

# NID Newsletter

September 2021

From The Desk of Jennifer Hanson, General Manager

## Water For Life

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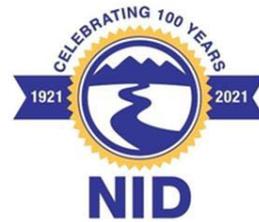
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### Message from the General Manager

Welcome to the second edition of the General Manager's Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information on what is happening at the District and on items of interest. This newsletter is a good resource to stay up to date on projects underway, the Plan for Water effort, water storage levels, water conservation, and all things NID. The newsletter will be issued on a monthly basis and will be archived on our website for future reference.



### Job Openings & Recruitment

Click [HERE](#) to learn about exciting careers at NID and to see the most up to date list of job openings.



## Just Keep Swimming

Dori, the amazingly forgetful little blue fish from the movie *Finding Nemo*, definitely said it best; and that is exactly what NID did for the Penguin Swim Club. Their pool at Memorial Park is currently under construction. The Penguins will be swimming at the Pioneer Pool in Nevada City this winter and were in need of a 52' swim line to use until the construction on their pool is complete.



The District was able to gather several buoys that were not being used to delineate the 25 yard distance to loan the club for their workouts. NID wishes the Penguin Swim Club the greatest of luck in their upcoming events

and encourages all to “**Just Keep Swimming!**”



## Cleaning The Bear River

The call for volunteers was heard and NID employees answered. The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) had their [24th Annual Yuba River Cleanup](#) from September 11<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>.

In support of this event, NID employees gathered on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> to remove trash from local area trails and beach on the Bear River. In all, NID volunteers removed 25 bags of garbage including asbestos, a rain gutter, car parts, diapers, beer cans, needles, tires, mattresses, an abandoned camper and car, toilet paper, plastic bags, cigarettes, and various other household trash. Once all the trash had been removed, the area looked beautiful and pristine again.

Don Bird, NID's Safety Analyst, was one of the volunteers at the cleanup. “It's nice to give back to the community.

This is who we are and what we do at NID. We are stewards of the water system and that also includes being stewards of the surrounding watershed.”



River Cleanup volunteers make a huge difference in the health of our watershed. Over the past 20 years, the **Yuba River Cleanup** has removed more than 120 tons of garbage and recycling from the river.

The Yuba River Cleanup is part of a larger cleanup effort, [California Coastal Cleanup Day](#), which started in 1985 and is the largest volunteer event in the state.

Water and air, the two essential fluids on which all life depends, have become global garbage cans.

- Jacques Yves Cousteau

## River Fire – Response & Recovery

Beginning August 4, 2021, the River Fire scorched over 2,600 acres, inclusive of over 4 river miles of the Bear River watershed in Placer and Nevada counties. NID owns approximately 320 acres of burned area within the watershed. The fire burned in areas where much of the terrain is steep and consists of montane hardwood and mixed conifer forests, including small tributaries that flow to the Bear River.



Primary concerns of the fire aftermath include: landslides and debris flows on the steep slopes and highly erosive soils within the burn scar, downstream water quality impacts, debris and log jams, and near and long-term implications to operations & maintenance of downstream facilities. In particular, trees in the river present a significant log-jam / dam safety issue. Additionally, sedimentation from hillside erosion threatens aquatic habitats, existing culverts, and presents a substantial loss of capacity concern at Combie Reservoir.

Furthermore, the security of the Bear River Canal from landslides is a health & safety issue, and increased costs to operations & maintenance of NID's downstream infrastructure is of ongoing budgetary concern. NID is also concerned that leaving the dead trees and chaparral will increase the



wildfire risk in the area in subsequent years and therefore recommends mitigation and restoration to begin immediately and likely continue in the next 3-5 years.

Of the 320 NID acres burned, approx. 105 acres are >40% slope and within a 100 – 200' buffer zone of the river or other sensitive, high-flow erosion conveyance areas (tributaries / unimproved roads / etc).



## [\\$1.2M to Restore English Meadow](#)

NID is very excited to announce that the Wildlife Conservation Board approved a grant in the amount of \$1,200,000 for the English Meadow Restoration Project! Neysa King, NID's Environmental Resources Administrator, began work on this grant application in 2019. Her efforts and devotion to this project are appreciated and we are looking forward to seeing the positive results this restoration will bring.

The grant will be used to implement floodplain restoration and forest management activities on 380 acres within the headwaters of the Middle Yuba River in Nevada and Sierra Counties, California. Project activities will take place about 1 mile upstream of Jackson Meadows Reservoir, a critical NID storage facility used for recreation, clean hydroelectric power production and water supply for 25,000 agricultural and drinking water customers in Nevada, Placer and Yuba Counties.



Beginning this year and through 2023, NID will construct a series of native woody debris structures in the Middle Yuba River channel; raising the river channel, and subsequently the water table, to re-activate the meadow floodplain and improve hydrology. The District will treat and fill dewatering channels and headcutting tributaries to promote infiltration and absorption of surface flow, and to reduce sediment transport.



In addition, this project will thin 180 acres of dense understory forest vegetation on the slopes surrounding the meadow to improve forest health and decrease the risk of extreme wildfire.

King noted that English Meadow has been impacted by human activities associated with inundation and dewatering over the last 150 years which has created excessively dry soil conditions, headcutting tributaries, and promoted lodgepole pine encroachment. In addition, excavated drainage ditches allow flows to escape the meadow before they can infiltrate the floodplain, which exacerbates these conditions.

“This restoration project will potentially have lasting water resource and ecosystem benefits,” said King. “In total, it will likely benefit downstream water availability and quality, decrease sedimentation into Jackson Meadows Reservoir, improve seasonal release of water from the meadow aquifer, improve and protect terrestrial and wetland habitats, and improve forest health and snowpack accumulation.”



To learn more from the July 2021 press release, click [HERE](#). You can also stay up to date by visiting NID's page dedicated to the English Meadow Restoration. <https://www.nidwater.com/meadow-restoration>

# Centennial Reservoir

Centennial Water Supply Project quarterly update:

Since the last quarterly update, there has been no work done on the EIR, design or AB52 consultation. All existing consulting contracts, and their associated encumbrances, have been terminated. No work is expected until the Plan for Water process is complete.

The Administrative Hearings Office (AHO) held a status conference on August 31, 2021 regarding water right Application 5634X01. From that conference, the District has been required to develop a proposed schedule with interim deadlines for actions that the District must take before the State Water Board holds a public hearing on the District’s petition for assignment of state-filed Application 5634 and accompanying water-right Application 5634X01. The schedule is due to the AHO by December 30, 2021. A status conference has been scheduled for January 18, 2022.

Some staff and legal time was used to prepare and attend the August 31st conference. Additional staff and legal time is anticipated through the end of the year to meet AHO schedule requirements.

Current budget expenditures as of September 13, 2021 are as follows:

<b>2021</b>	<b>January-June</b>	<b>July - September</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Consulting	\$0	\$651	\$651
Consulting Property	\$0	\$0	\$0
Property - Purchase	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Rights Fees	\$6,892	\$3,445	\$10,337
Staff*	\$1,032	\$1,476	\$2,508
Legal*	\$288	\$1,504	\$1,792
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,892</b>	<b>\$4,096</b>	<b>\$10,988</b>

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

<b>2021</b>	<b>January-June</b>	<b>July – September</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Property – Expenses	\$20,022	\$25,777	\$45,799
Property – Revenue	\$94,830	\$62,850	\$157,680
<b>Total (Revenue – Expenses)</b>	<b>\$74,808</b>	<b>\$37,073</b>	<b>\$111,881</b>

## Plan for Water

Plan for Water is a community collaboration process to determine the best ways to meet the community's demand for water over the next 50 years. Currently there are nine phases planned with the first phase kicking off at a Special Board of Directors Meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

Stage 1: System Overview

Stage 2: Water Rights Overview

Stage 3: Strategic Planning

Stage 4: Basis for Plan for  
Water

Stage 5: Hydrology and Hydrography

Stage 6: Demand

Stage 7: Supply Needs

Stage 8: Strategy Options

Stage 9: Evaluate Strategies

If you would like to be part of the process, please join our mailing list [HERE](#).



## Meetings & Events

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, and given the state of emergency regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the District's Board room is currently closed to the public. The public is invited to participate in Board and Committee meetings remotely via 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, September 22, 2021  
9:00 AM

### **NID Water Rates Committee Meeting**

Thursday, September 23, 2021  
2:00 PM

### **NID Special Board of Directors Meeting – Capital Improvement Planning Workshop**

Thursday, September 23, 2021  
4:00 PM

### **NID Special Board of Directors Meeting – Budget Workshop**

Thursday, October 7, 2021  
4:00 PM

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

Wednesday, October 13, 2021  
9:00 AM

### **NID - PCWA Water Committee Meeting – At PCWA**

Friday, October 22, 2021  
9:00 AM

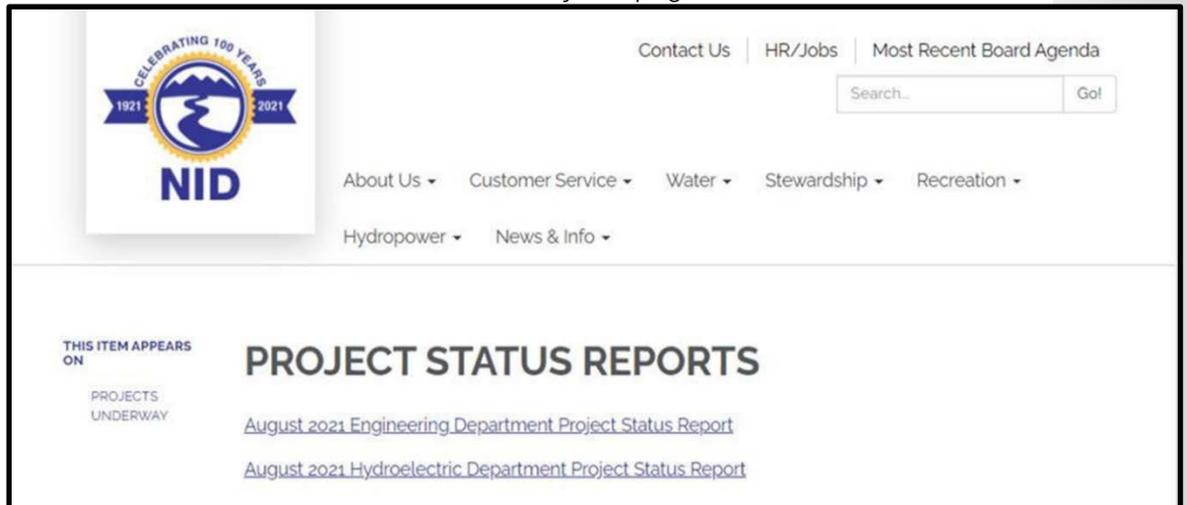


## Capital Improvement Projects

Updated Project Status Reports are now available on the District's Projects page. This report provides project information, planner information, and a brief project description.

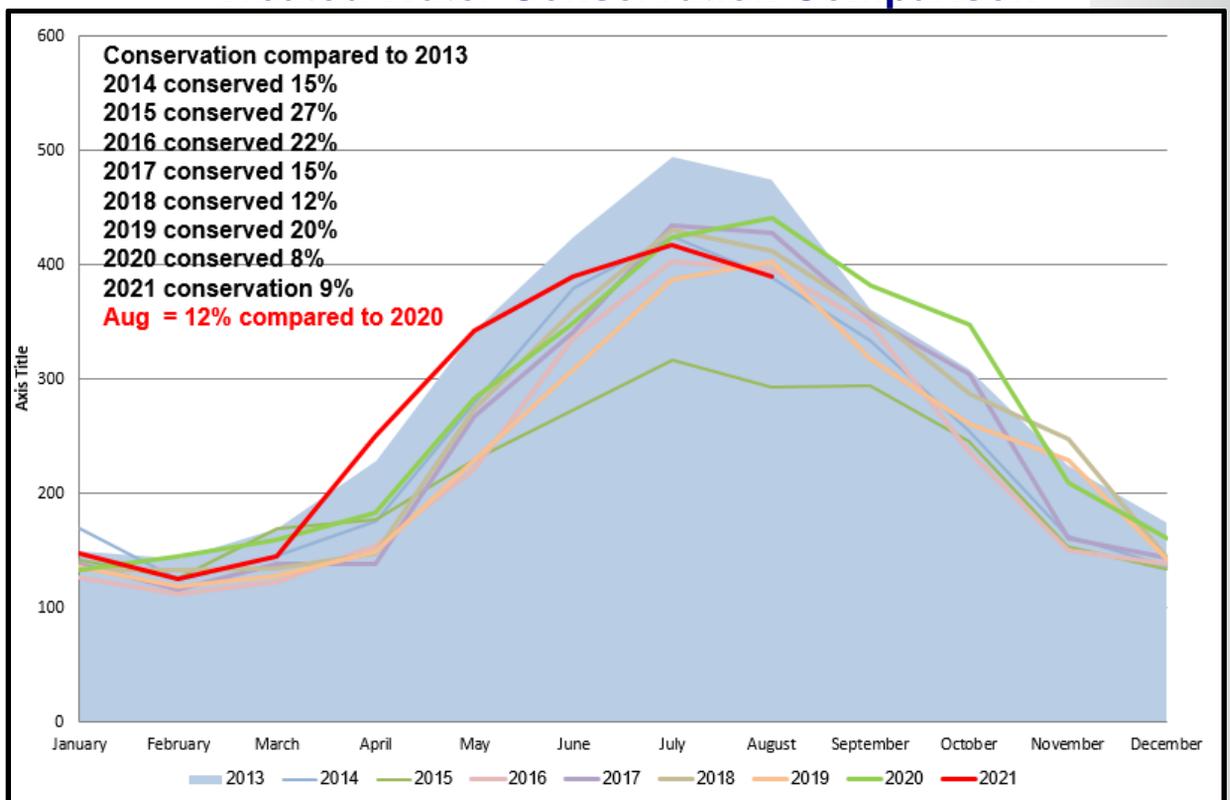
<https://www.nidwater.com/project-status-reports>

View of webpage:



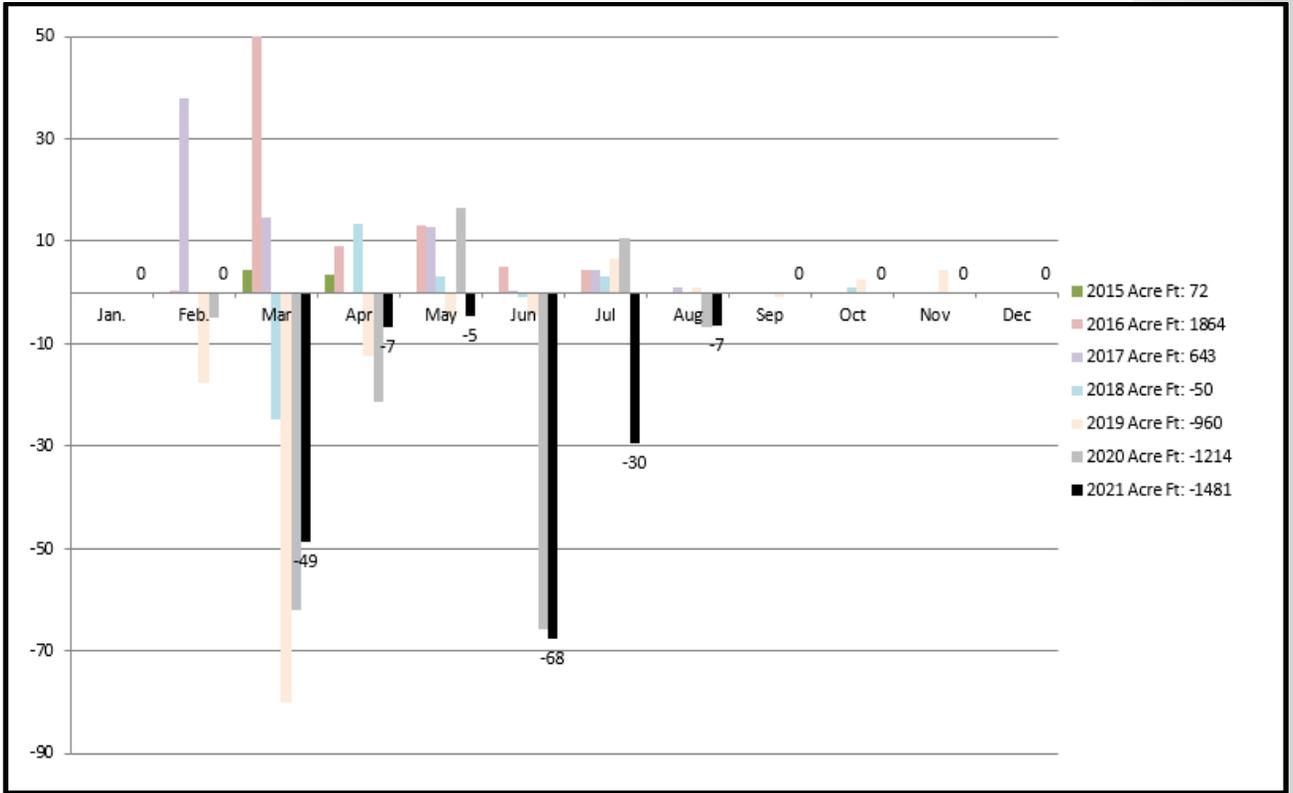
## Conservation Updates

### Treated Water Conservation Comparison



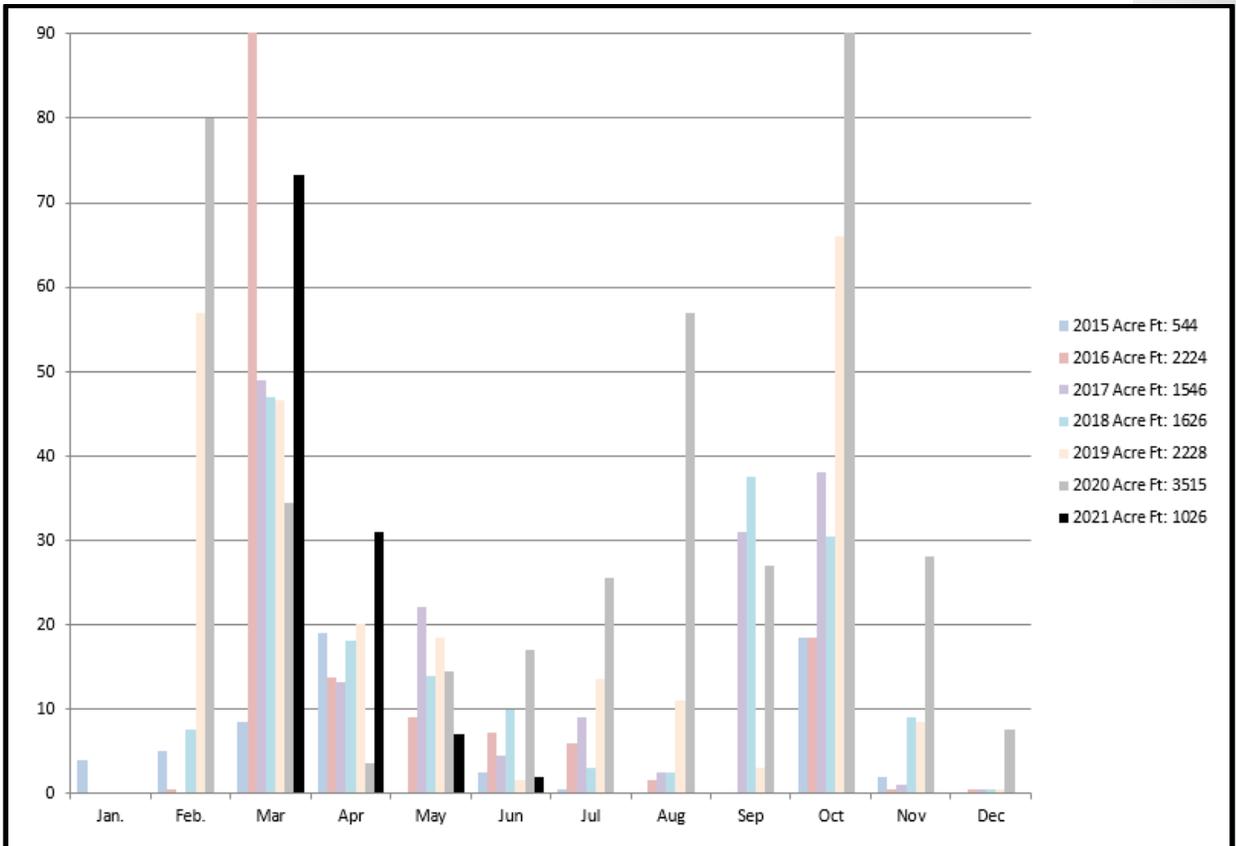
The above graph shows the overall treated water usage and effectiveness of conservation within the District's treated water customer base.

## Raw Water Sales



The graph above provides a year over year comparison of new raw water sales. 2021 amounts are low due to a Board action that restricts new raw water accounts.

## Raw Water Sales in Miners Inches



As you can see from the table above, raw water sales are decreasing in 2021, thanks to conservation efforts.

## Hydroelectric Updates

### Generation Report

Powerhouse	Average Generation	Current Generation
Chicago Park	11,593	6,835
Dutch Flat #2	7,307	1,910
Rollins	5,358	2,117
Bowman	1,638	691
Combie North	184	167
Combie South	173	19
Scotts Flat	507	142
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,760</b>	<b>11,881</b>

- This report presents the total megawatt-hours (MWh) generated per powerhouse for the previous month. Average Generation is based on the monthly generation from the previous five years.
- Powerhouses Combie North, Combie South, and Scotts Flat create revenue based on MWh produced. Powerhouses Chicago Park, Dutch Flat #2, Rollins and Bowman generation is provided for informational purposes.
- Generation is well below historic averages due to the dry conditions experienced during the past winter.

### Availability Report

Powerhouse	Budgeted Availability	Actual Availability
Chicago Park	94.2%	100%
Dutch Flat #2	92.0%	100%
Rollins	94.1%	100%
Bowman	95.0%	100%

- This report presents the total percentage of time a powerhouse is available to generate during the given month.
- Powerhouses Chicago Park, Dutch Flat #2, Rollins, and Bowman produce revenue based on the percentage of time the unit is available to generate.
- Budgeted availability shown was used to develop revenue forecasts.

- Actual availability is based on the hours the powerhouse ran minus any outages that are not excused by the terms of the Power Purchase Agreement and is the basis of payment calculation.
- All powerhouses were above their budgeted availability for the month.

## Outage Report

Powerhouse	Date and Time Out	Duration (HH:MM)	Cause
Bowman	8/2/2021 06:31	177:20	Line Outage
Dutch Flat #2	8/3/2021 3:43	0:32	Line Outage
	8/3/2021 09:36	1:31	Line Outage
Rollins	8/4/2021 16:18	47:33	River Fire
	8/13/2021 0:53	11:02	Line Outage
	8/14/2021 1:02	11:00	Line Outage
	8/15/2021 0:53	10:49	Line Outage
	8/16/2021 0:14	11:28	Line Outage
	8/17/2021 0:12	11:47	Line Outage
	8/18/2021 0:02	10:53	Line Outage
	8/19/2021 0:12	11:31	Line Outage
	8/20/2021 0:15	11:52	Line Outage
Scotts Flat	8/6/2021 7:04	10:15	Line Outage
		<b>327:33</b>	<b>Total</b>

- This report presents a list of each time a powerhouse has an outage caused by something other than a lack of water and basic information about the outage.
- Minimizing the number of outages and their length is key to maximizing revenue from powerhouses.
- Reliability of Units was high in August.
- Numerous outages were a result of line work or other external causes.

Note: Data is preliminary and subject to verification.