

KLAMATH IRRIGATION DISTRICT SURFACE WATER ABATEMENT PROGRAM (SWAP)

2026 Irrigation Season — Patron Enrollment

Effective upon signature · First come, first served · Capped at 1,500 acres · Enroll by appointment

What SWAP Is, In Plain English

Reclamation has limited the Project to about 221,000 acre-feet — less than your contracts call for and less than a normal year. K.I.D. does not anticipate being able to meet its legal and contractual obligations to deliver water to all eligible acres (even if 50,000 acres are enrolled in the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency programs). SWAP is a voluntary way for you to help, and get paid for it.

The deal: Sign up to take some or all of your acres off KID surface water for the rest of 2026, and KID pays you by the acre for the canal water you give up. The less surface water you've already taken, the more you earn — because acres that haven't been watered yet leave the most *real* water in the system for everyone else.

Why this matters: Every acre you remove from canal demand leaves wet water in Upper Klamath Lake and the canals — water KID can then deliver to other patrons, and water that lets the whole District irrigate further into the season. This program buys **wet surface water, not paper water**.

A Surface Water Program — Not a Pumping Program

WHAT IT PAYS FOR

KID pays only for the surface water you stop taking. Your payment is measured by the canal water you give up — nothing else.

WHAT IT DOES NOT

KID pays nothing toward wells, pumps, power, or groundwater, and grants no new or expanded right to pump. Any groundwater you use is your own existing Oregon water right, used within its permitted limits.

The goal is simple: keep wet surface water in Upper Klamath Lake and the canals, so KID can deliver it where it's needed and the District can irrigate longer into the season.

Have a Closed Well System?

The DRA Limited Program May Pay More

Compare before you enroll. If your well delivers straight to your field through a closed system, you may qualify for the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency's Limited Irrigation Program instead — a separate program with its own rules and a higher rate for perennial ground: **\$212.50 per acre for perennial crops** (alfalfa, pasture, grass hay) and **\$75 per acre for annual crops** (e.g. winter and spring grain).

For perennial ground that is well above KID SWAP's top rate, so it is worth a look first. You cannot enroll the same acres in both programs, and the DRA deadline is 5:00 p.m. June 15, 2026. Details and applications: klamathwaterbank.com · (541) 630-0752.

How Much You Get Paid

Payment is per acre you enroll. You choose either cash after the season ends, or a credit on your 2027 assessment (the credit is worth more). The rate depends on how much KID surface water has already been delivered to those acres in 2026, measured as of the day you sign:

Surface water already taken on those acres (as of signing)	Cash — paid after season ends	OR Credit on 2027 assessment
None — 0.00 AF/acre (you have not yet taken surface water)	\$120 / acre	\$145 / acre
A little — more than 0, up to 0.50 AF/acre	\$90 / acre	\$110 / acre
Almost a foot — more than 0.50, up to 0.99 AF/acre	\$60 / acre	\$75 / acre
One foot or more — 1.00 AF/acre or more	Not eligible	Not eligible

Why the steps? SWAP pays for the water it actually frees. Acres that have not been watered free the most; acres that have already taken nearly a foot free very little — so once an acre has taken a full acre-foot/acre, there isn't enough left for the program to buy.

Sign Before June 11 — Earn an Extra \$15 / Acre

Early-signer bonus: Schedule your appointment early enough to sign with staff before **4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 11, 2026**, and KID adds **\$15 per acre** on top of whichever option you choose — which brings an early signer up to the maximum rate the Board approved on May 27 (\$135 cash / \$160 credit). The Board meets June 11; early sign-ups let the Board see real numbers and decide whether to open more acres.

Example: 100 acres that haven't been watered, signed June 5, electing the assessment credit = $\$145 + \$15 = \$160/\text{acre} \times 100 = \$16,000$ credit on your 2027 assessment (the full approved rate).

Who Can Enroll

First — You Need Your Own Water Right

SWAP only works if you already have your own source. To take part, you must already hold a valid Oregon water right — a permit or certificate — for a groundwater well or other non-Project source that covers the exact acres you want to enroll. SWAP simply swaps in a supply you are already entitled to use: it creates no new water right, funds no pumping, and expands nothing. If you don't already have your own alternative source for those acres, this program isn't a fit, and your KID surface water continues as usual.

If that describes you, every one of these must also be true:

1. **Inside the District.** The acres are within KID's district boundaries (district proper).
2. **Under a full acre-foot taken.** As of the day you sign, those acres have received less than 1.00 acre-foot per acre of KID surface water in 2026.
3. **A viable crop that still needs water.** The enrolled acres must carry a viable crop that requires additional irrigation water to get to market, or sustaining feed for livestock. The crop must be validated by K.I.D. at enrollment and at harvest. Crops that would normally forgo surface water as a historical practice are not eligible.
4. **Not in a DRA program.** The acres are not enrolled in any Drought Response Agency (DRA) program for 2026. You cannot be paid by both for the same acres.
5. **Not Warren Act land.** Warren Act ("B" contract) lands are not eligible for SWAP at this time.

Application deadline: you must complete and sign your enrollment by 4:30 p.m. on July 1, 2026.

What You Agree To Do

When you enroll, you commit to the following for the rest of the 2026 irrigation season (through the end of the season, on or about October 1, 2026):

- **No more canal (surface) water on the enrolled acres.** You take zero further KID surface water deliveries to those acres for the rest of 2026.
- **Water from your own permitted source only.** If you irrigate the enrolled acres, you do it from your own permitted groundwater, within the limits of your certificate or permit. If you use a District canal to transport that water, you **MUST** notify the ditchrider. This will not be recorded as a "water order," but to clarify the accounting and delivery of that volume of water.
- **Let KID verify.** You allow KID to confirm the acres are off surface water — by turning out and securing the headgate/turnout, reading meters, and checking the field if needed. KID must be able to verify cfs or gpm if water is transported through the canal system.
- **The freed water stays with the District.** The surface water you free up is not sold, transferred, banked, or assigned to you. It remains KID/Project water and KID redistributes it within the District. You keep your surface water right — you are simply choosing not to take delivery this one season.

If you break the no-canal-water rule: you forfeit the SWAP payment for the acres involved, and KID will assess a penalty of 2 AF/acre against the remainder of your 2026 irrigation availability. Payment is earned only by acres that stay off surface water and are verified at the end of the season.

How and When You Get Paid

- **You pick cash or credit when you sign.** Cash is paid after the irrigation season ends and KID confirms no further surface water went to your enrolled acres. The 2027 assessment credit is applied to your account for the following year and is worth more per acre.
- **Paid per verified acre.** Payment is for the acres that actually stayed off surface water through the end of the season.

- **First come, first served, capped at 1,500 acres.** Enrollment is filled in the order applications are signed. Once 1,500 acres are enrolled, the Board will reassess interest and decide whether to add funding or open more acres.

How to Enroll — Call to Schedule an Appointment

Enrollment is by appointment — there is no online or mail-in form. Call the KID office, leave your name and number, and staff will schedule a time to complete your enrollment in person.

Before you call: if you irrigate from a closed well system, compare the DRA Limited Program above — for perennial ground it may pay more, and you cannot enroll the same acres in both. Decide which program fits before you schedule a SWAP appointment.

1. **Call and leave your number.** Phone the KID office and ask for a SWAP appointment. Leave your name and number so staff can reach you to set a time.
2. **Meet with District staff.** At your appointment, staff confirm how much surface water you've taken, which tier you fall in, and validate your crop and water right. You choose cash after the season or a 2027 assessment credit.
3. **Sign at your appointment.** Sign with staff to enroll. Schedule early enough to sign before June 11 for the extra \$15/acre. Final deadline: signed by 4:30 p.m. July 1, 2026.

Why This Is Allowed (Short Version)

Consistent with Oregon water law. You keep your surface water right. Choosing not to take delivery for one season — under a District shortage program — does not put your right at risk. You irrigate from your own already-permitted groundwater; SWAP does not authorize any new or expanded groundwater use, which is why a valid certificate or permit is required.

Within the District's authority. KID has authority to manage and distribute the District's water supply among its lands and to use District funds for that purpose.

No contracts broken. The freed surface water stays as KID/Project water and is redistributed within the District. SWAP does not sell, transfer, or assign any water right or contract entitlement, and does not change KID's obligations under the 1954 Operations Contract or any Warren Act contract.

Questions? Call the KID office and leave your name and number. Staff will call you back to schedule an appointment, tell you how much surface water your account has taken so far this year, which tier you fall in, and complete your enrollment.

**KLAMATH IRRIGATION DISTRICT
SWAP ENROLLMENT FORM — 2026**

Completed with KID staff at your appointment

Patron Information

Patron / landowner name: _____

KID account number: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone / email: _____

Land Being Enrolled (must be inside KID boundaries)

Legal description / map-tax lot(s): _____

Number of acres being taken off surface water: _____

Oregon water right — Certificate or Permit number(s): _____

Surface water taken on these acres so far in 2026 (AF/acre): _____ (KID office will confirm)

Crop on the enrolled acres (validated by KID): _____

Choose Your Payment (check one)

- CASH after the season ends (\$120 / \$90 / \$60 per acre by tier)
- CREDIT on my 2027 assessment (\$145 / \$110 / \$75 per acre by tier)
- Signed before June 11, 2026 — add \$15/acre early-signer bonus**

Patron Certification

By signing, I certify that:

- The enrolled acres are within KID's district boundaries.
- I already hold a valid Oregon water right (certificate or permit) authorizing irrigation of these exact acres from a non-Project source.
- The enrolled acres carry a viable crop that needs further irrigation, which KID may validate at enrollment and at harvest.
- These acres are not enrolled in any DRA program for 2026.
- These acres are not Warren Act ("B" contract) lands.
- I will take no further KID surface water on these acres for the rest of the 2026 season. If I do, I forfeit payment on those acres and KID will assess a penalty of 2 AF/acre against my remaining 2026 availability.
- If I transport groundwater through a District canal, I will notify the ditchrider so KID can account for the volume (cfs/gpm).
- I understand the freed surface water stays with the District and is not transferred or sold to me.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

FOR KID OFFICE USE

Date/time received: _____ Enrolled-acre running total: _____ / 1,500

Surface water taken to date (AF/ac): _____ Tier: 0.00 ≤0.50 ≤0.99 Early bonus:
Yes No

Water right verified: Yes No DRA check (not enrolled): Yes Crop validated: Yes

Headgate secured: Yes

Approved by: _____ Date: _____