



GM Newsletter

April 2023

From The Desk of Jennifer Hanson, General Manager

Water For Life

IN THIS EDITION

Strategic Priorities (page 2)

No Motor Day at Scotts Flat (page 4)

Mulch Magic Giveaway (page 5)

... much more

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Message from the General Manager

In celebration of spring, two of NID's most popular events are right around the corner. Be sure to mark your calendars and attend No Motor Day at Scotts Flat Lake on May 7 and our Mulch Magic Giveaway on May 20 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds.

After months of strategic planning including NID personnel and the public, NID's Board has approved an updated Strategic Plan.

Why is this important? The Plan defines strategic priorities that define what the District needs to do to meet our mission and goals.

Our mission "is to provide a dependable, high-quality water supply for the communities we serve."

Our vision "is to be the most reliable, innovative, and resilient water district in California."

Thanks to everyone in the community who have participated in the strategic planning process. Your input and suggestions have helped craft a strategic plan that supports and District and benefits our community. [Read about the strategic plan, click here.](#)

Finally, NID cautions about dangerous cold water flows caused by the warming weather. Please be careful around rivers and waterways. Stay safe everyone.



Milton Dam, April 26

NID's Strategic Plan sets the course for the future



With input from the public, NID's Board of Directors has adopted a new strategic plan, which defines the actions necessary to meet the District's mission, now and into the future.



The plan, adopted on April 12, will guide the development of NID's annual budget and its capital improvement program to ensure that resources are provided to implement the strategies and objectives.

To broaden involvement in the plan update, the Board of Directors conducted five public workshops to discuss the District's strategic direction. Through this process, directors and the public defined the District's core mission, vision, and values and established five strategic priorities to drive organizational alignment for the next five years.

Mission

The NID mission is to provide a dependable, high-quality water supply for the communities we serve.

Vision

The Vision is to be the most reliable, innovative, and resilient water district in California.

Strategic Priorities

Our Strategic Priorities define what the District wants to achieve; they explain "what" not "how," and tell where we are going rather than how we will get there.

1. Long-Term Infrastructure and Water Supply Reliability

NID will plan and invest in infrastructure and water supply reliability to maintain and improve service levels and revenue.

2. Employee Engagement

NID will prioritize and invest in employees to attract and retain top talent and increase employee engagement.

3. Watershed Stewardship and Resiliency

NID will protect and improve the quality and health of our watersheds and enhance our water supply.

4. Financial Sustainability

NID will develop a sustainable financial model that manages and obtains funds necessary to ensure the long-term delivery of water.

5. Technology & Innovation Investments

NID will integrate technology and data collection to increase production.

[View the Strategic Plan, vision strategic priorities, goals, and objectives.](#)

NID issues warning of cold, dangerous water flows

Warming temperatures have triggered rapid snowmelt on the slopes of the Sierra Nevada. This is causing high flows, cold water and dangerous conditions in rivers and waterways.

“With temperatures increasing, it may be tempting to head to the water. NID asks the public to be mindful that the rapid melt will create river levels exceeding flows in recent years.

Additionally, the water is very cold and could limit your ability to save yourself. The high flows and cold temperatures will combine to result in an increased risk around local waterways.

[Track NID reservoir water levels, click here](#)



Milton Dam spills on April 26, 2023

‘No Motor Day’ at Scotts Flat Lake is on May 7



Come enjoy the quiet beauty of Scotts Flat Lake on Sunday, May 7 during NID’s “No Motor Day.”

Non-motorized watercraft, including sailboats, canoes, kayaks and paddleboards, will be allowed entry to the Scotts Flat Recreation Area without charge.

Use of motorized boats will be suspended from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Special activities are scheduled. The Gold Country Yacht Club will give free sailboat rides.

Each year, NID hosts No Motor Day as part of the District’s overall effort to showcase the natural beauty of the lake with environmentally friendly activities.

Vehicle admission is \$17, which includes up to four people.



Mulch Magic Giveaway returns on May 20



FREE MULCH!

Mulch is a great way to save water.

2-3 inches of mulch helps retain water and keeps soil moist for longer periods of time

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

FREE MULCH available for pick-up! NID and the Nevada County Fairgrounds will be hosting the Mulch Magic Giveaway.

When: Saturday May 20, 2022 7:00 am – 11:00 am.
First-come, first-served while supplies last. Get there early!

Location: Nevada County Fairgrounds. Enter Fairgrounds at Gate 8 off Brighton Street. The event will be held in the arena.

SELF-LOAD. Bring your own shovels, containers, truck, and tarps.

Questions? Contact NID's Water Efficiency Technician Kaycee Strong at 530-273-6185 ext. 1244 or strongk@water.com



Need Help Loading?

Local Boy and Eagle Scouts will be available to help load mulch into your vehicle.

****BE SURE TO TIP YOUR SCOUT****

* Limit 1 cubic yard per vehicle
For personal use only; not for resale or commercial use.

Water Conservation Rebates

Raw Water Storage Tank Rebate **NEW!**

NID's raw water customers can receive up to a \$500 rebate by installing a water storage tank.

The Raw Water Storage Tank Rebate Program was developed to help customers improve their irrigation water system reliability through customer side storage.

The minimum storage tank allowed through the rebate program will be 500 gallons.

How to get a rebate?

1. Check Availability
2. Complete step one of application
3. Purchase and install water storage tank
4. Complete step two of application
5. Schedule site visit for inspection
6. Receive approval notice



Rebate amount can vary based on size of water storage tank installed

500 gallons- \$150.00

600-1,500 gallons- \$300.00

1,600 gallons or more- \$500.00

**Rebate amount does not include taxes, shipping, installation, etc.*

Funding is limited. Rebates will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is depleted.

Rebate will be issued as a bill credit on the customers account.

To check availability and request application contact: Water Efficiency Technician Kaycee Strong: call 530-273-6185 ext. 1244 or email strongk@nidwater.com

Check out all Rebates & Incentives on the NID website

NID April survey measures 198% of average

The April snow survey found the snow water equivalent was nearly double on the District's five snow courses that provide water to raw- and treated water customers.

During the survey, NID hydrographers found the average water content in the snowpack was 66 inches, which was 198 percent of the 33.3-inch average.

Snow water equivalent is an indicator of how much water the snowpack contains. This helps water managers plan for water use.

Here are the specifics of the snow survey:

- NID's highest course, Webber Peak, at 7,800 feet, had 181.6 inches of snow with a water content of 82 inches (survey taken on April 4)
- English Mountain snow course (7,100 ft.) had 146.7 inches of snow with a water content of 75.4 inches (survey taken on March 30)
- Webber Lake (7,000 ft.) had 183.4 inches of snow



Senior Hydrographer Ashley Vander Meer takes a snow sample at English Meadow.

with a water content of 66.9 inches (survey taken on April 6) Findley Peak (6,500 ft.) had a snowpack of 140.8 inches and a 58.4-inch water content (survey taken on March 27)

- Bowman Reservoir (5,650 ft.) had 107.2 inches of snow and a 47.4 inch water content (survey taken on March 27).

At the lower Chalk Bluff snow course (4,850 ft.) on the Deer Creek watershed, the survey showed 47.2 inches of snow with 21.6 inches of water content (the Chalk Bluff numbers are not included in the total average).

English Meadow





Leaks Can Run, but They Can't Hide

Checking for Leaks

The average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year and 10 percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.

Common types of leaks found in the home are worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings. Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.

To check for leaks in your home, you first need to determine whether you're wasting water and then identify the source of the leak. Here are some tips for finding leaks:

- Take a look at your water usage during a colder month. If a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month, there are serious leaks.
- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.
- Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, you have a leak. (Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.)
- Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.

Use the EPA's checklist to keep track of your search for leaks: [Detect and Chase Down Leaks at Home Checklist](#)

See nidwater.com for more tips and hints to
conserve water



Bowman Lake

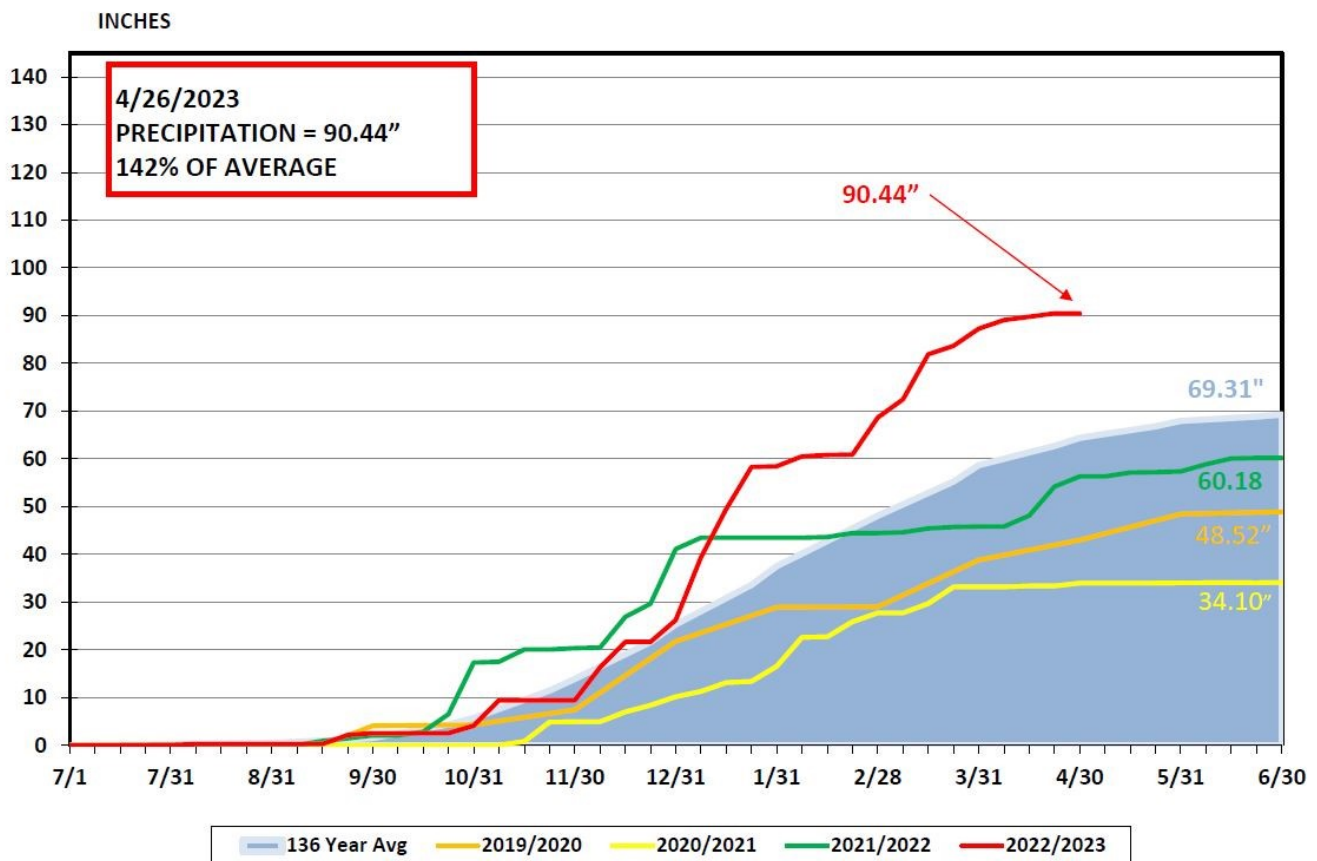
NID has been keeping weather records for Bowman Reservoir (elevation 5,650 ft.) since 1929.

The 69.2-inch annual average precipitation at Bowman compares to an annual average of 56 inches at 2,700 feet near Nevada City and 52 inches at 2,400 feet in Grass Valley.

Precipitation is measured for the 12-month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

As of April 26, 90.44 inches of precipitation have fallen at Bowman. That is 142 percent of average.

BOWMAN LAKE PRECIPITATION



Reservoir storage is 106% of average

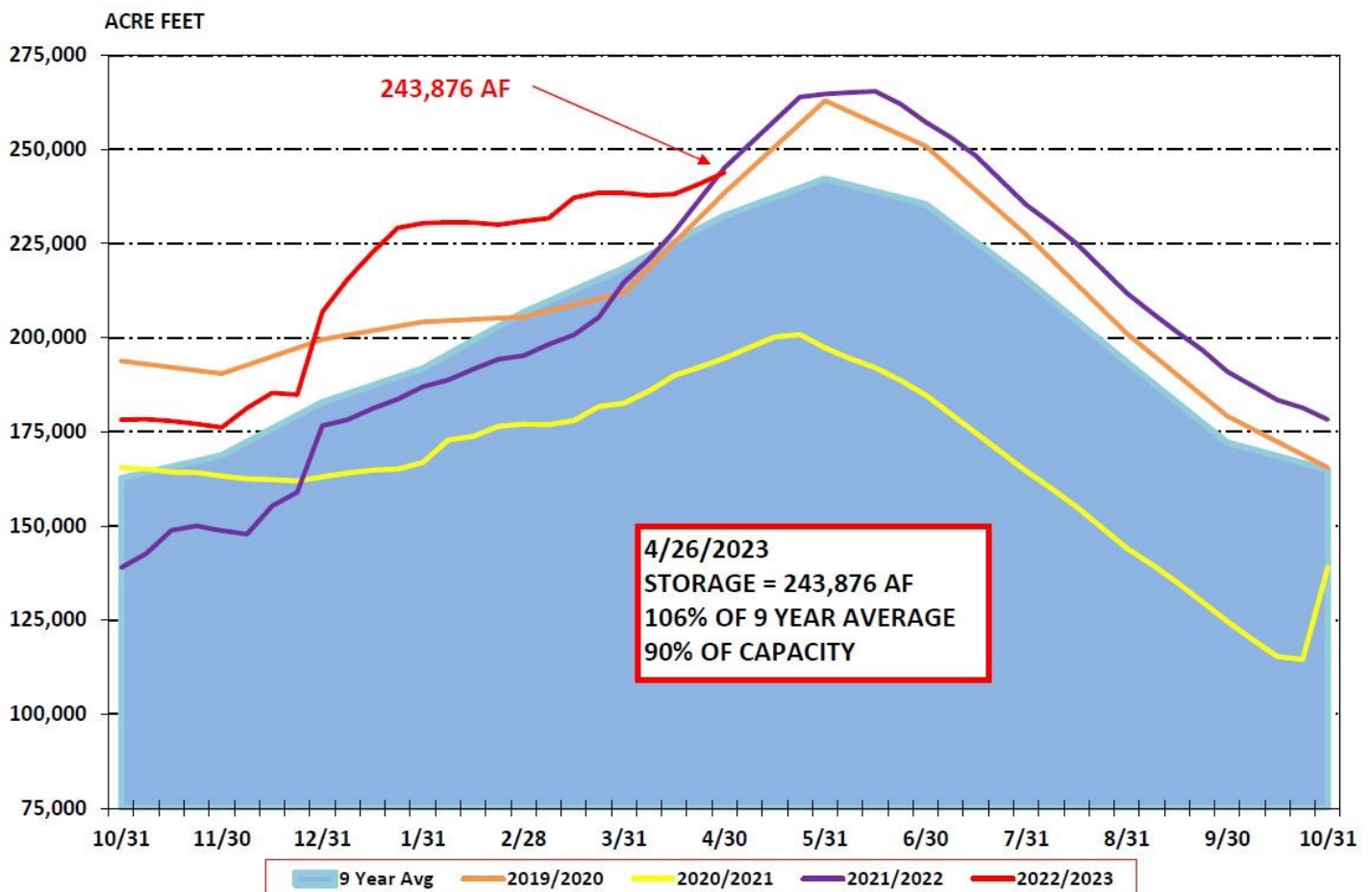
Reservoir storage is 243,876 acre-feet as of April 26. That is 106 percent of average and 90 percent of capacity.

NID's water managers regularly post updates of local reservoir levels. You can see how water levels fluctuate in easy-to-read charts.

It's all just a click away on the NID website under [River & Reservoir Data](#).



NID RESERVOIR STORAGE



Project Updates—Engineering and Hydropower

The NID Engineering Department has a number of projects in various phases of construction. Read about the projects on our website, and sign up for email alerts for news about a specific project.

Updated Project Status Reports are now available on the [District's Projects webpage](#). This report provides project information, planner information, and a brief project description.

[Engineering Department Project Status Report](#)

[Hydroelectric Project Status Report](#)

David Way Pump Station

The David Way Pump Station project includes the replacement and upgrade of the District's original pump and pump station constructed over 50 years ago.

The pump provides water and pressure to 93 properties using a pneumatic pressure tank. In 2011 a generator was installed to supply electricity to the pump station during power outages.

The original single pump does not have any backup and does not supply standard fire flows during an emergency. If the pump is taken out of service or in need of repair, the 93 properties get minimal water under gravity pressure.



Former pump station

In 2021, the District contracted with EFI Solutions to build an off-site complete pump station and have it shipped complete to the project site. The new pump station was constructed on a movable steel frame foundation and includes two normal operation pumps (one for backup) and one fire flow pump delivering full fire flows. The pump station also came with a new generator mounted on the same steel frame.



New pump station

The new pump station is crucial to the continued service of treated water to the 93 customers. It also provides water for an additional 21 properties to the west that is part of the Maranatha Place Waterline Extension. This brings water to many of these properties that have poor to no operational wells (relying on raw water). The new waterline extension also provides fire service to three new fire hydrants further increasing the community fire safety.

Meetings & Events

Scotts Flat No Motor Day

Sunday, May 7
Scotts Flat Lake
9 AM-4 PM

Nidwater.com
for more
information

NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, May 10
NID Office, Grass Valley
9 AM

NID Mulch Magic Giveaway

Saturday, May 20
Nevada County Fairgrounds,
Grass Valley
7-11 AM

NID Special Board of Directors Meeting

(Plan for Water workshop)

Wednesday, May 23
NID Office, Grass Valley
4 PM

NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, May 24
NID Office, Grass Valley
9 AM

