CHAPTER 20. APPROPRIATION AND USE OF STREAM WATER

SUBCHAPTER 13. INTERFERENCE CONDITIONS AT BUREAU OF RECLAMATION RESERVOIRS

785:20-13-1. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Subchapter of this Title, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"12-month average Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI)" means the average value of the 12 most recent monthly PDSI values for Southwest Oklahoma Climate Division 7.

"12-month cumulative inflow" means the sum of monthly inflow.

"Conservation pool" means a lake level elevation above the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 of 1,411 feet for Tom Steed Reservoir and 1,559 feet for Lugert-Altus Reservoir.

"Monthly inflow" means, absent of stream gage data, the monthly change in lake volume calculated using lake elevation, plus the volume of evaporation, plus the volume of water used from the reservoir, plus the volume of water released downstream from the reservoir, plus (for Lugert-Altus Reservoir) the volume of seepage from the dam.

"Palmer Drought Severity Index" means a standardized index, developed and maintained by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA"), based on a simplified soil water balance and estimates relative soil moisture conditions. The magnitude of PDSI indicates the severity of the departure from normal conditions.

"Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)" means a suite of widely used ~~index~~ indicies, developed and maintained by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA"), to characterize meteorological drought on a range of timescales.

785:20-13-2. Lugert-Altus Reservoir

(a) The following drought conditions shall be applied to determine interference with the water rights associated with the Lugert-Altus Reservoir based on findings published in the *Bureau of Reclamation Upper Red River Basin Study Full Report* (2023):

(1) Lake level elevation is below the top of conservation pool;

(2) The 12-month cumulative inflow to the reservoir is less than 79,000 acre-feet; and

(3) The 12-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI-12) is less than -0.01 for the West Central Oklahoma Climate Division 4.

(b) The Board will review the conditions at least once a year in September of each year. If the drought conditions are met, Board staff will notify holders of stream water permits that are junior to Lugert-Altus Reservoir that water use must cease. Such notification will occur according to the provisions of OAC 785:20-13-4.

(c) Curtailment may be requested by the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District at any time upon reasonable belief that the conditions in this section have been met. Upon this request, Board staff will review the drought conditions and take appropriate action.

785:20-13-3. Tom Steed Reservoir

(a) The following drought conditions shall be applied to determine interference with the water rights associated with the Tom Steed Reservoir and the Bretch Diversion Dam on Elk Creek in Kiowa County based on findings published in the *Bureau of Reclamation Upper Red River Basin Study Full Report* (2023):

(1) Lake level elevation is below the top of conservation pool;

(2) The 12-month cumulative inflow to the reservoir is less than 28,600 acre-feet; and

(3) The 12-month average Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) is less than -0.49 for the Southwest Oklahoma Climate Division 7.

(b) The Board will review the conditions at least once a year in September of each year. If the drought conditions are met, Board staff will notify holders of stream water permits that are junior to Tom Steed Reservoir and the Bretch Diversion Dam on Elk Creek in Kiowa County that water use must cease. Such notification will occur according to the provisions of OAC 785:20-13-4.

(c) Curtailment may be requested by the Mountain Park Conservation District at any time upon reasonable belief that the conditions in this section have been met. Upon this request, Board staff will review the drought conditions and take appropriate action.