

RULE 7.2. ACTIONS BASED ON AQUIFER RESPONSE TO PUMPING

(d) The District shall initially adopt three threshold average aquifer drawdown levels to act as triggers to provide for increased levels of District regulatory responses based on the change in three (3) consecutive years average aquifer drawdown levels across the District for an aquifer. The District shall monitor how rapidly each threshold is achieved and amend or add new thresholds as better hydrological assessment data becomes available. The initial DFC threshold levels are: Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3. Each level will be based on an average of three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to reaching the trigger. The District-approved methodology to calculate the District-wide average aquifer drawdown and the protocol to measure static water levels shall be adopted through the District's rulemaking procedures in Section 14 of the District's Rules.

(1) **DFC Threshold Level 1.** If Threshold Level 1 is reached, additional study and monitoring may be undertaken as appropriate at such time as the average aquifer drawdown on a District-wide basis, calculated with a District-approved methodology for an aquifer, is greater than **65 percent** of the average aquifer drawdown amounts adopted as a DFC for that aquifer in Section 5 of the Management Plan. The following District actions shall occur to enforce the Desired Future Conditions of the aquifers and to conserve and preserve groundwater availability and protect property rights of landowners and groundwater users:

- (A) Adopt a Study Area(s) for an Aquifer(s). Based on the best available science, the District may designate Study Areas for portions of an aquifer within the District that are experiencing significant drawdowns of the aquifer levels, which may be caused by concentrated groundwater pumping, and develop additional hydrological data and analysis of the causes of the drawdown and hydrological trends developing and make recommendations for appropriate action.
- (B) Monitor aquifer water levels.
- (C) Monitor groundwater production in adjoining GCDs.
- (D) Prepare an annual report on groundwater production and aquifer water-level and drawdown changes.
- (E) Monitor groundwater production reports, with mandatory, if judged necessary by the District, meter checks on all permitted wells in the study area(s).
- (F) Promote and require conservation and administer conservation credit program, once developed and approved.
- (G) If DFC Threshold Level 1 is exceeded, the district may perform studies to provide additional information on the hydrogeology in the area. The results may be used to improve the Groundwater Availability Models and other methodologies used to analyze monitoring and pumping data and predict future aquifer response and groundwater availability.

Amendment include adding "once developed and approved". The conservation credit program has been worked on but not finally approved. The proposed language currently exists in Rule 7.2 but was inadvertently left off of the above sentence in 2015.