

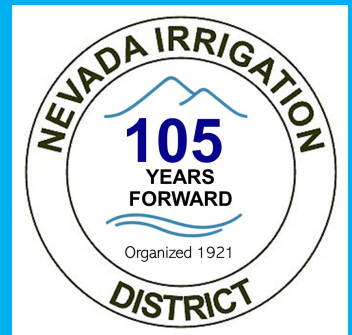
Water is once again flowing through NID's canals. While these flows are essential for delivering water across the District, they are cold and can be deceptively fast.

Equipment Operator Steven Peden (left) and Utility Worker Davin Chittock help get out the word — “Stay Out & Stay Alive.” Read the safety story on [Page 8](#).



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... and more

April Anniversaries

- Larry Martin**, Senior Vegetation Control Worker, 27 years, April 14
- Kenton Early**, Maintenance Supervisor, 24 years, April 29
- Andrew Rutter**, Hydroelectric Water Systems Operator II, 21 years, April 18
- John Grande**, Senior Water Distribution Operator, 19 years, April 30
- Brian Berg**, Hydroelectric Systems Technician II, 14 years, April 16
- Dennis Frey**, Water Distribution Operator II, 12 years, April 7
- Steven Haack**, Water Distribution Supervisor, 12 years
- Lisa Price**, Administrative Analyst II, 12 years, April 7
- Andrew Chidley**, Senior Utility Worker, 11 years, April 27
- Dennis Flower**, Senior Storekeeper, 11 years, April 13
- Rob Jackson**, Water Distribution Supervisor, 10 years, April 1
- Shane Slattery**, Hydroelectric Water Systems Operator I, 9 years, April 3
- John Ortiz**, Information Technology Administrator, 6 years, April 20
- Chance Wick**, Chief Water Treatment Operator, 6 years, April 27
- Wyatt Landrum**, Utility Worker I, 5 years
- Robert Stice**, Senior Welder, 5 years
- Jonathan McNamara**, Water Treatment Operator II, 4 years, April 25
- Clint Piper**, Water Treatment Operator II, 2 years



Rob Jackson



Robert Stice

New Hires

Sam Crowe – Assistant Engineer – March 23, 2026

Promotions

Gerry Gnech – Senior Utility Worker – March 23, 2026

Wayne MacMenigall – Senior Utility Worker – March 23, 2026



Gerry Gnech



Wayne MacMenigall

Time for a Tax Check-Up: Review Your Withholding Today

April 15th was tax day, and now is a great time to check if your income tax withholding needs to be updated. It is recommended that you check your State (DE4) and Federal (W4) income tax withholdings at least once per year, near the beginning of the year.

Need to make a change? It's easy in EA!

Click on My Pay --> Pay and Tax Information and select the pencil icon in the top right corner of the W4 section. The system will guide you through the "Edit W4" pop up. DE4 and W4 updates can be made throughout the year, as many times as needed.

Service Awards

The Board of Directors celebrated three long-term employees on April 22, 2026. Congratulations, and thank you for all that you do!

20 years: **Ken Bartsch**, Equipment Operator

Ken began his NID career as a high school ROP student in the Electrical Department. After graduation, he long-time Maintenance employee.

Ken started in Maintenance and has worked across multiple crews, including raw water, construction, facilities, and service. Over the years, he's built a strong skillset, earning his WDO Grade 2, Class A driver's license, and certification as a crane operator. Today, he serves as an Equipment Operator and is known as a reliable, go-to team member, especially during emergency response.

A dedicated family man, Ken and his wife Jamie have five children and have also opened their home as foster parents—reflecting the same commitment and care he brings to his work every day.



20 years: **John Foppiano**, Water Distribution Operator II

John is celebrating 20 years with NID. It's an impressive milestone that reflects his deep knowledge and dedication. He joined the District in 2006 and moved into Water Operations in 2011 as a Distribution Operator, where he quickly became a go-to resource.

Over the years, John has built an unmatched understanding of the system, now capable of operating routes across both Nevada and Placer counties. If something needs fixing or explaining, John gets it done, often leaving customers happier than when they called, which is basically a superpower.

Known for his reliability and sense of humor, John keeps things running smoothly every day. Outside of work, he enjoys time with his family, especially his new grandchild, and riding motorcycles. His 20 years of service are a testament to his skill, commitment, and impact.



20 years: **Phil Goguen**, Electrical System Superintendent

Philip Goguen brings unmatched expertise and a knack for solving just about anything electrical. He joined the District in 2006 as an Electrical Systems Technician and quickly became the go-to person when something broke, which helps explain his steady rise to Electrical Systems Supervisor in 2011 and Superintendent in 2014.

If it has wires, circuits, or a mysterious blinking light, Phil can fix it, often before anyone even asks. Known for his near-photographic memory, he can recall system details from years past and troubleshoot with impressive precision.

Beyond his technical skills, Phil is a dedicated mentor, helping others understand complex systems and keeping knowledge flowing.

At home, he stays just as busy, with a dynamic family life that keeps things lively off the clock.



Service Awards

The Board of Directors celebrated three long-term employees on April 22, 2026. Congratulations, and thank you for all that you do!

15 years: **Don Bird**, Safety Analyst II

Don celebrates 15 years with NID, bringing deep expertise and a steady commitment to workplace safety. He joined the District in 2010 as a Safety Analyst after building a strong foundation with Hansen Brothers, where he developed his skills as a safety coordinator.

Over the years, Don has earned numerous certifications, including forklift trainer, hazmat trainer, and first responder, making him a trusted resource for OSHA guidance, safety analysis, and risk management. He also plays a key role in training new hires, helping instill a strong culture of safety and personal responsibility across the District.

Outside of work, Don is a proud grandfather who enjoys home projects, spending time with family, and keeping up with his grandkids who keep him on his toes.



15 years: **Rob Graham**, Cross Connection Control Technician II

Robbie celebrates 15 years with NID, and from day one, he showed up ready to “saddle up.” Known as “the cowboy” in Operations, Robbie started as a Utility Worker in 2011 and quickly advanced to a senior role by 2014.

If it’s broken, leaking, or just plain puzzling, Robbie is the one who can fix it, often improving it along the way. In 2019, he moved into Operations, where he now oversees the backflow program, helping protect the community’s water system from cross-contamination.

Robbie is also known for being the guy everyone can count on. Outside of work, he’s a local rancher and active in the FFA community. His daughter Dakota’s recent national FFA championship is a proud family achievement. It’s proof that Robbie builds more than just infrastructure.



15 years: **Cindy Ware**, Safety Technician II

Cindy is celebrating 15 years with NID, and if you’ve worked with her, you know she brings both organization and a great attitude to everything she does.

She started as an Office Assistant supporting Central Files and Human Resources before finding her home in the Safety Department in 2017. Today, Cindy helps keep everyone on track, making sure employees have the training and certifications they need to work safely and confidently. With her strong connections across the District and knack for keeping things organized, “Safety Cindy” is truly a go-to resource.

A proud local, she enjoys giving back to the community. When she’s off the clock, you’ll find her traveling, catching live music or comedy shows, cheering at baseball games, or relaxing.





WATER RATES

*Securing our water future:
Necessary rates for reliable service*



Water rates update: investing in reliable service

Delivering reliable water isn't just what we do; it's what our customers count on every single day. Behind that reliability is a system that takes constant care, upgrades, and investment.

You may start hearing more from customers about water rates. NID has begun outreach on proposed updates to treated and irrigation rates, including a Proposition 218 notice and a public hearing set for May 27.

Rate increases are never popular, but they are necessary. The last adjustment was in 2021, and since then, the cost of just about everything—materials, energy, labor—has gone up. An independent study confirmed what we're seeing: to keep delivering safe, reliable water, updates are needed.

A big part of this comes down to major projects that keep our system running strong. Replacing the Scotts Flat Spillway to meet safety standards, maintaining the aging South Yuba Canal, and upgrading the Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant are all essential investments—not optional ones.

For employees, this is a chance to help connect the dots. These projects—and the work you do every day—are what keep water flowing to homes, farms, and businesses across our community.

Follow the [NID Rate Adjustment webpage](#) at for details, updates and Prop 218 information.

From the FAQ: Why are water rates increasing now?

The proposed water rate increase is needed to fund critical projects that address aging and failing infrastructure and maintain compliance with state and federal regulations. Three critical capital improvement projects are at the center of the proposed rate structure. These are not optional; they are projects of necessity:

- The Scotts Flat Spillway Replacement project is estimated to cost the District \$55 million. This is not a discretionary project; it is required by the California Division of Safety of Dams and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The spillway, built in the early 1960's, no longer meets current safety standards and NID is required to replace it.
- NID's South Yuba Canal (SYC) is the backbone for water delivery to the Scotts Flat Reservoir, and to Nevada County. Built in the 1850's, it is made of elevated wooden flume, traverses rugged terrain prone to landslides and avalanches, and is in the middle of a forest that is highly susceptible to intense wildfire. NID recently acquired this critical asset from PG&E, and it costs more than \$3 million per year to maintain it.
- Upgrades to NID's aging treatment plants are necessary to process safe drinking water. The Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant is aging past its useful life and requires \$21 million in upgrades to continue safe operation.

Without investments, infrastructure will continue to deteriorate, increasing the risk of failures, emergency repairs, service disruptions, and regulatory non-compliance that, ultimately, will lead to higher costs and less reliable service for customers.

105 Years Forward: our story in motion

Built on History. Focused on the Future.

NID is celebrating its 105th year, but this isn't about being 105 years 'old.' It's about being 105 Years Forward.

You can help mark this moment in time.

We're launching a District-wide storytelling campaign this spring and summer: "105 Years Forward – Built on History. Focused on the Future."

This forward-thinking campaign connects our past, present, and future. It will show how more than a century of work continues to shape how we deliver water today and plan for what's ahead.

Each week, we'll highlight a different part of the story, from early canal construction and hydropower to today's treatment plants, watershed work, and field operations. Together, these stories show how the system we rely on today was built—and is still being built—by generations of work.

But this campaign is really about right now. Every day across the District, employees are in the field, running plants, responding to calls, and keeping water moving through the system. We want your help telling that story.

If you have photos, short videos, historic materials, or great stories from your crew or department, send them in. The everyday moments often say the most.

Follow along each week on the NID website, Facebook, and Instagram as new stories roll out. To share content, email Communications: Susan Lauer at lauers@nidwater.com.

Keep an eye out: you might see your crew or your corner of the District featured as we celebrate 105 Years Forward.



Public Hearing Set for Urban Water Management Plan Update

The NID Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on May 13, 2026, to review the 2025 update to the District's Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP).

The UWMP is a key planning document that outlines how NID will meet current and future water demands. It includes water supply reliability, projected availability, demand forecasts, drought risk planning, and ongoing conservation efforts.

This update is required every five years under California law and helps guide long-term water planning and decision-making.

For employees, this is one of the foundational documents that supports how we plan, operate, and communicate about water reliability across the system.

[2025 Draft Urban Water Management Plan](#)





NID

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

PIPELINE

A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 30 • Number 4 • April 2009



Ready for the Irrigation Season

With the irrigation season set to open on Apr. 15, the Operations and Maintenance departments have been wrapping up projects and preparing to “wet things up” on the canal system.

Water Supt. **Larry Markey** said water would begin flowing into canals about Apr. 6-7 so that all customers will have water by the 15th. “We have to ramp it up and then make adjustments,” he

said. “We don’t anticipate being late anywhere.”

In Placer County, the Placer Crew is completing several projects, said Asst. Maint. Supt. **Bob MacDonald**. Improvements have been completed on the Comstock Gladding, Combie Ophir IV and Reilli canals. The seasonal diversion dams on the Hemphill and Doty South canals are scheduled for installation in early April, he said.

Crews from both Nevada

ABOVE LEFT, Chris Friedman pilots a power broom on the Combie Phase I project, as Jeff Brady stands by.

ABOVE, Frank Reina and Mike Whipple place epoxy as they seal one of 305 joints along the concrete bench flume.

and Placer counties pitched in during March on a major rehabilitation of a 2.5-mile stretch of the Combie Ophir Phase I Canal below Combie Reservoir. (See photos, above.)

Canal Safety: Stay Out & Stay Alive



As irrigation season gets underway, water is once again flowing through NID's extensive canal system, marking one of the most important times of year for the District and the customers we serve.

With up to 500 miles of canals and 400 miles of pipeline in operation, this system is essential to delivering water across Nevada and Placer counties. It also brings increased safety risks—both for the public and for those of us who work around and maintain this infrastructure.

Canals may appear calm, but they are engineered to move water quickly and efficiently. Strong currents, steep and often slippery sides, and submerged structures like culverts and grates create hazardous conditions. In addition, canal water is often extremely cold, especially early in the season when it is fed by snow-melt. Cold water shock can impair breathing and muscle control within seconds.

For employees working in or near canals, situational awareness is critical. Always follow established safety protocols, maintain proper footing, and use appropriate

protective equipment when required. Conditions can change quickly, and even routine tasks require caution and focus.

This time of year also brings increased public interaction with canals. As representatives of NID, employees play an important role in reinforcing safety messaging. The District's message remains clear: "Stay Out and Stay Alive." When appropriate, remind community members that canals are not safe for recreation and that entering the water can be life-threatening.

In the event of an incident, never enter a canal to attempt a rescue. Call 911 immediately and assist from a safe distance using reach or throw techniques if possible.

Canal safety is a shared responsibility. By staying alert, following protocols, and helping communicate risks, we can protect ourselves, our coworkers, and the communities we serve.



Meetings & Events



Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

** Dates subject to change. For updated dates, see nidwater.com

Past Pipeline Editions

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