

Prepared to Save: NID workers train for emergency rescues

(Right) During a practice rescue drill, Hydro Electrical Machinist II Lance Adams communicates with his team from the entrance of a confined space, where a staged “victim” awaits rescue.

Confined spaces—such as tanks, tunnels, vaults, pipelines, and crawl spaces—are enclosed areas with limited entry and exit points.

Due to the increased risks these environments pose, NID crews follow strict safety protocols and take extra precautions. Ongoing safety training plays a critical role in ensuring workers are prepared for these potentially hazardous situations.

Read the story and see more photos of the training on [Page 3](#).



Featured Inside

- HR Corner: work anniversaries, promotions, and new hires, [Page 2](#)
- Shining stars: NID kids, [Page 4](#)
- News: Pack it in—Pack it out, issues with dispersed camping, [Page 5](#)
- News: Launch of mulch rebate program aids customer conservation efforts, [Page 5](#)
- *Flash from the Past* - Top headline in the June 1988 Pipeline Newsletter: “Big project at the Placer Yard,” [Page 7](#)
- Safety Corner: Drink up — avoid dehydration this hot season [Page 8](#)

June Anniversaries

Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation, 29 years, 6/17

Chad Smith, Hydroelectric Maintenance Technician II, 22 years, 6/23

Chris Thompson, Maintenance Supervisor, 22 years, 6/16

Nathan Wasley, Water Superintendent, 22 years, 6/16

Thor Larsen, Water Resources Superintendent, 20 years, 6/21

Frank Reina, Water Distribution Operator II, 17 years, 6/2

Justin Koster, Hydroelectric Generation Superintendent, 16 years, 6/29

Barbara Wibberley, Customer Service Representative II, 12 years, 6/9

Scott Davis, Equipment Operator, 10 years

Douglas Dreher, Hydroelectric Plant Operator II, 10 years, 6/15

Katie Kemp, Office Assistant II, 7 years, 6/18

Jonathan Hoover, Equipment Mechanic Supervisor, 7 years, 6/25

Joanne Phillips, Administrative Analyst I, 6 years, 6/10

Adam Davis, Utility Worker I, 5 years

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, 4 years, 6/1

Mike Bryant, Engineering Technician I, 2 years

Ian Ferrell, Utility Worker I, 1 year



Thor Larsen



Scott Davis



Doug Dreher

Certifications

Robert Newkirk, Hydraulic Technician I, passed his California Grade D3 Water Distribution Operator License

Charlie Schlitzer, Water Treatment Operator II, passed his California Grade T3 Water Treatment Operator License

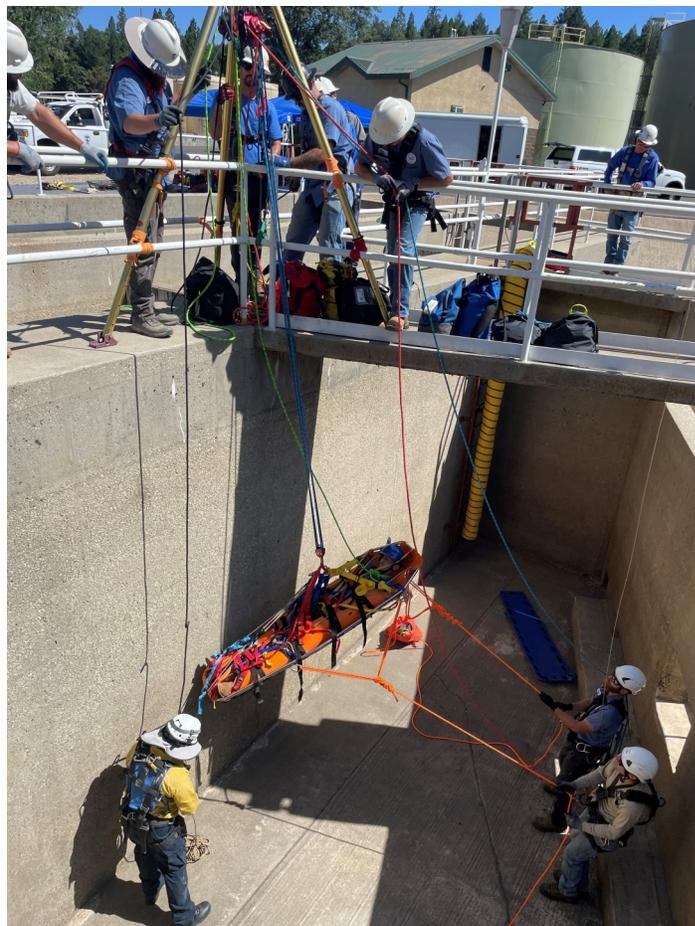


Bobby Newkirk



Charlie Schlitzer

Readiness in action: NID invests in critical rescue training



Fifteen employees from NID's maintenance, operations, and hydropower departments participated in an intensive rescue training program during the week of June 23.

The training aimed to equip them with the skills needed to safely rescue victims from potentially hazardous sites across NID facilities.

The week began with classroom instruction on strategies and techniques, followed by practical, hands-on exercises to apply what they had learned in real-world scenarios at the Loma Rica Treatment Plant.

Rescue training participants: Juan Uriel Cobian-Mitchell, Patrick Sheehan, Logan Sheftal, Ian Ferrell, Joshua Frates, Jason Bullard, Nicolas Green, Kevin Mundt, Jonathan Ettlin, Lance Adams, Hunter Hedman, Evan Parks, Andrew Brown-ing, Robby Graham and Bobby Newkirk.

(Left) Senior Utility Worker Logan Sheftal is a happy "victim" after being "rescued" from a narrow confined space.

(Above) Teams practice rescuing colleagues from precarious locations and spaces using safety tripods, pulleys, winches and lots of rope.

Shining Stars: Our Kids, Our Pride

At NID, we're proud not just of the work we do—but of the incredible families that stand behind our team. These young stars are making their NID parents proud and giving us all a reason to smile. Take a look and celebrate the next generation with us!



Ellyse Halvorson, a junior at Nevada Union High School, is the daughter of Matt Halvorson, Assistant Water Superintendent. She is a standout jumper in track and field with an impressive list of accomplishments.

Ellyse placed 1st place in the Foothill Valley League Triple Jump (35' 1.5"), 1st place San Joaquin Sections Triple Jump (36'0"), and 2nd place Long Jump San Joaquin sections. She took 3rd place at Masters meet triple jump (36'5.5") to qualify for the state meet.

She competed at the State Meet on May 30-31, held at Buchanan High School in Clovis. She also tied the Nevada Union triple jump record of 36'7" at the Kay Ostrom invitational meet at NU this season.



Carl Cookson Jr., 13, is the son of Carl Cookson, Survey Technician II. Recently, from the shore of Scotts Flat Lake, he caught a huge "no boat" catfish weighing around 15 pounds.



The NID annual Water Quality Report is out, and did you notice the cover with the two cute kids? Featured on the cover is the son of Lisa Price, Administrative Analyst in Operations, and Eva Goguen, the daughter of Philip Goguen, Electrical Systems Superintendent.

"Pack It In, Pack It Out": keeping dispersed campsites safe, clean *Rec crew works to spread the word ... and clean up the mess*



In the Bowman corridor, campers left their garbage in a public bathroom, and it didn't take long for wildlife to discover it. Photo taken on June 9, 2025.

It's summer, and garbage and unsafe activity have once again become an issue at dispersed campsites in the Bowman corridor. And, like in years past, the NID recreation crew is there to clean up.

The problem is dispersed camping areas have no services, such as trash pickup and toilet facilities. When campers leave behind garbage, it can create serious public health hazards. And, importantly, the inattention by campers to campfires puts the forest at risk.

Dispersed camping is permitted on federal land, and around NID reservoirs, yet there is no dedicated personnel to clean up after campers.

NID's recreation staff, who patrol around the Bowman corridor, frequently find garbage and smoldering campfires. Even though it's not their responsibility, they will haul out garbage, douse the embers, and clean the areas as a matter of public health and safety.

Now, NID has stepped up efforts to educate the public about being accountable while camping outside of a campground. "Pack it in; pack it out" is the mantra.

Director of Recreation Monica Reyes says: "The bottom line is you have responsibilities when you choose to disperse camp. Whatever you bring in, you must pack out. Dumping garbage, leaving toilet paper strewn through the forest and driving off with a campfire smoldering is not OK. It is beyond reckless."

NID launches mulch rebate program to boost conservation efforts

NID has launched a mulch rebate program to assist customers with their water efficiency and conservation efforts. Mulch is a great tool to help save water in gardening and landscaping.

The organic material helps lock moisture into the soil and acts like a barrier to drying winds and direct sun to reduce the need for frequent watering.

Now, NID customers can receive a rebate up to \$50 to purchase mulch from the store or nursery of their choice. The program also lets them select the type of mulch that best suits their needs.



Water Efficiency Technician Kaycee Strong is coordinating the program.

Keith Sauers and Nancy Sauers

Keith Sauers, formerly NID's Chief Engineer and Project Engineer for the Yuba-Bear Project, passed away June 9. His wife Nancy had passed just two weeks earlier.

Richard Keith Sauers passed away in Grass Valley, California at the age of 87. Keith was born in Bandon, Oregon on April 18, 1938 to George E. Sauers and Margaret C. (Corson) Sauers. He spent his childhood in Oregon and Humboldt County, California, relocating to Healdsburg, California in the summer of 1953.

Nancy Gail Sauers (Nee Standley) passed away on May 24, 2025 in Grass Valley, California at the age of 86. Nancy was born in Fort Bragg, California on June 6, 1938 to Claude E. Standley and Lempi (Ranta) Standley. She spent her childhood in Mendocino County and moved to the Dry Creek Valley in Sonoma County, at the age of 17.



Nancy and Keith met and became high school sweethearts their senior year at Healdsburg High 70 years ago in 1955. They married on June 13, 1959. Nancy graduated from San Francisco State College with her teaching credential in 1959. She and Keith welcomed son Kevin in 1960. Keith graduated from Stanford University with his engineering degree in 1961 and the new family moved to Nevada County California where Keith was employed by Nevada Irrigation District (NID). Daughter Karen was born in 1963. Nancy and Keith enjoyed life on Broad St. in Nevada City for 30 years, before moving to the Indiana Quartz Mine on Osborne Hill in Grass Valley.

Keith began his engineering career at NID in 1961, where he became Chief Engineer, and was Project Engineer for the Yuba-Bear Project. After leaving NID, he worked at Cranmer Engineering for a number of years, before starting his own civil engineering practice, Sauers Engineering Inc., in 1983. He "retired" in the 1990s, but continued to serve the local engineering community on various projects in the subsequent years. He was also an active volunteer at the local historical library.

Nancy was active in the community and was a volunteer with many local organizations. Among her favorite activities were The Children's Festival and PEO where she served in many capacities including president. She worked in retail at Osborn Woods and was owner of the Ruffled Grouse gift shop with her partner Nadine Soule. Later she became office manager for Sauers Engineering. In her down time, she enjoyed spending time tending to her garden.

In retirement, Keith and Nancy enjoyed travel, genealogical research, book clubs, and spending time with their family, especially with their grandchildren and great grandchildren. They loved and adored each other in their 66 years of marriage.

Keith and Nancy are survived by their children: Kevin (Donna) Sauers and Karen (Steve) Nelson; grandchildren: Courtney (Rick) Almaguer, Brian (Elizabeth) Nelson, Spencer (Lauren) Sauers, Michael Sauers, and Natalie (Valentino) Leyva; and great grandchildren: Jaylen, Cameron, Jane, Buck and Briley.

Keith is survived by his siblings; Barbara Smith and Robert (Donna) Sauers. Nancy is survived by her siblings; Linda (Steve) Nelson and Thomas (Laurel) Standley.

PIPELINE

A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 9 Number 6 June, 1988

Big project at the Placer Yard

MEMBERS OF the district's Placer Crew don't have to travel far to work on one of their biggest projects in recent years; it's located on NID property at the Placer Yard.

The Chevallier Pipeline replacement project is expected to result in better water management for NID and better service for district irrigation customers in the Mt. Pleasant and Lincoln areas.

NID diverts water from the Auburn Ravine Canal just above the Placer Yard into the Auburn Ravine II and Doty North canals and the Chevallier Pipeline, explained Manager of Maintenance Daryl Matlock.

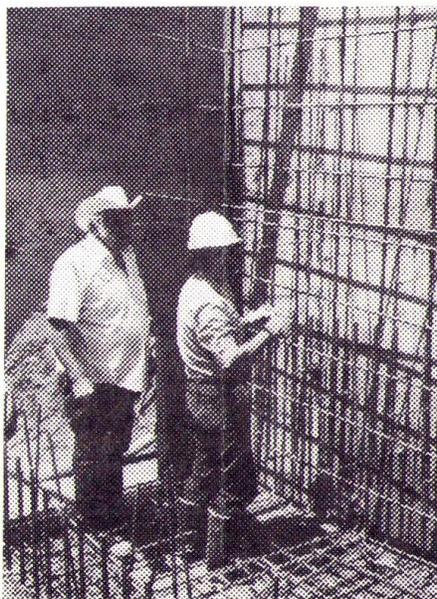
Old pipeline

The 1,300-foot Chevallier Pipeline, which dates to 1921, runs through the yard and then opens into a canal which flows along Fruitvale Road.

A new head structure, now under construction, will replace aging diversion facilities, Matlock said, and new water measurement structures will be built.

The project is expected to continue off and on through the summer and be completed this fall when the necessary water outages can be scheduled. The job is estimated at about \$100,000.

"It will increase the efficiency and the capacity of the Chevallier Pipeline system," said Matlock.



Chevallier pipeline job

A new head structure is built as the Placer Crew updates the 1921 Chevallier Pipeline. Above, Ed James passes a piece of rebar to Bucky Upp. Left, Bill Boundy and Santiago Ruvalcaba prepare forms.

Drink up! Avoid dehydration this hot season

Did you know that most of your body is water? That's why it's so vital to keep hydrated, especially during hot summer weather.

Not replacing the water you lose through everyday activity can lead to severe health problems. And don't just drink water when you're thirsty — your body could already be dehydrated by then. You need to drink at regular intervals. Many jobs provide the perfect opportunity to stop for a second and have a drink. Little and often is the key. For example, if you are working in the field and need to stop to open gates, have a drink of water.

Mental performance and concentration all start to decrease with increasing temperature and dehydration. Poor and/or reduced performance not only affects production, but also safety. Someone who is tired, hot and bothered is more likely to suffer an injury. By regularly stopping for a second or two to have a quick drink of water, you can maintain your performance and look after yourself at the same time.

HUMAN BODY IS 70% WATER



24%
BONE



75%
BRAIN



80%
SKIN



90%
LUNGS



85%
BLOOD



75%
MUSCLE



SYMPTOMS OF DEHYDRATION



DIZZINESS



DRY MOUTH



DARK URINE



HEADACHE



THIRST



FATIGUE



Meetings & Events



Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 9, 2025
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 23, 2025
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 13, 2025
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

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

Past Pipeline Editions

[May 2025](#)

[April 2025](#)

[March 2025](#)

[February 2025](#)

[January 2025](#)

[December 2024](#)

[November 2024](#)

[October 2024](#)

[September 2024](#)

[August 2024](#)

[July 2024](#)

