



# GM Newsletter

June 2022

From The Desk of Jennifer Hanson, General Manager

*Water For Life*

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## Message from the General Manager

Water is essential to life and has no substitute. As we face a third summer under drought conditions, water-wise practices that conserve and protect water resources are a necessity.



The Nevada Irrigation District is calling for customers to conserve 20 percent compared to 2020 levels. We know that these water reductions can be a challenge, but also know our customers

are conscientious water users who always step up for their community.

NID Board of Directors adopted a resolution in the wake of Gov. Gavin Newsom's executive order in May that urged water suppliers to implement conservation mandates. The District's resolution included a number of water-wise practices for all customers, including reducing watering to three days a week.

We've done it before, we can do it again. In the previous drought (2012-2016) our community worked together to save water. Together we reduced water use by nearly 36 percent.

Last month, treated water customers used 4 percent less water than in May 2020. Most of NID customers have begun to embrace water-wise practices.

Let's keep up the good work, and make conservation is a way of life. We can reach our goals and preserve our precious water resources, now and into the future.

*Find out more about how you can conserve water at the [NID website](#).*

*Read the details about NID's drought measures for water efficiency on Page 2.*

## Follow Us on Social Media



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# NID adopts water conservation measures for 2022

Water conservation is at the forefront as the temperatures heat up and drought conditions persist. NID has adopted measures to comply with the state order to achieve a 20 percent reduction in water use as compared to 2020 levels. To ensure water-wise practices, the District has implemented Stage 2 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

## What does this mean for you?

NID's Resolution imposes wise-water use practices by restricting the following:

- The application of irrigation or potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff
- The use of a hose that dispenses irrigation or potable water to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle
- The application of irrigation or potable water to driveways and sidewalks
- The use of irrigation or potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature
- The application of irrigation or potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall
- The serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments
- Irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians with irrigation or potable water.

## When Can You Water?

- Agricultural water customers irrigating ornamental landscape and/or turf and treated water customers shall be limited to **three watering days per week**:
  - Odd address number can irrigate outdoors on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
  - Even address number can irrigate outdoors on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday
- Outdoor watering shall be limited to early morning (before 10 AM) and late evening (after 6 PM)
- Under no circumstance shall customers irrigate in a manner that creates runoff.



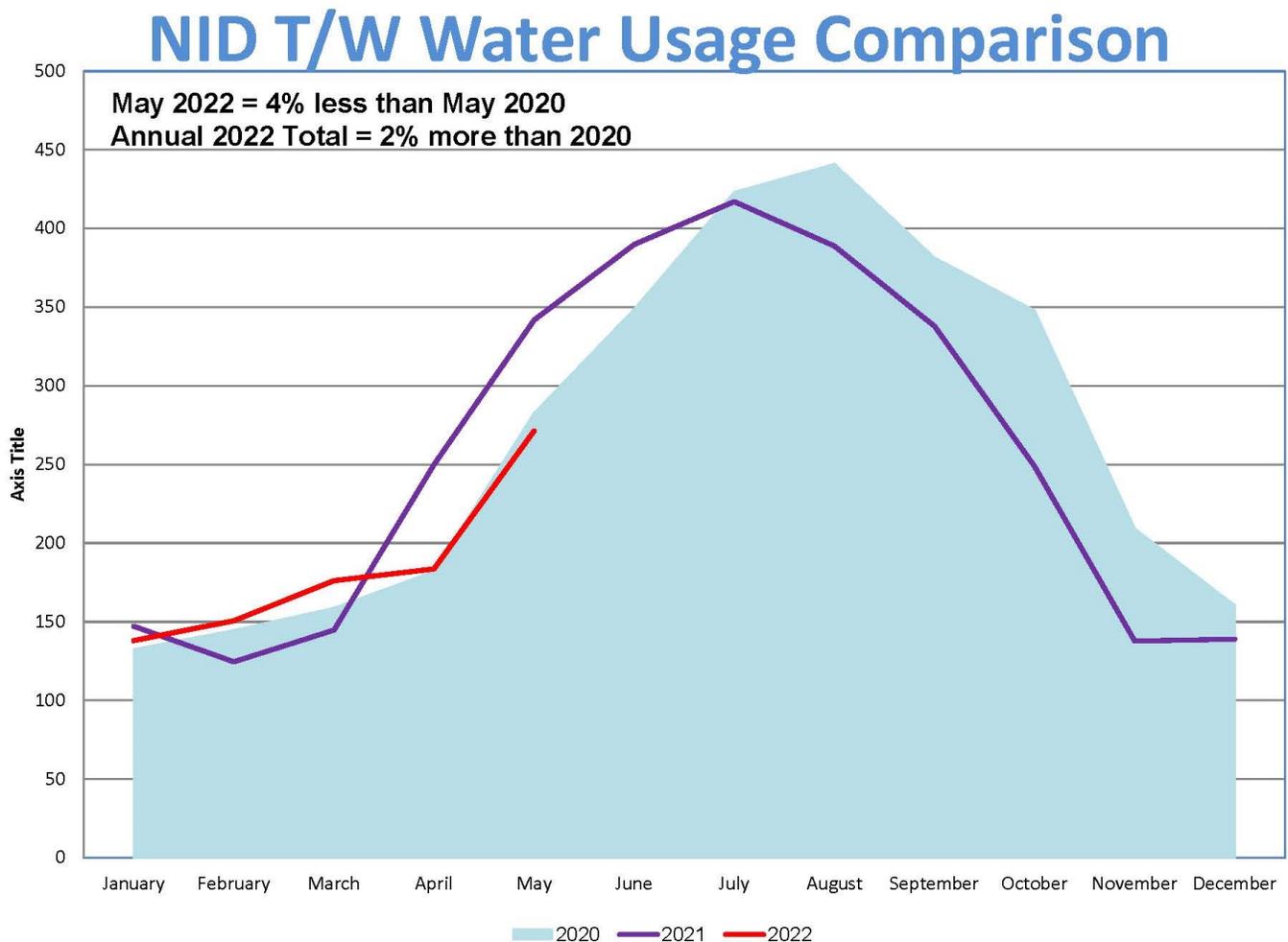
## Water conservation improves slightly—water use down 4%

In May, treated water usage was down 4 percent, compared to May 2020. For 2022, total treated water usage is 2 percent more 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.



# Plan for Water

## Invitation to get involved

The June 7 Plan For Water workshop focused on “Risk,” including risk analysis and mitigation efforts.

The discussion centered on NID's controlled and uncontrolled risk factors and mitigation efforts as it relates to operational, regulatory and environmental considerations.

**The next public workshop on July 12 will continue the discussion about “Risk”**

[Plan for Water webpage](#)



Business & Operations



Regulatory



Financial



Environment & Natural Events

**Risks to NID : Many Different Forms**

### ***How Can You Find Workshop Presentations?***

The Plan for Water webpage has documents from all the workshops. These include presentations, links to workshop videos, calendar, FAQs ... and more! Here are quick links to the presentations:

**Risk — Stage 4**

**Watershed — Stage 3**

**Water Rights — Stage 2**

**Water Service Overview —Stage 1**

**NID Mountain System —Stage 1**

## NID restricts campfires in campgrounds to reduce wildfire risk

Fire use restrictions at foothill recreation facilities went into effect Tuesday, June 7. Due to the drought, dry conditions and escalating temperatures, campfires will be prohibited in developed campgrounds around Scotts Flat Reservoir and Rollins Reservoir.

Under the rules, campfires and open fires fueled by wood or charcoal are prohibited. Propane-fueled portable cooking stoves are still allowed at this time.

The goal is to keep everyone safe. Fires caused by abandoned or escaped campfires pose a greater threat to our forests and community.

The fire restrictions include these campgrounds:

- Scotts Flat Campground
- Orchard Springs Campground
- Long Ravine Campground
- Peninsula Campground

Learn more about NID recreation, [click here](#).



### Keeping the public safe at Milton Reservoir

Preparing for the recreation season at Milton Reservoir, an NID crew has installed safety booms in front of the dam. This is a good reminder to take care: the water may seem safe, but all dams are potentially dangerous. Above the dam, water flow can pull boats, kayaks and swimmers to the edge.

#### Safety around the dam

- Always stay a safe distance outside of warning signs, booms and barriers when fishing, boating or swimming
- Stay away from the edge of waters above and below hydroelectric stations
- Be sure to obey all warning signs and signals





## Bowman Lake precip

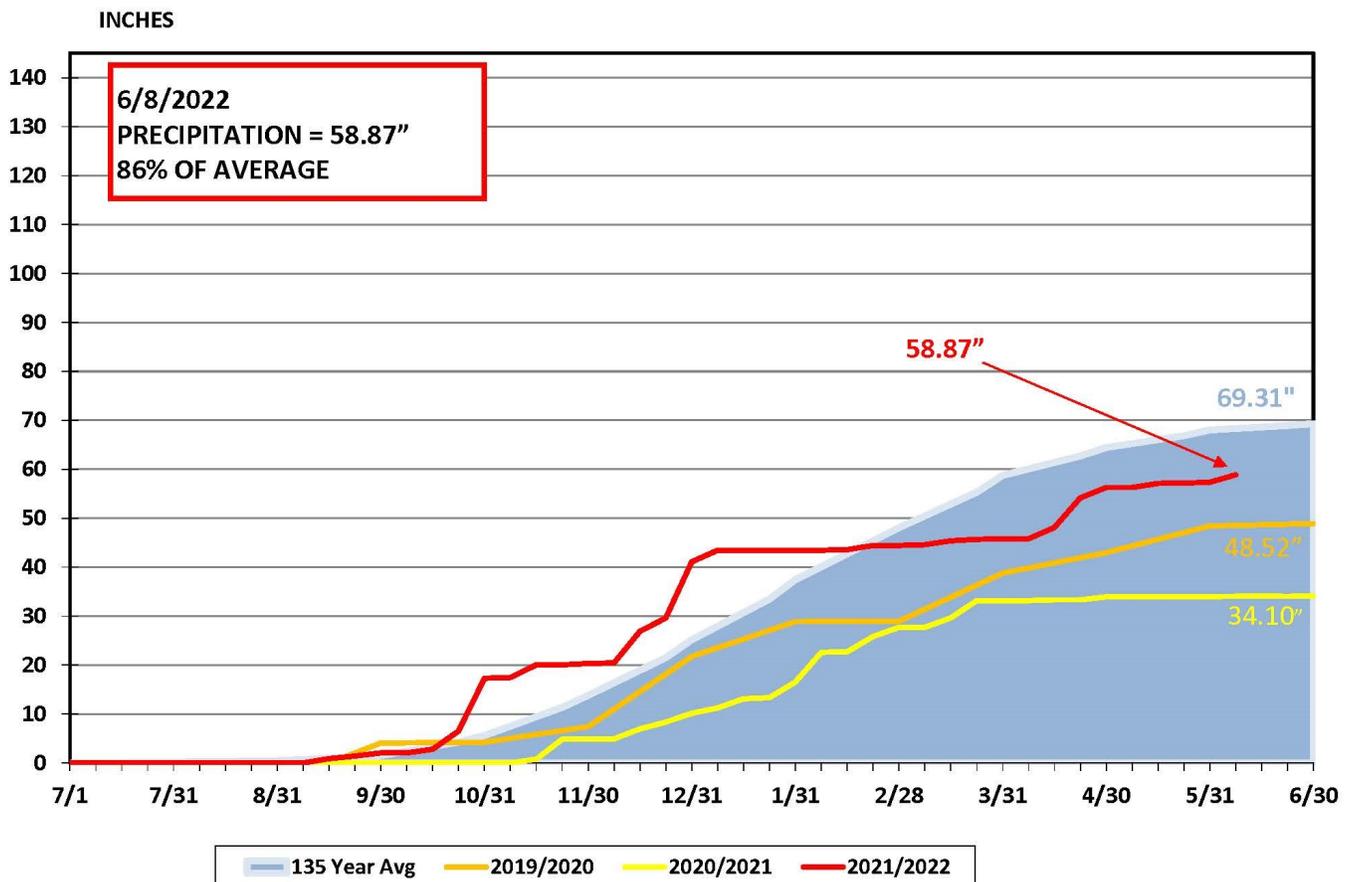
NID has been keeping weather records for Bowman Reservoir (elevation 5,650 ft.) since 1929.

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 June 8, 58.87 inches had fallen, which is 86 percent of average.

# BOWMAN LAKE PRECIPITATION



# Reservoir storage is slightly above average

Reservoir storage is 265,105 acre-feet as of June 8. That is 112 percent of average and 98 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:

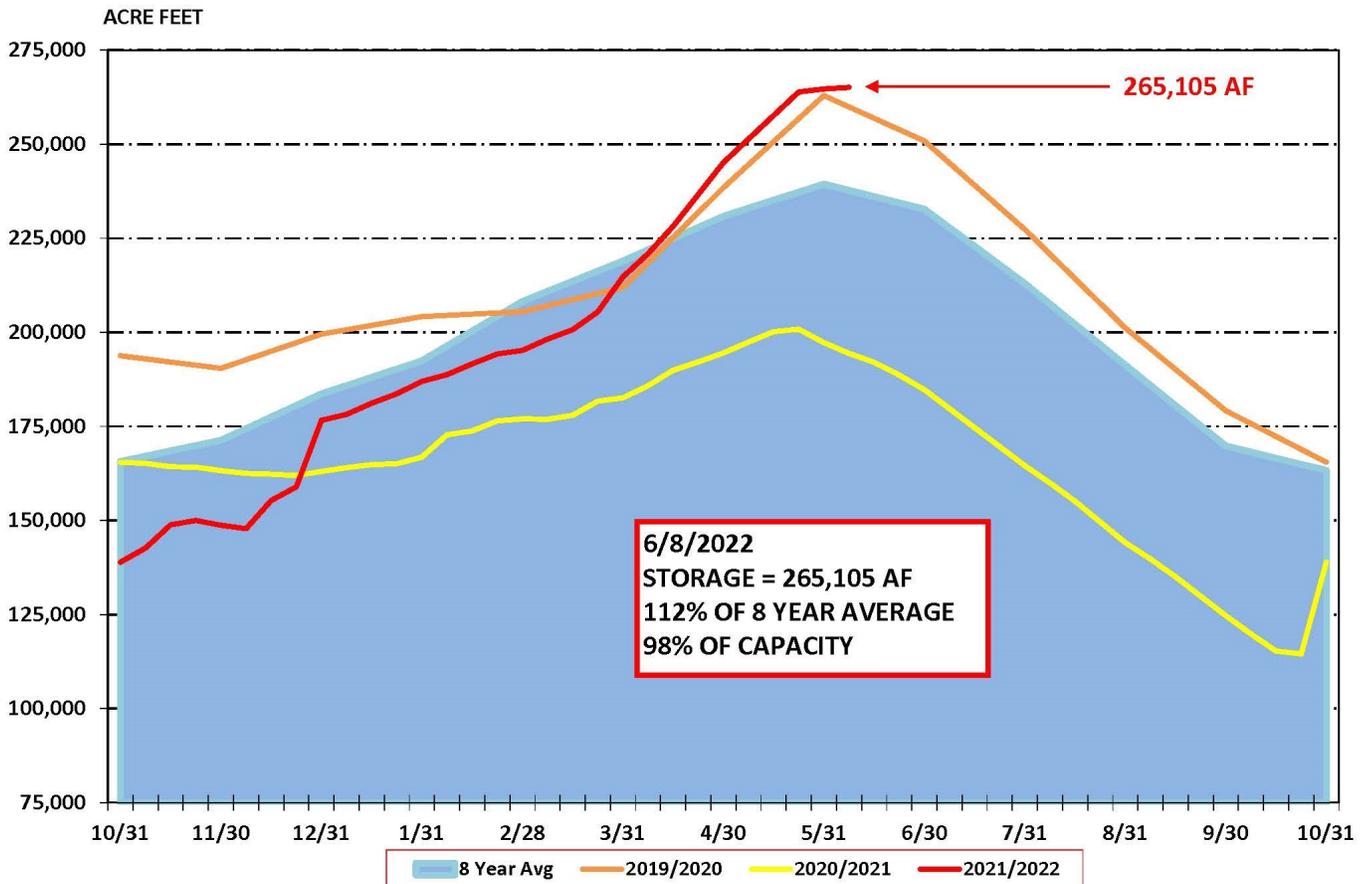
- \* [Jackson Meadows](#)
- \* [Middle Yuba River below Milton](#)

- \* [Sawmill Lake](#)

- \* [Bowman Lake](#)

- \* [Canyon Creek below Bowman](#)

# NID RESERVOIR STORAGE

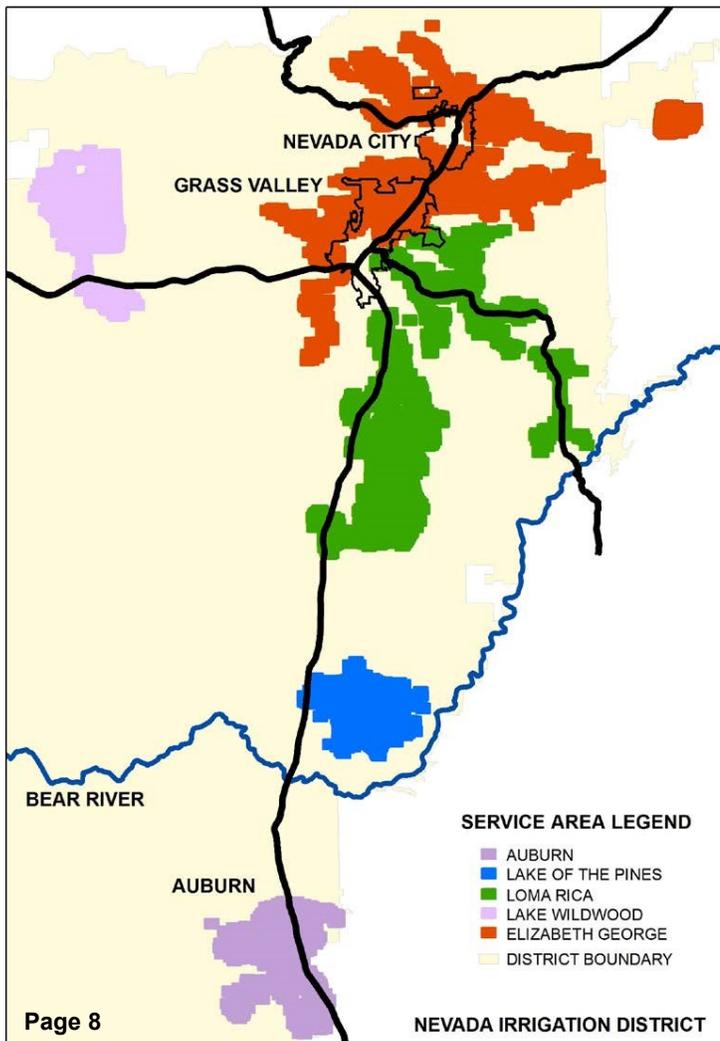


# NID water quality excels; annual report released

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.

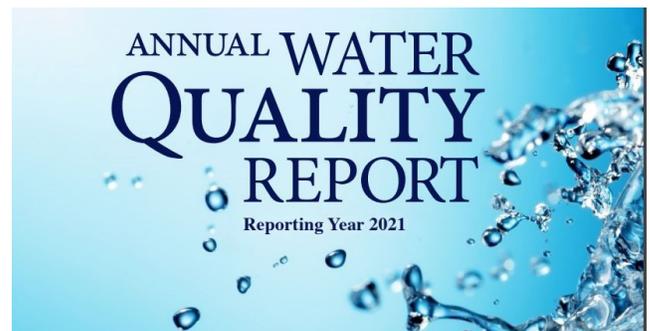
The information focuses on water supplied through the Elizabeth L. George, Loma Rica, Lake Wildwood, Lake of The Pines, and North Auburn water treatment plants.



The District treated and distributed more than 3.1 billion gallons of surface water in 2021. This water originates in the Sierra Nevada snowpack and is routed through canals and pipes to NID's 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](#)



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# NID secures grant funding for Bear River Wildfire Recovery Project

NID has been awarded \$570,000 by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy so the District can continue its work to address burned forest conditions from the 2021 River Fire and improve forest health in the Bear River watershed.

The Bear River Wildfire Recovery Project is located on District-owned lands on the steep slopes of the Bear River canyon, between Chicago Park and Lake of the Pines in Nevada County. This area is integral to water supply infrastructure that NID manages for local communities.

The project will remove burned trees on 150 acres of NID land in a mixed mid-elevation ponderosa pine and hardwood that burned at high intensity in the River Fire.

It also will expand defensible space adjacent to the communities of Lake of the Pines and Alta Sierra.

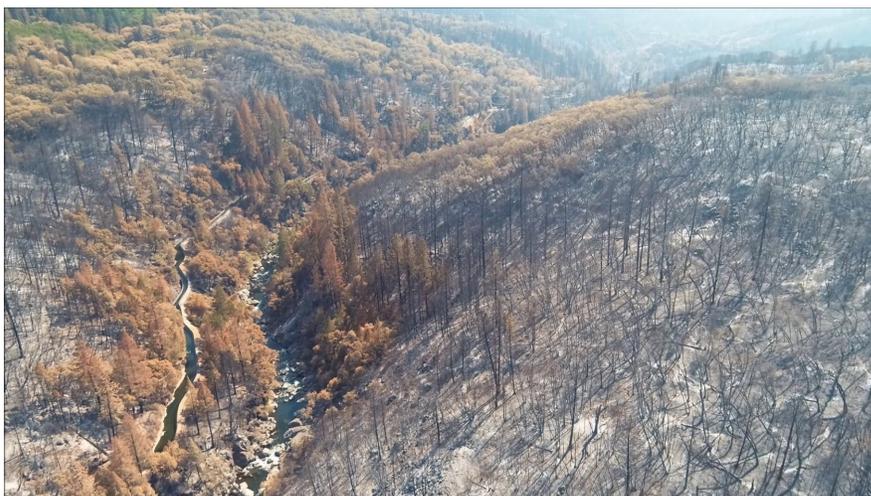
The River Fire began at the Bear River Campground in Placer County on Aug. 4, 2021 and scorched 2,619 acres before being fully contained on Aug. 13.

The fire had widespread impacts within the Bear River watershed, and dramatically altered the condition of the forest. This included damage to the water supply, water quality and watershed function.

Read the details and see photos, [click here](#).



Looking southeast toward adjacent NID parcel in Placer County. Emergency erosion control and hazard tree removal was implemented in autumn 2021 to protect the Bear River Canal and Bear River from hazardous post-fire debris and sediment delivery into the river. The project will expand upon these efforts and include fuels reduction treatments and erosion control to promote forest recovery and protect the Bear River.



Aerial photo of the Bear River Canal and Bear River. The project will address burned forests on District property and installation of erosion control measures to promote forest recovery.

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

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

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



## [Alta Sierra Reservoir Replacement Project](#)

The project involves removing the existing liner, grading the interior of the reservoir to raise the bottom elevation 6 feet, and constructing a 3 MG concrete tank that is centered in the existing reservoir. Learn more, click on the [Project Description](#).



## [Hemphill Diversion Fish Passage Project](#)

The project will remove the existing diversion structure and construct a roughen-rock ramp fish passage in its place. Improvements to the Hemphill Canal will include a fish screen to prevent fish entrapment while maintaining water deliveries to NID raw water customers. Learn more, click on the [Project Description](#).



## [English Meadow Floodplain Restoration & Enhancement Project](#)

The project includes floodplain restoration and forest management activities on 380 acres within the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Yuba River (Middle Yuba River) in Nevada and Sierra Counties, California. The activities will take place about 1 mile upstream of Jackson Meadows. Learn more, click on the [Project Description](#).

If you would like to receive notifications when updates to the [NID Projects Underway](#) page are made, go to the [webpage](#) and click on the Join Our Mailing List tab at the bottom of the page and select the notifications you would like to receive.

# Hydropower Generation Report

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	11,635	10,998
Dutch Flat #2	6,736	2,618
Rollins	6,229	5,439
Bowman	1,452	1,326
Combie North	139	137
Combie South	657	348
Scotts Flat	366	456
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,214</b>	<b>21,322</b>

# Hydropower Availability Report

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

**All powerhouses were above budgeted availability for the month of May.**

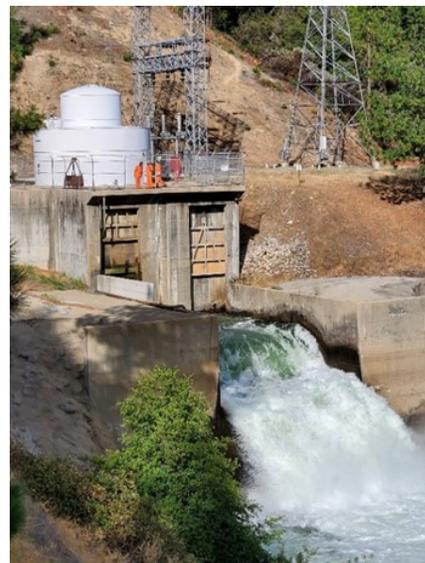
Powerhouse	Budgeted Availability	Actual Availability
Chicago Park	94.7%	100%
Dutch Flat #2	94.7%	100%
Rollins	95.0%	100%
Bowman	92.0%	100%

# 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
Dutch Flat #2	5/9/2022 07:44	1:09	PG&E Line Work
	5/21/2022 07:11	10:19	PG&E Line Work
		11:28	Total



Left: Bowman South Arch Dam

Right: Dutch Flat #2 Powerhouse

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## Mulch Magic Giveaway was a huge success

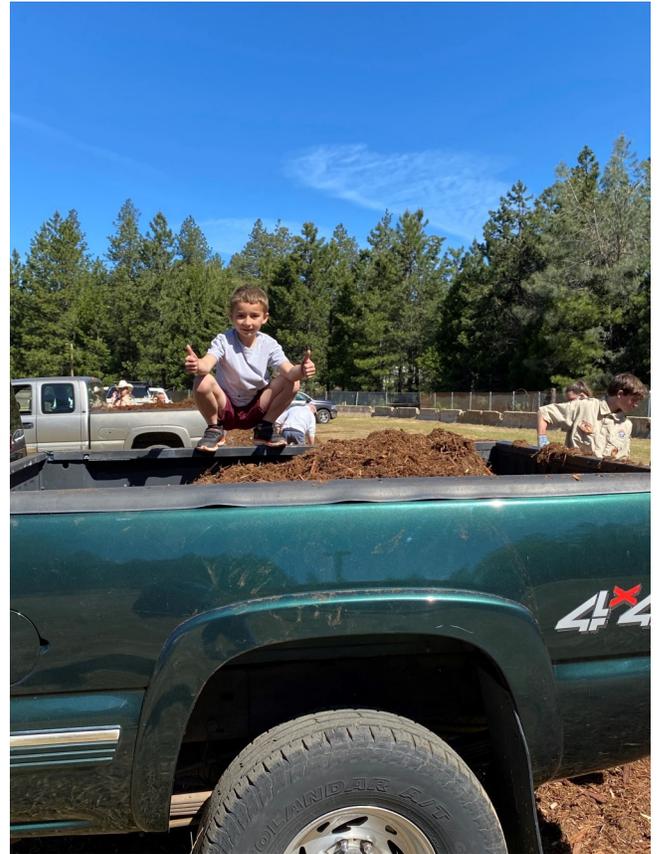
NID's Annual Mulch Magic Giveaway was a huge success! Nearly 120 residents took away about 290 cubic yards of free mulch on May 14.

It was the largest turn-out in the five years of the event, which is part of the District's continuing efforts to promote conscientious water use and conservation.

The mulch was handed out free on a first-come first-served basis at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. As a "self-load" event, participants shoveled the mulch into their vehicles. Also, local Boy and Eagle Scouts were available to help.

Mulch is a great tool to help save water in gardening and landscaping. Two or three inches of mulch helps retain water keeping the soil moist for longer periods of time.

NID purchased the mulch and teamed with sponsor Nevada County Fairgrounds.



## 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](http://www.nidwater.com).

### **NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

9:00 AM

### **NID Special Board of Directors Meeting**

Tuesday July 12, 2022

3:00 PM

### **Plan for Water Workshop**

Tuesday July 12, 2022

4:00 PM

### **NID Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

9:00 AM

**Meetings  
& Events**

