



**Kanawha Water District**  
P.O. BOX 1054, 360 N. COUNTY ROAD G • WILLOWS, CA 95988  
PH. (530) 934-5476 • FAX (530) 934-7926

**Date:** February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**To:** All Landowners and Water Users

**From:** Vince Laufer GM Kanawha Water District

**Subject:**

1. 2026 Water Supply Outlook
2. District Operations Update
3. Personnel Updates
4. Water Applications, Rates, and Payments

### 1) 2026 Water Supply Outlook

Today, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Reclamation has issued its initial official allocation announcement at **100% supply for N.O.D Water Service Contractors**, and allocations may be adjusted as additional hydrologic data becomes available through the season. At present, the District does not anticipate the need to pursue supplemental water transfers outside of our contract to meet anticipated demands, which helps support rate stability for District landowners and water users. As always, the District will continue to provide timely updates regarding water supply conditions and allocation announcements as the season progresses. With Sac River Settlement Contractors receiving full allocations, this may also result in additional flexibility and availability of transfer water through existing programs, if such water is needed later in the season.

The District continues to closely monitor hydrologic conditions and announcements from the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as we enter the 2026 irrigation season. Early indicators for the 2026 Shasta Reservoir water year are generally favorable, with reservoir storage and watershed conditions tracking at or near seasonal averages at this time. Based on current information, Shasta Lake storage is in a stable position relative to historical averages, and snowpack conditions within the Sacramento River watershed are providing a reasonable level of supply assurance for the upcoming irrigation season.

### 2) District Operations Update

During the off-season, District staff have remained actively engaged in both field and office operations in preparation for the 2026 water season. Ongoing and completed activities include routine office administration,

turnout inspections, meter maintenance and repairs, cathodic protection monitoring, electrical inspections and repairs, pump servicing, and general system maintenance.

Field crews have also addressed seasonal maintenance items and minor repair work resulting from winter conditions to ensure system reliability and operational efficiency. The District's pumping plants, canals, and control systems continue to perform as expected, and no major capacity constraints are anticipated for the upcoming irrigation season. The District will continue to emphasize preventive maintenance and operational readiness to support reliable water deliveries throughout 2026.

### 3) Personnel Updates

The District would like to recognize Assistant Secretary Debbie Scritchfield, who will be retiring at the end of February 2026. Debbie has provided many years of dedicated service to the District, and her knowledge, professionalism, and commitment have been greatly appreciated by the Board, staff, and District customers alike. We thank Debbie for her contributions and wish her the very best in retirement.

In conjunction with Debbie's retirement, the District has hired Vanessa Shipley as our new Administrative Assistant. Vanessa will be assuming administrative and office support responsibilities and will be working closely with District management and staff to ensure continuity of service. We look forward to welcoming Vanessa to the District and appreciate your cooperation as she transitions into her new role.

### 4) Water Applications, Rates, and Payments

All water tolls and charges must be current to receive 2026 water deliveries. As a reminder, the first installment of **Assessment and Land-Based payments is due Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.** As we approach the irrigation season, District staff has set aside a window of time from **March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup>** to assist landowners and tenants with water applications and account-related questions.

Water applications for the 2026 irrigation season are due by **April 15, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.** Water service may be denied if a completed annual water application is not submitted by the deadline. No 2026 contract water will be delivered to any landowner or tenant until the District's annual water application has been completed.

**With a full water supply is available**, the District has approved 2026 water rates of **\$65 per acre-foot for irrigation water and \$85 per acre-foot for municipal & industrial (M&I) water** following Reclamation's allocation announcement and completion of the District's annual budget review. As always, the District will make every effort to provide water at the lowest possible cost.

Excess flows, when available, may be offered under applicable Sacramento River **Article 3(f)** tiered provisions. Availability, pricing, and eligibility are subject to change or cancellation on short notice based on Reclamation directives and hydrologic conditions.