration losses during the initial wet-up period are at their highest. The time required to wet up the system is further influenced by the District operating from a single river diversion, a headgate located approximately seven miles north of State Route 180, and the first major lateral being located an additional five miles downstream. In addition, the District must fill large earthen canals with bottom widths ranging from approximately 30 to 100 feet. As a result, the canal system requires time to fully saturate before water can efficiently move through the system and become available for delivery to landowners.

The District's headgates are located on the eastern side of the service area, requiring water deliveries to be pushed westward toward the Kings River. Consequently, the farther downstream a turnout is located within the system, the longer it may take for water deliveries to become available.

The District appreciates the patience and cooperation of landowners during the startup period and will continue providing updates regarding system operations and water availability.

For additional information, please contact the District office.