



GM Newsletter

July 2022

From The Desk of Jennifer Hanson, General Manager

Water For Life

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Message from the General Manager

Summer is in high gear, and NID is proud to be host for some of the most pristine, enjoyable recreation destinations you can find.

The District's reservoirs are perfect for boating, kayaking and paddleboarding. And don't forget fishing and swimming. You'll find plenty of boat launches for easy access to the water and shorelines to relax on or explore on foot.

In the foothills, there are Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs. Higher up in the mountains, the Jackson Meadows and Bowman Lake areas are big draws.

NID's formalized recreation goes back to the Yuba-Bear Project, which created the District's extensive hydroelectric system starting in 1965. The Project was composed of 13 dams and four powerhouses; plus 17 campgrounds, boat launches and trails.

Even before the big project, the community was eager to take advantage of outdoor opportunities. For example, on June 28, 1947, before the Scotts Flat dam upgrade, a Girl Scout committee from Nevada City appeared before the Board of Directors to request a camp site. Directors were happy to comply.

And, during a May 14, 1948 meeting, Directors unanimously approved a long-term lease to the Grass Valley Sportsmen's Club to build a clubhouse on the small bay at the north side of Scotts Flat immediately above the dam.

Today, each year about 240,000 people visit NID recreation areas. Beyond the great attendance number, an important aspect is the economic value to our community. A study found that Rollins Reservoir received 108,000 visitors in 2019. They spent \$4.87 million at convenience and grocery stores, gas stations and restaurants. And that created as many as 50 jobs in Colfax, Grass Valley and Chicago Park.

It's a great feeling to know we are able to provide settings in such beautiful lakes that bring so much delight to visitors and also contribute to our thriving communities.



Only one thing to say: Come join us in the sun!



(Left) Families enjoy picnicking at Bowman Lake in 1897.

Partnering with state fire agencies to protect the community

California National Guard hand crews – CAL FIRE forest management



A crew treats a forested area on Upper Bench Road.

NID's Environmental Resources program is partnering with the state's Task Force Rattlesnake to remove vegetation and thin trees to address wildfire risks to critical water system infrastructure.

The joint Task Force Rattlesnake is comprised of California National Guard hand crews and CAL FIRE NEU Crew 23.

In late May and June, the crews completed understory thinning and hazard tree removal on District properties adjacent to both Scotts Flat and Rollins Reservoirs and associated facilities, including Greenhorn Campground, Rollins View Drive, and on the Upper Bench Road near Cascade Shores.

NID has plans to continue working with the National Guard and CAL FIRE, and would like to extend our sincere appreciation for their partnership in our wildfire preparedness program.

Joint Task Force Rattlesnake is part of a fuel management and reduction team created by Gov. Gavin Newsom in 2019. This program provides crews of National Guard personnel and CAL FIRE firefighters to strategically re-

duce fire fuels and hazard trees for the purposes of emergency ingress and egress improvement and infrastructure safety.

Areas treated by these crews may also be used as strategic fuel breaks where wildfire first response can access or suppress wildfire.



Before and after photos of work done at Greenhorn Campground



Plan for Water

Invitation to get involved

The Plan For Water workshop on June 7 focused on “risk” to the District. The discussion centered on NID's controlled and uncontrolled risk factors and mitigation efforts as it relates to operational, regulatory and environmental considerations.

Examples include the risk to maintain the infrastructure and operate the water system. Another serious risk factor is localized environmental events.

The next public workshop on Aug. 9 will focus on NID's Strategic Planning. Read more [here](#)

	Probability	Cost to District	Loss of Supply / Disruption to Delivery Service	Loss of Hydro-power / Sales Revenue	Regulatory Health & Safety	Potential Causes
Multi-year Drought	Likely	> \$10M	Severe	> \$5M	Major	Climate Change
Catastrophic Wildfire	Likely	> \$25M	Severe	> \$5M	Major	Climate Change
Extreme Weather Events	Very Likely	> \$1M	Moderate	> \$1M	Moderate	Public Influence Climate Change and Land Use Planning
MITIGATION ACTIONS - Drought Contingency Plan / Capital Improvement Plan / Back-up Power Systems / Emergency Action Plan / Forest Management Plan / Budget Resources						

<p>Loss of Water Supply & Disruption to Delivery Service Key:</p> <p><u>Minor</u>: Supply loss < 1 week of Demand & Minimal disruption to local delivery area <u>Moderate</u>: Supply loss < 1 month of Demand & Noticeable disruption to local delivery area <u>Major</u>: Supply loss = 3 months of Demand & Widespread disruption to regional delivery area <u>Severe</u>: Supply loss > 3 months of Demand & Widespread disruption to NID service delivery area</p>	<p>Regulatory Health & Safety Key:</p> <p><u>Minor</u>: Minor disruption to raw water delivery <u>Moderate</u>: Noticeable disruption to raw water delivery <u>Major</u>: Disruption to TW delivery <u>Severe</u>: Widespread disruption to TW delivery</p>
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Climate Change and Risk to NID

Climate change is a big risk for NID. And that risk is modifying the way we perceive our precipitation -- warmer storms that deliver more rain than snow. The precipitation pattern affects how NID manages its resource.

The speaker, David Curtis of WEST Consultants, noted the Sierra Nevada acts like a huge reservoir. And weather is variant. There isn't a big shift in the amount of precipitation. But there are fewer and bigger storms. Plus, the timing is different: "That poses a challenge for water management," he said.

Listen to the presentation. Curtis talks specifically about the threat to our water supply and the Sierra Nevada watersheds. This is an explanation about climate change risk like you've never heard before – definitely worth the time to view.

Climate Change [PDF](#) or [video](#) presentation

[Risk PDF Presentation](#)

[Complete workshop video](#)

Rebuilding a fundamental flume



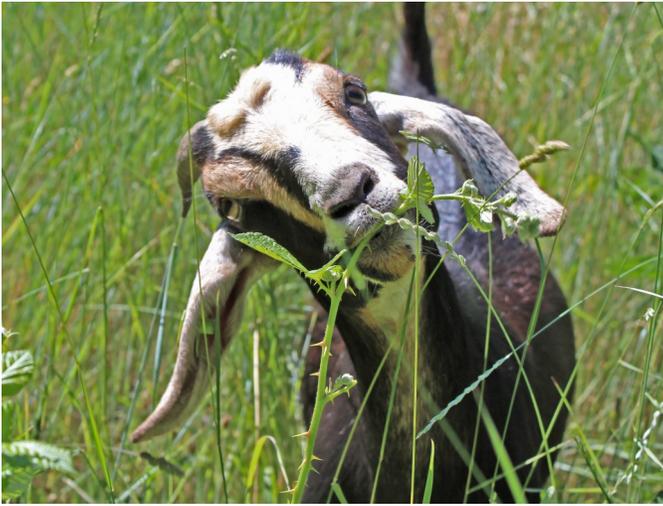
NID and PG&E teamed up on a major upgrade to the Fall Creek Crossing Flume. The flume is located in the upper-section of the Bowman-Spaulding Canal, and the water ultimately runs through many generating facilities owned by the utility and District. It is a critical connection between the upper and middle section of one of the NID's largest water conveyance systems.

The aging flume has raised concerns of worsening leakage and potential failure, which would have detrimental effects to power generation, water supply, and the environment.

The work involved disassembling and demolition of the existing flume sheets before new galvanized steel sheets were installed.

NID is poised to take over ownership of the South Yuba Canal, which consists of many miles of flume used to convey water downstream.

Grazing Goats on the Go



Hundreds of goats high-tailed it to a couple of NID reservoirs in June. They weren't out for a leisurely stroll; the herd was hard at work grazing the vegetation.

The goats were at Cunningham Reservoir in south Nevada County and Sugarloaf Reservoirs just outside Nevada City.

The annual grazing at our sites is part of the District's vegetation management program, and helps keep weeds and vegetation under control. First Rain Farm in Nevada City provided the Nubian Kiko cross goats.



(Above) The goats had much work to do when they arrived at Sugarloaf Reservoir. In about 10 days, the vegetation was gone.

Annual Water Quality Report available

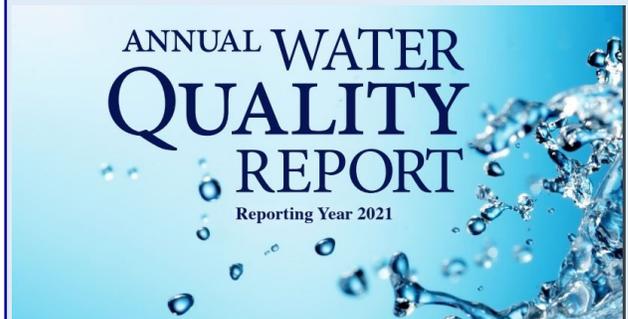
NID drinking water continues to meet and exceed state and federal public health standards.

The District has released its Annual Water Quality Report (also known as the Consumer Confidence Report), which summarizes water quality monitoring and testing programs for the 2021 calendar year.

The information focuses on water supplied through the Elizabeth L. George, Loma Rica, Lake Wildwood, Lake of The Pines, and North Auburn water treatment plants.

The report covers a variety of substances, including microbial contaminants (such as viruses and bacteria), inorganic contaminants (such as salts and metals), pesticides and herbicides, organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and radioactive contaminants.

Read the details, [click here](#)



Boating with NID



NID program looks to protect reservoirs from invasive aquatic mussels

The fight against aquatic invasive species at local reservoirs continues. NID is leading the charge to keep quagga and zebra mussels out of its reservoirs with a boater self-inspection program, and monitoring at Scotts Flat, Rollins and Combie reservoirs.

Thanks to your efforts, no quagga or zebra mussels have been detected.

Quagga and zebra mussels are invasive, and quickly colonize and consume the food supply for native species. In addition, the mussels attach to submerged surfaces and can clog water system infrastructure, threatening the water supply for homes, agricultural irrigation and power plant operations.

NID has developed a program at Rollins, Scotts Flat and Combie Reservoirs. “Clean, Drain, Dry” is the message. Boaters are requested to:

- * Inspect your boat and trailer before you launch and leave
- * Clean: All plants and debris off your boat
- * Drain: Your motor and bilge water
- * Dry: Your boat and trailer

For more Quagga and Zebra Mussel information, [click here.](#)

How to Have a Safe Boating Experience

The reservoirs within the Nevada Irrigation District are perfect for boating, kayaking and paddleboarding (as well as fishing and swimming!). You'll find plenty of boat launches for easy access.

You'll also want to be aware of a few safety tips so you and your friends and family have a safe and fun time:

- * Do not operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- * Comply with all warning signs in fishing areas
- * Wear a life vest (even if you can swim or the water level is low)
- * Tell someone your float plan (this way, if you don't check back in with them, they'll know to send help)
- * Avoid sudden immersion in cold water (this can cause a heart attack or even temporary paralysis, which then can cause drowning)
- * Bring sunscreen
- * Keep all children under constant supervision
- * Don't overcrowd the boat with people
- * Consider taking a boating safety class



Bowman Lake

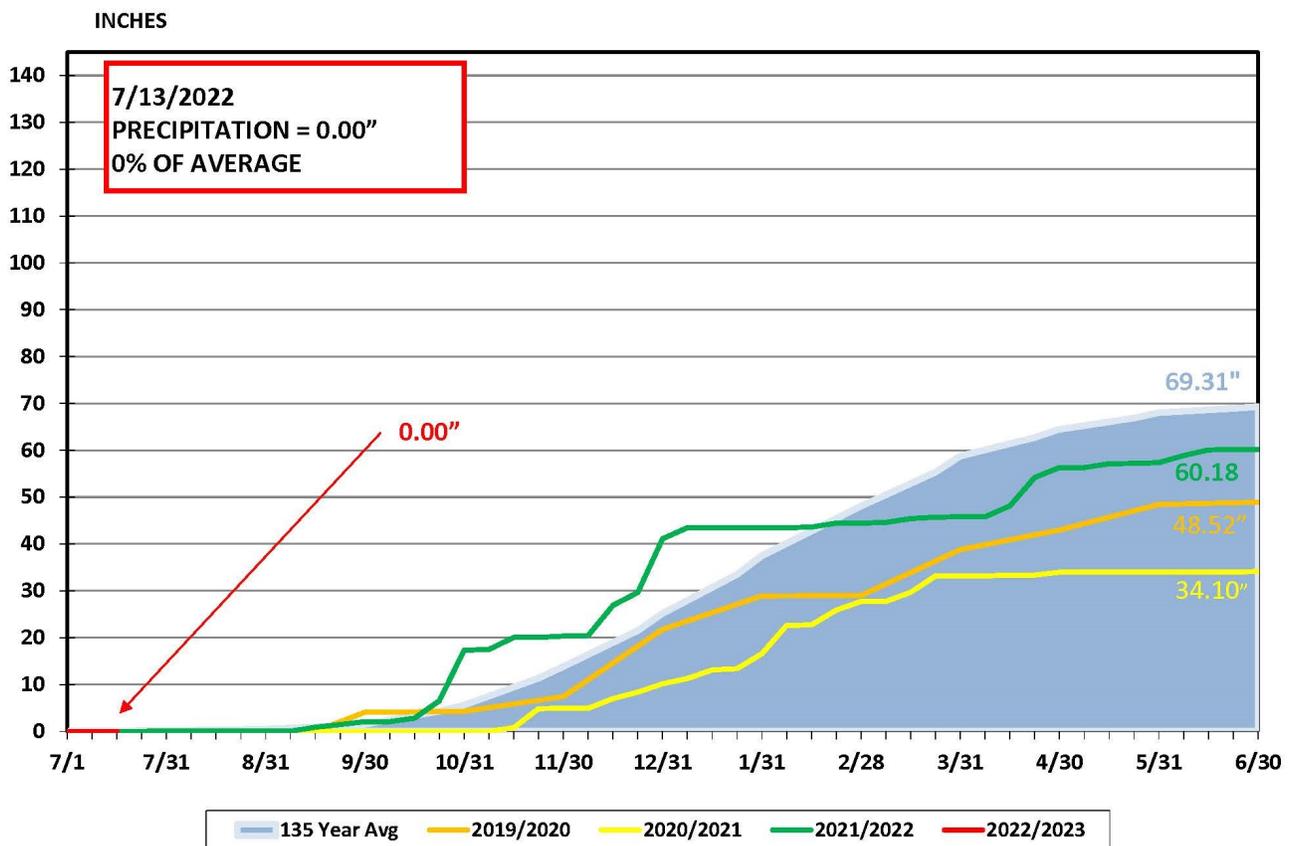
NID has been keeping weather records for Bowman Reservoir (elevation 5,650 ft.) since 1929.

The 69.2-inch annual average precipitation at Bowman compares to an annual average of 56 inches at an elevation of 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.

The new water year began on July 1. No precipitation has fallen since then. As of June 8, 58.87 inches had fallen, which was 86 percent of average.

BOWMAN LAKE PRECIPITATION



Reservoir storage is above average

Reservoir storage is 248,268 acre-feet as of July 13. That is 111 percent of average and 92 percent of capacity.

NID’s watermaster regularly posts 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](#).

Know before you go ...

Check out reservoir level information before you head out to enjoy the water. NID provides the latest on capacity and elevation of higher Sierra- and foothill reservoirs.

Deer Creek Watershed:

* [Scotts Flat Lake](#)

Jackson Creek Watershed:

* [Jackson Lake](#)

Bear River Watershed:

* [Rollins Lake](#)

* [Bear River below Rollins](#)

Canyon Creek Watershed:

* [French Lake](#)

* [Faucherie Lake](#)

Middle Yuba River Watershed:

* [Jackson Meadows](#)

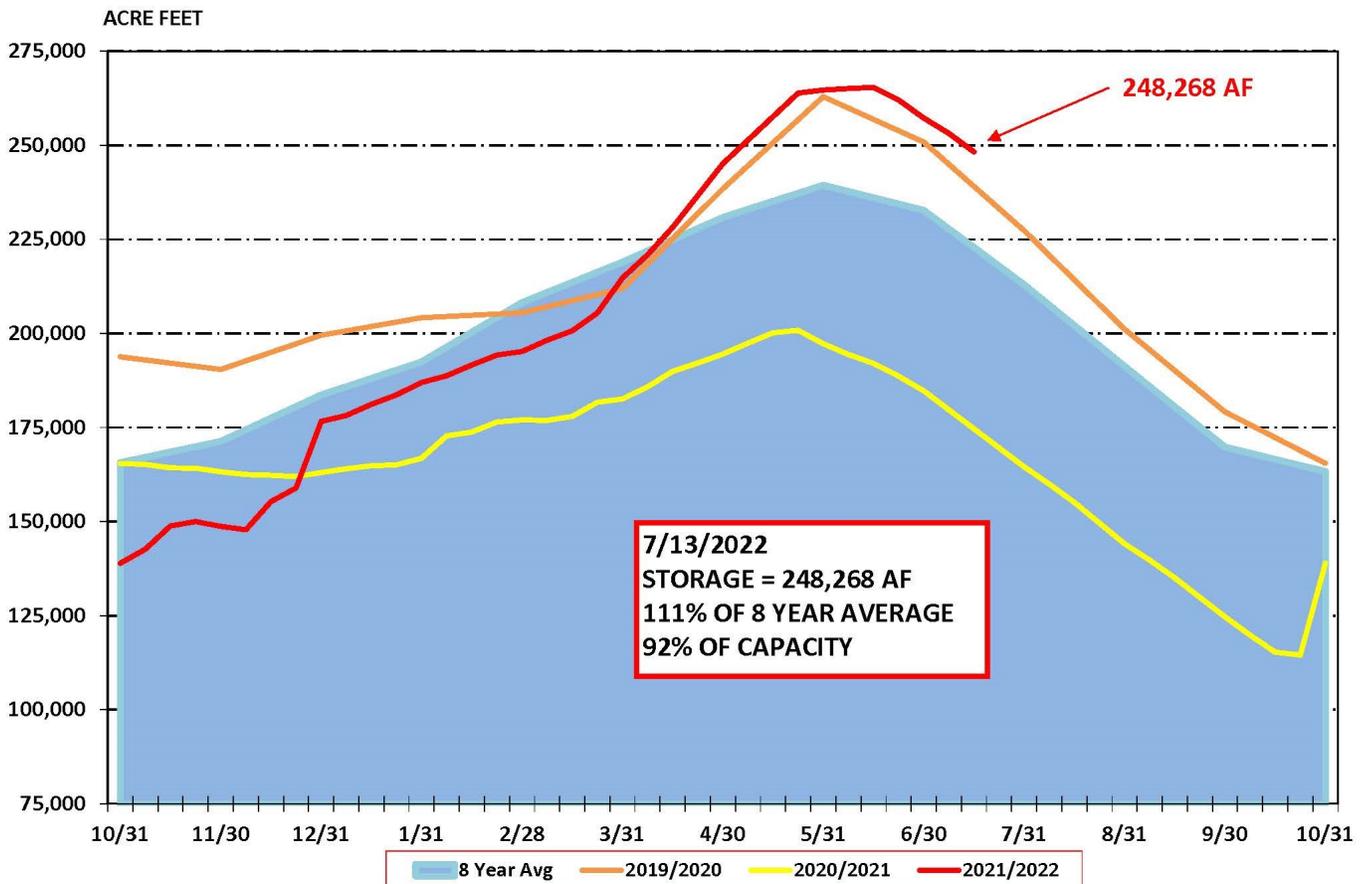
* [Middle Yuba River below Milton](#)

* [Sawmill Lake](#)

* [Bowman Lake](#)

* [Canyon Creek below Bowman](#)

NID RESERVOIR STORAGE



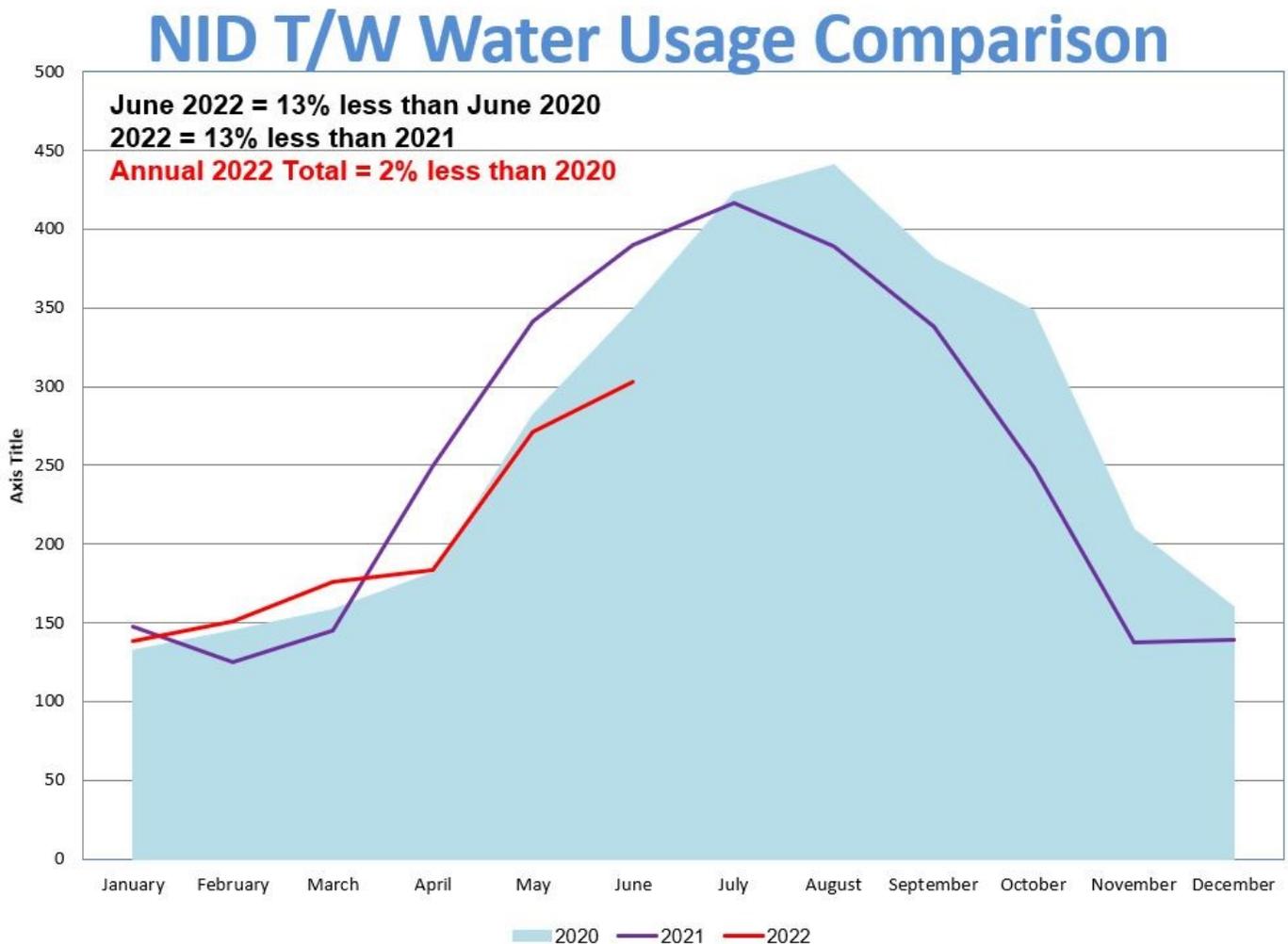
Water conservation improves — water use down 13%

In June, treated water usage was down 13 percent, compared to June 2020. For 2022, total treated water usage is 2 percent less than in 2020.

The challenge for us all is to continue to use water efficiently and boost our conservation numbers. With a hot summer around the corner, we can't afford to waste water. A reduction of 20% is our goal!

Let's continue the good efforts. Do you how much water what you use?

[Measure Your Water Use Calculator](#)



The above graph shows the overall water usage and effectiveness of conservation within the District's treated water customer base.

Engineering Projects

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 \(as of July 15, 2022\)](#)

[Hydroelectric Department Project Status Report \(as of July 15, 2022\)](#)

[2021 Year in Review, Department Updates, Plans for 2022](#)

Centennial Reservoir

Centennial Water Supply Project – Quarterly Update — July 2022

Since the last quarterly update, no additional work has been done. Any future work is dependent on the outcome of the Plan for Water process.

Ongoing monthly meetings with South Sutter Water District are anticipated, and additional staff and legal time are expected. Current expenditures and property revenue as of July 15, 2022, are as follows:

2022	Jan - March ¹	April - June	Total
Consulting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Consulting Property	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Property Purchases	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Rights Fees	\$ 5,745.60	\$ 5,588.20	\$ 11,333.80
Staff/Payroll*	\$ 370.90	\$ 1,030.57	\$ 1,401.47
Legal*	\$ 4,794.35	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 7,419.35
Total	\$ 10,910.85	\$ 9,243.77	\$ 20,154.62

* Staff and Legal costs are not included in the totals as they are accounted for elsewhere in the budget.

2022	Jan - March ¹	April - June	Total
Property Revenue	\$ 50,600.00	\$ 36,158.35	\$ 86,758.35
Property Expenses	\$ 36,494.97	\$ 14,593.01	\$ 51,087.98
Total (Rev - Exp)	\$ 14,105.03	\$ 21,565.34	\$ 35,670.37

¹ Note: Expenses reported in the first quarterly report have been adjusted to reflect expenses that were posted after the report was generated.

Hydropower Generation Report - June Data

The total megawatt-hours (MWh) generated per powerhouse for the previous month.

Generation at most powerhouses was below average due to ongoing dry conditions.

Powerhouse	Average Generation	Current Generation
Chicago Park	10,702	9,945
Dutch Flat #2	4,295	2,654
Rollins	5,397	4,730
Bowman	1,014	1,133
Combie North	174	175
Combie South	330	90
Scotts Flat	536	532
Total	22,448	19,258

Hydropower Availability Report

The total percentage of time a powerhouse is available to generate during the given month.

Powerhouse	Budgeted Availability	Actual Availability
Chicago Park	94.7%	100%
Dutch Flat #2	94.7%	100%
Rollins	95.0%	100%
Bowman	92.0%	100%

Hydropower Outage Report

A list of each time a powerhouse has an outage caused by something other than a lack of water or a planned extended outage.

Unit reliability was extremely high for the month.

Powerhouse	Date and Time Out	Duration (HH:MM)	Cause
Chicago Park	6/16/2022 07:26	0:55	Shear pin
		0:55	Total



Click here:
[Hydroelectric Project Status Report](#)

Left: Bowman South Arch Dam

Right: Dutch Flat #2 Powerhouse

Meetings & Events

The District's Board room will open to a limited number of public for Regular Board of Directors' Meetings. The public may also participate in Board and Committee meetings remotely via Zoom. Note: Plan for Water workshops (Special Board of Directors meetings) will continue to be only tele-conferenced on Zoom.

Zoom information will be provided on the meeting agenda and accessible at www.nidwater.com.

NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

9:00 AM

NID Special Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday Aug. 9, 2022

Gold Miners Inn, Grass Valley

Time to be announced

Plan for Water Workshop

Tuesday Aug. 9, 2022

Gold Miners Inn, Grass Valley

Time to be announced

**Meetings
& Events**

NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022

9:00 AM

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