



## **District Proceeds With Water Rate Increase**

The MID Board of Directors has voted unanimously in favor of proceeding with rate increases to stabilize the district's finances in the short term. This is a temporary fix to address the shortfall in revenue this year resulting from California's statewide and unprecedented drought. The district is in the midst of developing a long-range water and finance plan for MID.

The need for the finance stabilizing rate increases is the result of MID having just inches of water per acre to sell this year, as opposed to the more normal acre-feet per acre sold to growers.

MID is proposing to temporarily raise its water rate from \$23.25 up to a maximum of \$100.67 per acre foot. The District standby is being proposed to increase from \$24 to \$34 per acre.

The MID Board has set a public hearing on the rate increase for April 18. The rate increase is being pursued to ensure the continued financial health of MID.

Additionally landowners and water users can expect to receive ballots in the coming days.

MID will have a growers meeting at the Merced Co Fairgrounds on March 21, 2014 at 1 p.m. to further discuss the rate increases.

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