



Pipeline is now bimonthly ... 43 years strong

Our employee newsletter is transforming. It will now feature stories and photos of work out in the field, as well as the latest NID news and information.

The popular HR Corner has expanded with listings of monthly anniversaries and HR-related reminders and information.

Pipeline — first started 43 years ago in January 1980 — will carry on the proud tradition of providing an interesting and pertinent communications outlet for employees and retirees.

The next Pipeline will come out in September. After that, it's every other month.

(Cover photo: Electrical Machinist Lance Adams completes a turbine wicket gate repair in a very tight space)

FEATURED INSIDE

HR Corner ... Pages 2-3

In the Field

What's happening with work projects, from flumes and construction to goats and booms ... Pages 4-7

News & Information

The latest news ... Pages 8-11

Summer Fun - Save the Dates

Social Committee Picnic and Safety BBQ ... Pages 9-10

Service Awards

12 colleagues get recognized for 10-25 years at NID. Pages 12-13

... And much more

June Anniversaries

Min Dar Chen, Senior Engineer - Dam Safety
8 years, 6/30

Douglas Dreher, Hydroelectric Plant Operator I
7 years, 6/15

Jerry Green, Hydroelectric Generation Superintendent
18 years, 6/1

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, 1 year 6/1

Kenneth Hart, Senior Hydroelectric Plant Operator
32 years, 6/4

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

Kathryn Kemp, Office Assistant II, 4 years, 6/18

Justin Koster, Senior Hydroelectric Plant Operator
13 years, 6/29

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

Joanne Phillips, Management Assistant, 3 years, 6/10

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

Monica Reyes, Recreation Manager, 26 years, 6/17

Pamela Robinson, Management Assistant
16 years, 6/26

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

Chris Thompson, Senior Utility Worker, 19 years, 6/16

Nathan Wasley, Water Superintendent, 19 years, 6/16

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

Promotions & Transfers

Shane Slattery – Promotion to Equipment Operator – effective 06/06/2022

New Hires

Jordan Farewell, Utility Worker I,
Hire Date 05/16/2022

Retiree Death

Lynn Winget – Passed away on June 15, 2022.

Lynn began working for NID on March 26, 1979. He worked in the Maintenance Department as a Senior Utility Worker, and he retired on September 28, 2010.



Lynn Winget during his years at NID

Celebrations—Employee Submissions

Would you like to tell the Pipeline readers you have something to celebrate? New baby? Attained a certification? Placed in a sporting event? If so, please email pipeline@nidwater.com or hr@nidwater.com.

July Anniversaries

Andy Browning, Cross Connection Control Technician II, 13 years, July 20

Matthew Crowe, Land Surveyor, 22 years, July 10

Jonathan Ettlin, Utility Worker I, 1 yr

Lorelei Hammer, GIS Technician II, 3 years, July 8

Rich McConnehey, Vegetation Control Worker II, 17 years, July 11

Coby McCoy, Chief Water Treatment Operator II, 18 years, July 26

Collin Nunnink, Hydroelectric Plant Operator II, 1 year

Patrick O'Connor, Hydroelectric Communications Technician II, 3 years, July 1

Michael Page, Equipment Operator, 8 years, July 7

Joshua Pratt, Equipment Mechanic II, 4 years, July 10

Charlie Schlitzer, Equipment Operator, 1 year

Kaycee Strong, Water Efficiency Technician I, 6 years, July 11

Troy Texeira, Buyer, 17 years, July 11

Ashley Vander Meer, Senior Hydrographer, 6 years, July 11

Logan Vanderhoof, Utility Worker I, 1 year

Certifications

Assistant Water Superintendent **Matt Halvorson** and Hydraulic Technician I **Troy Gomes** passed the Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification with two-part testing -- written and hands on.

Cross Connection Control Tech II **Rob Graham** passed his recertification for Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification. This is a requirement every three years and requires both written and hands on.



Matt Halvorson



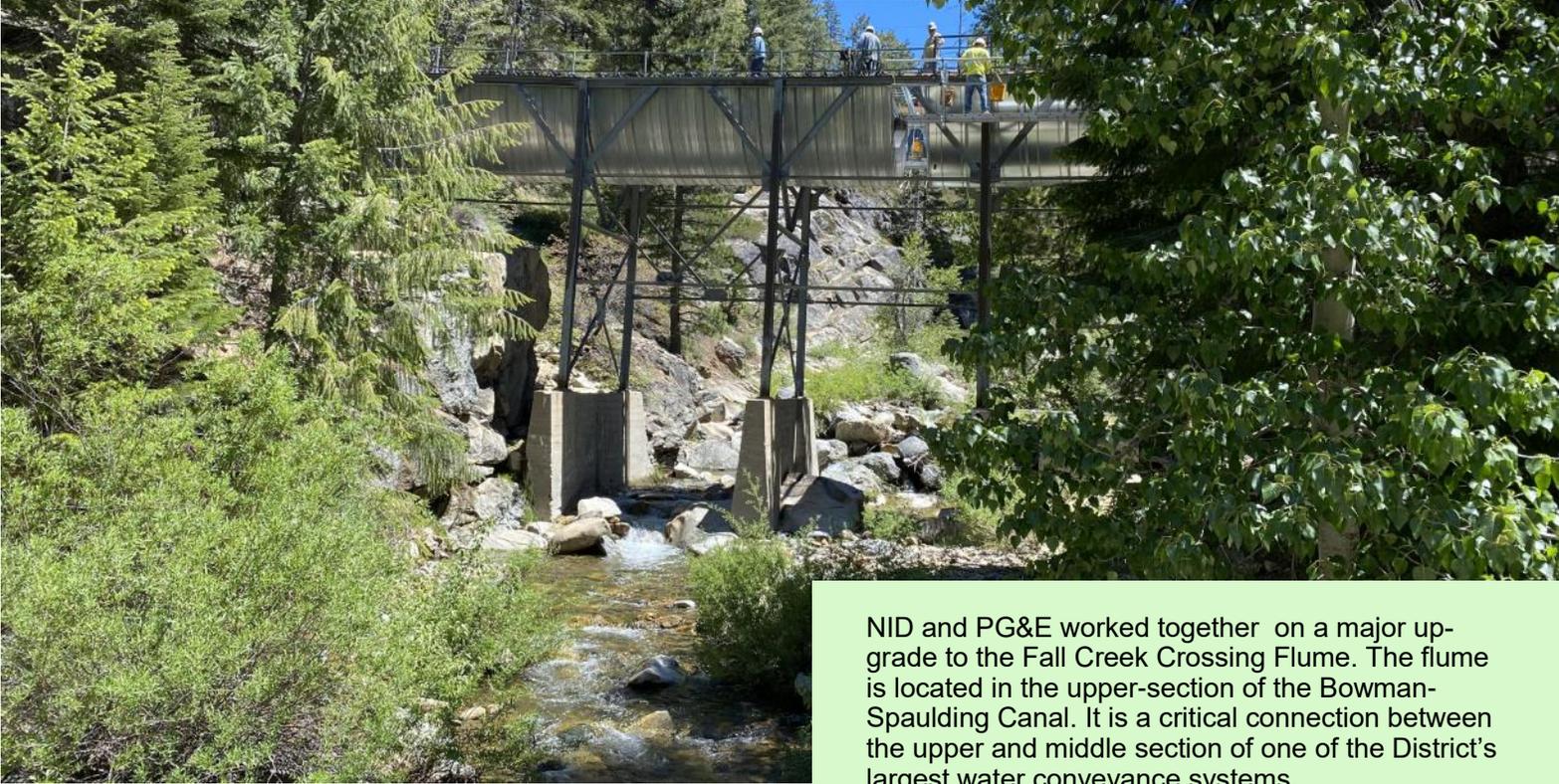
Troy Gomes



Rob Graham

Rebuilding a flume with a little help from our friends

NID and PG&E team up to rebuild Fall Creek Crossing Flume



NID and PG&E worked together on a major upgrade to the Fall Creek Crossing Flume. The flume is located in the upper-section of the Bowman-Spaulding Canal. It is a critical connection between the upper and middle section of one of the District's largest water conveyance systems.

Senior Hydro Electrical Machinist Todd Wiederhold, Hydroelectric Maintenance Tech II Rob Granholm, and Hydro Project Manager Nathan Droivold worked together with PG&E. It was a collaborative effort to complete the project and the water ultimately runs through many generating facilities owned by PG&E and NID.

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. The scope of the project also required the use of customized tool sets that only PG&E owns to complete the project safely and effectively.

Our team is working directly with the PG&E crew to learn methods and procedures. This will be important as NID will soon take over ownership of the South Yuba Canal, which consists of many miles of flume used to convey water downstream.



(Above) Todd Wiederhold and Rob Granholm prepare a new flume sheet to be installed.

Bringing a new business park closer to reality



Our Maintenance service crew helped get a new industrial park that much closer to being constructed. The Blair Industrial Park will be situated on Brunswick and Greenhorn roads in Grass Valley.

During the recent work, our crew installed nine reduced pressure principle back-flow prevention devices (RPs) that use check valves to prevent water from flowing backwards through the pipes.



Improving Safety at Milton Reservoir with Booms

At Milton Reservoir, Derek Bivins (Hydro Water Systems Operator I) and Justin Koster (Senior Hydro Plant Operator) 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.



Repairing a drain line in the Smartsville tank

A leak in the contact tank at the Smartsville treatment plant required fast and expert repairs. We were on the job.

When water treatment operations started to fill the tank, which is normally not used, the drain pipe that is welded into the floor had completely failed.

Our welder Andrew Rutter and Equipment Mechanic Robert Stice had to cut out the old pipe in the floor and weld in a new piece.

The Maintenance Department finished up the rest of the piping that had to be reconnected.

This repair was made so that we can switch the water from one tank to another. This allows us to drain, inspect and repair the water storage tanks at the plant.



Andrew Rutter made precision welds to seal the leak.

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Cleaning up the Scotts Flat Spillway chute

Sometimes it takes some extra muscle to get a job done. The Hydro Maintenance team had assistance from a helicopter to complete spillway maintenance at Scotts Flat Reservoir.

Some 36,000 pounds of rocks, debris, and trash needed to be removed from the spillway chute for inspection and repairs.



Mulch Magic Giveaway was a huge success

Nearly 120 residents took away about 290 cubic yards of free mulch handed out by NID on May 14. It was the largest turnout 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 Scouts and Eagle Scouts were available to help.

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

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.



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

NEWS BRIEFS

Campfires banned to reduce fire risk

Campfires are now prohibited in 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. Wildfires caused by abandoned or escaped campfires pose a greater threat to our forests and community.

The restrictions include these campgrounds: Scotts Flat Campground, Orchard Springs Campground, Long Ravine Campground and Peninsula Campground.

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). 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](#)

CMMS: tracking all the moving parts

During the last week in June, 120 employees participated in user training for Sedaru Field Force, Omni, Outage, and Studio. The software applications are part the District's new Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) software and will allow the District to efficiently assign, track, and manage work districtwide.

A CMMS is software package that centralizes facility and maintenance information, standardizes process, and automates some tasks. The training is the last step of a multiyear project to select software, identify assets, formalize workflows, and develop the content.

The new software will allow the District to work across departments, track costs, evaluate asset life, and enhance decision making.

2022

NID Social Committee Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 20th, 2022

Where: The Ditch Tender's Cabin on Scotts Flat Lake

When: Saturday, August 20th, 2022 – 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

PLEASE RSVP BY August 12TH, 2022

Non-Member Picnic Price:

\$15 single / \$25 couple / \$35 family (3+ people)

Social Committee Member Picnic Price: Free!

Activities

Horseshoe Tournament

Buy-In \$10 per Team (\$5- per person)

Winning Team receives Buy-In \$\$

Corn Hole

Kid's Activities

Bring and enjoy water toys

Swim in the Lake!

Catered BBQ Lunch served at NOON

Sweet & Spicy BBQ Chicken Legs & Thighs

BBQ Pulled Pork

Roasted Potatoes & Veggies

Ranch Beans

Classic Coleslaw

Homestyle Mac & Cheese

Fresh Fruit

Soft Drinks, Beer and Water

Great Raffle Prizes!! Raffle Tickets \$2- each 😊

***Social Fund Members will receive five (5) free raffle tickets**

OVERNIGHT TENT

CAMPING

-Free-

Safety BBQ is on! Save the Date for Sept.15

In appreciation of everything you do and your good work ethics, come enjoy the NID Safety Barbeque on Thursday, September 15.

The BBQ will be held at the Grass Valley Yard behind the mechanics' shop from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Thanks to our Safety Department – Don Bird and Cindy Ware — for hosting this fun event.

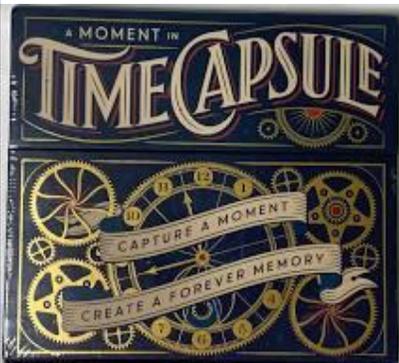
Stay tuned; more information will be released as we get closer to the date.



Flashback to the 2019 Safety BBQ

NID Time Capsule will be assembled during the BBQ

What would you like NID employees to know about you 100 years from now?



During the BBQ, we will assemble a time capsule for NID employees to open in the future. Think of it this way. A hundred years from now, your successors will be able to step back in time with you as their guide.

What would you like them to see about work life in 2022? The collection can include tools and office objects. Also, what everyday items might leave a lasting impression on them?

The time capsule will be built by our Maintenance Department. And it will be sealed and buried on District property.

Employee-autographed 100-year anniversary book: one of the first items that will be placed into the time capsule will be a copy of the District's history book that will be signed by all employees.

Here's an idea: browse the book to find the chapter or photo where you'd like to leave your signature and/or a brief message. Questions? See Communications Specialist Susan Lauer in the East Annex. Also, the book will be circulated to all departments for signing.

The Plan for Water process is going strong

The Plan for Water is a process to determine the best ways to meet the community's demand for water over the coming decades. Public input is strongly encouraged, and hundreds of local residents are taking part.



Key to the process is a review of NID's available water supply and the long-term impacts on varying water demands. PFW is looking to combine community perspectives and District operational needs, including technical and cost criteria requirements. When complete the plan will show how a variety of future water supply and demand scenarios could be integrated to ensure our community enjoys the same high-quality, reliable water system we have now. The NID Board of Directors will use this plan as a guide during consideration of specific programs and capital projects in the future.

We've had eight PFW workshops and have covered topics including our mountain system, water service area, water rights, and watershed management. The latest focus is on risk.

The public response has been solid. Right now, 650 residents have signed up to get information sent to them every month, and the teleconferenced workshops draw a crowd.

You can get involved, too. The next workshop (teleconference via Zoom) is at 4 pm on July 12. And, information is always kept up-to-date on our [website](#). In all, the process covers 11 stages.

Tuition reimbursement policy has been approved

Get educated; get your money back

The Board of Directors has just re-instated the District's policy to repay employees who further their education. The policy will allow for reimbursement of tuition expenses in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per eligible employee.

In keeping with the District aim to encourage all employees to continue their education, the repayment allows employees to acquire additional skills in subject areas that are appropriate and advantageous to the mission of the District.

Directors emphasized an educational assistance program is an effective way help develop, engage and retain high-quality employees, as well as be a benefit in recruitment. You don't need to look far for an example: two current employees who participated in the program were successful in promoting to a higher position.

The Human Resources Manager shall be responsible for staff leadership and coordination efforts. Courses must be given by an accredited institution. The employee must have the approval of their Department Manager, the Human Resources Manager and the General Manager prior to enrollment.

Approved courses will be reimbursed as follows: a) Courses and/or degree programs that are directly related to an employee's current position will be paid at one hundred percent (100%). b) Courses and/or degree programs that are not directly related to an employee's current position will be paid at fifty percent (50%). Upon approval of a course and completion with a passing grade of C or better (Pass in the cases where only Pass/Fail is given) the employee will be reimbursed the cost of the tuition and other costs such as laboratory fees and assigned textbooks. Total tuition reimbursement shall not exceed \$2,000 in a fiscal year. Read the details of the policy; click [here](#).

Congratulations to those receiving Service Awards

25 Years



Joe Pitts
Water Distribution Supervisor
01/05/1997

20 Years



Kenton Early
Maintenance Supervisor
04/29/2002

20 Years



Gerry Gnech
Equipment Operator
01/02/2002

15 Years



John Grande
Sr. Water Distribution
Operator
04/30/2007

15 Years



Adrian Schneider
Senior Engineer
03/19/2007

15 Years



Keane Sommers
Hydroelectric Manager
05/07/2007

Congratulations to those receiving Service Awards

10 Years



Caden Caldwell
Senior Park Ranger
03/26/2012

10 Years



Kevin Mundt
Senior Utility Worker
03/08/2012

10 Years



Brian Berg
Hydro Systems Tech II
04/16/2012

10 Years



Brian Beahm
Veg Control Worker II
01/19/2012

10 Years



James Belleque
Electrical Systems
Tech
02/13/2012

10 Years



Julian Gonzalez
Water Distribution Oper-
ator II
02/21/2012

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.

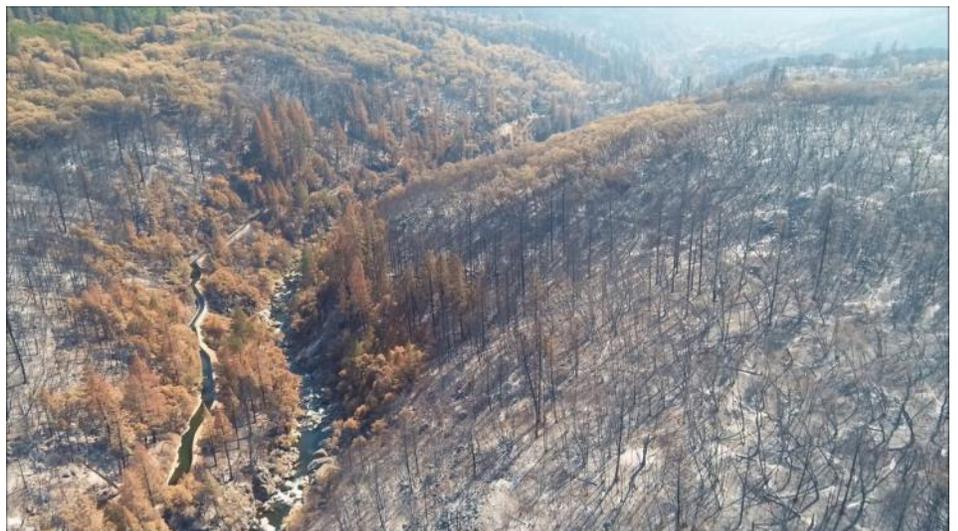
It also will expand defensible space adjacent to the communities of Lake of the Pines and Alta Sierra. The River Fire began at the Bear River Campground in Placer County on Aug. 4, 2021 and scorched 2,619 acres before being fully contained on Aug. 13.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

July 12: Plan for Water Workshop - Zoom

August 20: Social Committee Summer Picnic - Scotts Flat

September 15: Safety BBQ - NID main office

September 17: 6th Annual NID Kids' Triathlon - Orchard Springs

September 18: BSM (Barbara Schmidt Millar) Triathlon - Cascade Shores

October: NID golf tournament



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Contact Susan Lauer in Communications to get on the list.

lauers@nidwater.com (530) 271-6735



Employee Submissions

Would you like to tell the Pipeline readers that you have something to celebrate?

Have a new baby? Attained a certification? Placed in a sporting event?

If so, please email: pipeline@nidwater.com or hr@nidwater.com.

