

Repairs continue on PG&E's Lake Spaulding infrastructure, and, currently, no water is flowing into Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs.

(Right) The NID hydro crew takes advantage of the lack of water to complete maintenance at the Dutch Flat #2 powerhouse.

From left-right, Supervising Mechanical Foreman Todd Wiederhold and Hydro Electrical Machinists Lance Adams, and Jeff Farmer.



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Permanent fix to South Yuba Pipe underway, flows in August

Spaulding 1 Powerhouse partial flows expected to start in late June

While water still is not flowing down the South Yuba Canal and into our foothill reservoirs, NID has been encouraged by the outlook.

Earlier this year, severe damage to infrastructure owned by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) at Lake Spaulding has effectively cut off water supplies to NID. As a result of this damage, currently NID is entirely dependent on stored water in Rollins and Scotts Flat for customer deliveries.



Here's an update on the situation:

A PG&E crew makes repairs at Lake Spaulding. Photo courtesy of PG&E

South Yuba Pipe

PG&E has obtained the specialty pipe needed for repairs to the utility's South Yuba Pipe. The permanent repair is estimated to be made in late August.

Originally, PG&E estimated it wouldn't be able to secure replacement pipe until September at the earliest. The plan was to make a temporary bypass repair so partial water flows could be sent down the South Yuba Canal. Now, once complete, the permanent repair will allow full flows into NID's portion of the canal.

A rockslide destroyed about 240 feet of the 50-plus-inch diameter South Yuba Pipe in February. This cut off flows in NID's South Yuba Canal, which provides water to Deer Creek/Scotts Flat Reservoir. In addition, a failure at PG&E's Spaulding 1 Powerhouse has rendered the Drum Canal inoperable. This is the primary source of water for Rollins Lake, and it is also a secondary source of water for Deer Creek/Scotts Flat.

Spaulding 1 Powerhouse

PG&E expects to partially restore flows through the Spaulding 1 Powerhouse into the Drum Canal in late June. A portion of that water will be diverted into the South Yuba Canal, bypassing the South Yuba Pipe, with reduced water capacity of about 400 cubic feet per second (cfs) versus full capacity of 760 cfs.

PG&E's Spaulding 1 Powerhouse, which has had an unscheduled outage since a leak was found in March. Further inspections found two columns of the powerhouse's foundation had partial and full erosion. That failure cut off supplies to the Drum Canal, the primary source of water for Rollins Reservoir and customers in Placer County.

[What's the latest? Click here for the NID update webpage](#)

May Anniversaries

Douglas Andrews, Maintenance Superintendent, 29 years, May 8

Eric Fassler, Senior Water Distribution Operator, 24 years

Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems, 17 years, May 7

Joan Tortorici, Purchasing Supervisor, 14 years, May 24

Davin Chittock, Utility Worker I, 8 years, May 2

Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources, 7 yrs, May 22

Valerie Kinnan, Accountant II, 6 years, May 2

Cory Mayo, Hydroelectric Maintenance Technician I, 2 years, May 2

Edwin Aschow, Hydroelectric Communications Technician I, 1 year

Joseph Franks, Utility Worker I, 1 year

Carter Hatch – Hydrographer I, 1 year, May 8

Blake Lukins, Utility Worker I, 1 year

Daniel Roth, Utility Worker I, 1 year

David Villnow, Water Distribution Operator I



Troy Gomes

New Hires

Clint Piper, Water Treatment Operator II

Promotions & Transfers

Troy Gomes, promoted to Cross Connection Control Technician

Bobby Newkirk, promoted to Hydraulic Technician I

Logan Sheftal, promoted to Utility Worker II



Bobby Newkirk

Thanks from a Customer

Subject: Trees next to treatment plant

Called several weeks ago about dead trees along the fence between my property and the treatment plant. They came out and trimmed today. Polite helpful and did a nice job. Thanks

GH, Auburn resident

Please welcome ...



Reiten Sheftal

Congratulations to Logan and Jennifer Sheftal on the birth of their first baby, son Reiten, who joined them in mid-April!



Luke Dunlap

Congratulations to Sandra and Austin Dunlap on the birth of their first baby, Luke, who joined them in mid-May!

Customers respond to conservation request

NID is currently requesting a voluntary 20 percent conservation by all customers. The lack of access to normal watershed runoff means the District will need to rely upon limited water storage. Conserving water will allow supplies to remain in Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs.

NID customers have responded with conservation efforts

Treated water: Customers are saving about 11 percent of water (compared to the last 12 years for this time of year).

Raw water customers: Since the request for conservation on March 27, hundreds of customers have volunteered to reduce their allocation 432.5 miner's inches, saving 3,223 acre-feet for the summer (as of May 23). Note: an acre-foot is the amount of water needed to cover one acre of land to a depth of one foot.

Conserving Raw Water Delivered from a Canal



Water Distribution Operator Dave Taylor shows how to switch out the orifice in a water delivery box. [Watch a short video \(2:15 minutes\) to see how it's done.](#)



Emergency leak repair on Lester Canal



This week, our raw water maintenance crew made an emergency repair on the Lester Canal off Jones Bar Road in Nevada City. The extensive work required applying shotcrete into the canal.

Shotcrete is a type of concrete that is sprayed onto a surface, as opposed to being poured. It is an excellent solution to fill gaps and holes, and seal leaks. Once the material was sprayed into canal, our workers got busy to trowel the surface while it was still wet to get a smooth finish.

A portion of the canal has been leaking on and off for many years, and numerous repair attempts have not been successful. Now, not only will the shotcrete solve the leakage issue in the canal, it will also improve water flow.

Crew members:

- * Chris Ribble, superintendent
- * Tim Rowe, supervisor
- * Chad Garvey, senior utility worker

Utility workers:

- * Davin Chittock
- * Patrick Sheehan
- * Wyatt Landrum
- * Zachary Clark-Ware
- * Adam Custer
- * Daniel Roth



Mulch Magic Giveaway: 150 cubic yards to the community

NID's Annual Mulch Magic Giveaway was a huge success! Seventy-five residents took away 150 cubic yards of free mulch, and the Boy Scouts earned \$1,500 for their summer campout.

The mulch giveaway is NID's continued 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 on April 27.

As a "self-load" event, participants shoveled the mulch into their vehicles or had help from local Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts. Their earned tips help finance attendance to a summer camp.

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.



For their hard work loading mulch for residents, Boy Scouts earned \$1,500 for their summer campout.

"Plan for Water" is statewide finalist for excellence award

NID's Plan for Water (PFW) has been honored as a statewide finalist for the Clair A. Hill Water Agency Award for Excellence, presented by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA).

The PFW process was lauded for stressing public collaboration to determine the best ways to meet the NID's community demand for water over the coming decades.

The result of the 2.5-year process is strategic options that reflect a balanced mix of community perspectives.

The District's Board of Directors will use the strategic options to make decisions going forward.

The Clair A. Hill Water Agency Award was presented during ACWA's 2024 Spring Conference and Expo in Sacramento.

The annual award recognizes outstanding achievements by public water agencies. The award is sponsored by Jacobs in the name of founder Clair A. Hill.

The winner of the award was East Valley Water District (EVWD) for its Sterling Natural Resource Center, a 20-acre wastewater treatment and community facility in Highland, Ca. Along with NID, other finalists were Eastern Municipal Water District (Perris, Ca.) for its Grants and Loans Program and Turlock Irrigation District for its Upper Dawson Hydroelectric Facility.



Representing NID: (left-right) Assistant General Manager Greg Jones, General Manager Jennifer Hanson, Communications Specialist Susan Lauer, and Director of Operations Chip Close. At the far right is ACWA Executive Director Dave Eggerton.

U.S. Flag Retirement



Is your American flag tattered, or too dirty or worn to display? If so, it's time to get a new one; and remember, the damaged flag needs to be properly retired. How do you do that?

Through the U.S. Flag Code, if a flag can't be properly displayed in any way, it's to be destroyed in a dignified manner.

Thanks to a colleague, this is easy. Kathryn Schwartz, Administrative Analyst in Hydro, is coordinating the collection of old, worn flags for Girl Scout Troop 782 to include in their next flag retirement ceremony.

Next steps? Check the condition of your flag, and if it's too worn to display, email Kathryn schwartzk@nidwater.com.

On a side note: now's the time to inspect your flag. June 14 is Flag Day, and it's appropriate to fly a bright Old Glory in commemoration of the holiday.

PCWA/NID reps tour Hemphill Fish Passage

General Manager Jennifer Hanson (middle in NID hat); Engineering Director Doug Roderick (second from L); Trevor Cauldwell, NID Director Division 4 (fourth from L); and Tonia Tabucchi Herrera, Senior Engineer (fifth from L)



NID and Placer County Water Agency representatives met on May 29 to discuss water supply needs, habitat projects, and general collaboration. A highlight of the meeting was a tour of the completed Hemphill Dam Removal project, that allowed NID to open up an additional six miles of salmon habitat on the Auburn Ravine.

Safety around Asbestos

Maintenance Construction Crew sets the example

The Maintenance Construction Crew recently showed their expertise in the safe removal of asbestos, a dangerous hazard. When removing two old hydrants in Lake Wildwood, they took the necessary precautions to protect against airborne contaminants that could cause a lot of harm.

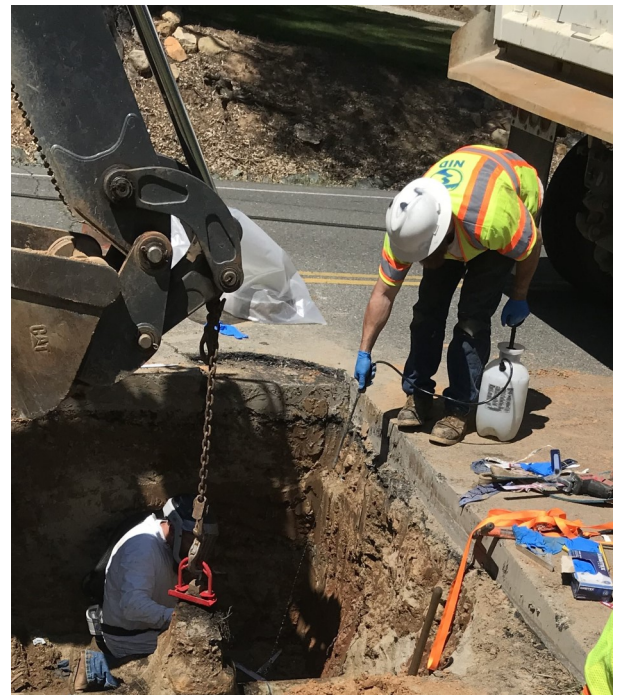
The crew was working with old AC pipe (asbestos-containing) pipe. Asbestos is quite dangerous; its fibers can irritate and scar lung tissue, causing the lungs to become stiff. This makes it difficult to breathe. As asbestosis progresses, more lung tissue becomes scarred. Eventually, lung tissue becomes so stiff it can't contract and expand normally.

Safety pays off: for the work, the maintenance workers geared up in Tyvek suits and used filtered respirators, aka pappers. When the pipe was cut, the safety gear protected against airborne particles that were kicked up with the sawing. Exposure to asbestos is one in one million microns, so it was important to keep it wet to avoid any dust.

The other important safety procedures were: bagging and covering all materials that will be removed; washing hands and any tools that have been used; and discarding all throw-away PPE's and washing boots.



You can see the ring of asbestos on the AC pipe where the crew cut out the old hydrant.



This was a big job; work was done at two locations simultaneously. It was a crew effort. The crew was: Kenton Early, Chris Thompson, Ken Bartsch, Steve Peden, Chris Glass, Declan Maloney, Shawn Droivold, Glen Alexander, Steve Petersen, Brandon Fabela, and Chris Dunn.

PIPELINE

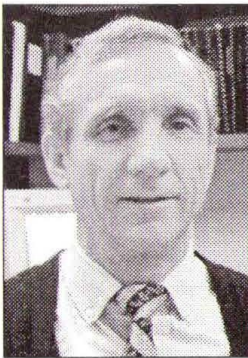
A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 22 Number 5 May, 2001

New Look for Engineering

Chief Engineer **Tim McCall** has completed a long-planned restructuring of the 17-employee Engineering Department.

"We are involved with a number of global issues," the chief engineer said. "We needed help with the day to day business of the department."



Vern Smith

As part of the reorganization, **Vern Smith** was promoted Mar. 26 to the new position of Supervising Engineer. Four section supervisors in the Engineering Dept. will report to



WACKERS, NOT HACKERS

Hackers are a frequent sight on most golf courses, but on a recent day at Alta Sierra, **Wackers** took over. Above, **Ron Skewes** and **Joe Flury** use gas-powered **Wackers** to pack dirt in a pipeline trench, all under the watchful eye of Asst. Maint. Supt. **Jeff Brady**.

Smith, who will also oversee engineering activities.

Meanwhile, **McCall** will be able to focus more of his attention on several current and upcoming projects including the upper and lower Cascade Canal improvements, Urban Water Management Plan, Watershed Sanitary Survey and Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Plan.

NID SOCIAL CALENDAR

Golf Tournament

June 3, Beale AFB

Employees Picnic

July 14, Pioneer Park

Christmas Party

Dec. 8, Lake Wildwood

Meetings & Events



Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 12
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 26
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 10
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

** Dates subject to change. For updated dates, see [nidwater.com](https://www.nidwater.com)

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[August 2023](#)



Snowmelt at the Canyon Creek Diversion Dam, Head of the Bowman-Spaulding Canal, and Bowman House. May 16, 2024