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## **Voluntary Fallowed Land Program** (2026 Water Year)

The Lower Tule River Irrigation District GSA Board has approved a Land Fallowing Policy to incentivize growers to fallow land. For 2026, the application will need to be received by September 15, 2025, if you plan to bid. All parcels listed in the application will be subject to field visits and other verification.

### **Voluntarily Fallowed Ground**

The amount of consumed evapotranspiration (ET<sub>c</sub>) applied to the Voluntarily Fallowed lands will be limited to **0.0 acre-feet per acre** for the time period in which the land is voluntarily fallowed. The land must be left fallow for either:

Entire Growing Season (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026), or  
Winter Growing Season (October 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026), or  
Summer Growing Season (June 1, 2026 - September 30, 2026)

Under this program, the property must be actively managed to avoid weeds growing out of control.

**Option 1** Voluntary Fallowing: (1) Keep disced/sprayed and free of weeds, (2) Planting a cover crop is allowed, (3) Cover crops must be kept mowed, (4) Cover crops cannot be harvested, (5) Leave winter crop stubble, (6) Other management practices as deemed appropriate by the GSA.

**Option 2** Under this option, the land must be fallowed for the entire year (Oct 1 – Sep 30). Cover crops are allowed. Cover crops can be harvested. No groundwater use for growing of cover crops. ET use by cover crop gets accounted for. You must sell the Transitional allocations to that land for that year. The landowner must submit a bid on a \$\$/AF of transitional water basis. District will review bids and award applications based on the bid amounts and the amount of funding available.

**Option 3** Growers may plant and harvest a dry land (non-irrigated) cover crop. No surface water irrigation or groundwater pumping may occur on the enrolled acres. Growers enrolling under this option will not be allocated a Precipitation Credit for the enrolled acres.

**Option 4** Under this option, the land must be fallowed for the entire year (Oct 1 – Sep 30). Under this option, the District pays a lease payment to have access to the property for recharge. No groundwater allocations given up for that year. Payment or credit sharing for the amount of water sank (75/25, per current Policy). The Landowner must submit a bid on a \$\$/Acre basis for the lease payment. See the District land fallowing policy for further requirements under this option. District will review bids and award applications based on the bid amounts and the amount of funding available.

**Option 5** Under this option, Retirement of Groundwater Credits; enables the GSA to purchase groundwater credits from landowners to retire. The first deadline for bid submission is September 15, 2025. Bids will be reviewed in October. Bids will continue to be accepted and reviewed monthly until budgeted funds are exhausted. Bids will be considered in the month they are received. (1) Allocations that qualify to be sold are Sustainable Yield, District Allocated Credits, Landowner Developed Credits and Transitional Allocations, (2) Regarding Transitional pumping allocations, only 2026 Transitional Allocation will be considered for purchase. To participate, please complete and submit the attached Groundwater Allocation Purchasing Application to Nancy Soto at [nsoto@ltrid.org](mailto:nsoto@ltrid.org).

Landowners must provide a map that shows the Assessed Parcel Number (APN), location of the fallowed ground with the nearest crossroad, acres of the fallowed ground, and the time period that the land is fallowed.

Failure to comply with the rules above will result in the consumption of ET for the period and a reduction of corresponding groundwater credits. For more information on the Land Fallowing Program, see the full Policy attached.

If you have any questions or require assistance in filling out the form, please contact Nancy Soto at (559) 686-4716 or email [nsoto@ltrid.org](mailto:nsoto@ltrid.org). When complete, please submit this form along with map(s) to LTRID GSA in person or by mail.

***Landowner / Lessee Information:***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner / Lessee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If choosing Option 2 or 4, enter Bid information here:

