December 10, 2019

Dear Landowners:

Recent storm events have reminded us all of what Mother Nature can do. Parts of the District received over 4 inches of rainfall in 6 days. This is nearly one-half the average annual rainfall received in the District. These kind of events put a strain on the District’s water conveyance system and the sloughs and creeks (natural drainage channels) that flow through the District. Equally taxing is the strain that these events put on the District’s operations staff that manage the District’s conveyance system. While District staff manages the delivery of water to landowners in the District it is the responsibility of the landowners to call their water tenders to order and cancel water deliveries to their property. It is also the responsibility of the landowners to manage water levels in their ponds so as to not adversely affect their neighboring clubs. During the rainy season landowners should be checking their water levels daily and drawing down ponds in anticipation of major storm events. Drawing ponds down early will help alleviate large peak flows in the conveyance system and drainage channels that can cause property damage. Also, as the drainage channels fill the ability of landowners to drain their property is reduced. While District staff makes every attempt to make room in the District’s conveyance system to take drainage water when these kind of events occur there are times when the intensity or the duration of the storms is not forecast correctly. In addition, the drainage channels receive inflows from land outside the District over which we have no control. By working closely with your water tender during these rainy periods we can better optimize the District’s drainage operations and keep the wetland habitat productive for all the species of wildlife that it supports.

If you have any questions, please contact your local water tender or myself.

Sincerely,

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