

## ***Press Release***

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**Media contact:** Melissa Williams, 209.526.7390, cell 209.652.5383  
Samantha Wookey, 209.526-7454, cell 209.404.0124

# **MID Board approves 2017 Groundwater Replenishment Program**

*Surplus water to benefit groundwater sustainability in Modesto Sub-basin*

In light of the significant rainfall we have received this season, at the May 9 regular Board meeting, the Modesto Irrigation District (MID) Board of Directors voted to declare 2017 a surplus water year. With sustainability in mind and recognition that our existing customers (both agricultural and urban) demands have been fully met, the MID Board of Directors also approved to use the ample supply of surplus water towards the development of the 2017 Groundwater Replenishment Program (GRP).

The GRP is a voluntary program that will allow MID to deliver surface water to any farmer who is solely reliant upon groundwater within the Modesto Sub-basin. This surface water is for agricultural use only and the participants must demonstrate that the water received is put to beneficial uses at all times.

“Groundwater sustainability has always been and will continue to be a main priority for MID,” said MID Board President Nick Blom. “We are excited to see how the Groundwater Replenishment Program will allow us to look at ways to replenish groundwater supplies and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Modesto Sub-Basin.”

This program is still in the development stage as MID staff works to finalize conditions and logistics. More details on the 2017 GRP will be made available in future Board meetings and at [www.mid.org](http://www.mid.org).

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### **\*\*\* ABOUT MID \*\*\***

- Public agency established 1887 under California Water Code by vote of the people.
- Governed by five-member, locally elected Board of Directors.
- Not-for-profit operation.
- Water and electric rates based on cost of providing service.
- Primary water source Tuolumne River.



1231 Eleventh Street  
P.O. Box 4060  
Modesto, CA 95352  
(209) 526-7373

**About MID services**

- **Irrigation water since 1904** – 3,100 agricultural customers irrigating close to 60,000 acres of almonds, walnuts, peaches, pasture, other crops.
- **Electric service since 1923** – More than 121,000 residential, commercial and agricultural accounts in Modesto, Empire, Salida, Waterford and Mountain House as well as parts of Escalon, Oakdale, Ripon and Riverbank, California.
- **Treated drinking water since 1994** – 30 million gallons per day (average) of reliable, safe drinking water delivered to City of Modesto for its retail customers, slightly more than half of the City's water supply.

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