



A camera captures wildlife at the English Meadow restoration site. See photos on [Page 4](#)

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Update: Lake Spaulding infrastructure repairs



PG&E repairs to the South Yuba Pipe, which connects PG&E's Spaulding 2 powerhouse to NID's South Yuba Canal, have been extended from the end of August to the second week of September due to prioritization of helicopter resource requirements fighting wildfires in other areas. Once a helicopter can place the new pipe, crews will weld the pipe and attach collars. The pipe will provide about 80 to 100 cfs to the South Yuba Canal.

Meanwhile, flows have resumed through Spaulding 1 powerhouse. PG&E provided this update: "After several days of testing and inspection, the powerhouse is back in partial service and ahead of the scheduled date of July 30. The repairs to the first discharge pipe allow the unit to pass flow of about 450 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Flows out of the powerhouse empty into the Drum Canal, which feeds NID's Rollins Reservoir. PG&E is also diverting about 60 cfs from the Drum Canal into NID's South Yuba Canal, which feeds into NID's Scotts Flat Reservoir."

[Read information about the emergency water shortage on the NID website, click here](#)

Photos chronicle the drawdown of Rollins Reservoir



Each week NID has posted photos of Rollins Reservoir with water capacity information in order to provide a visual of the drawdown.

[Click here to see the photo gallery](#)

Above: Rollins at full capacity in April.. Below: Rollins on July 27 at 35% capacity available for consumptive use (Orchard Springs perspective on left, and Long Ravine on the right).



July Anniversaries

- Matthew Crowe**, Land Surveyor, 24 years, July 10
- Coby McCoy**, Water Treatment Supervisor, 20 years, July 26
- Troy Texeira**, Buyer, 19 years, July 11
- Andy Browning**, Hydroelectric Plant Operator I, 15 years, July 20
- Michael Page**, Senior Utility Worker, 10 years, July 7
- Kaycee Strong**, Water Efficiency Technician I, 8 years, July 11
- Ashley Vander Meer**, Senior Hydrographer, 8 years, July 11
- Joshua Pratt**, Welder II, 6 years, July 10
- Leit Hammer**, GIS Analyst II, 5 years, July 8
- Patrick O'Connor**, Hydroelectric Plant Operator I, 5 years, July 1
- Jonathan Ettlin**, Utility Worker I, 3 years
- Charlie Schlitzer**, Water Treatment Operator II, 3 years
- Stephanie Neels**, Cashier, 1 year



Coby McCoy - 20 years



Michael Page - 10 years

Promotions & Transfers

- Trisha Panock** – Promoted to Business Services Technician I
- Lacy Cannon** – Promoted Registered Engineer Dam Safety
- Robert Stice** – Promoted to Senior Welder

New Hires

- Sierra Monroe** – Hydroelectric Compliance Technician II

Retirements

- Craig Harkey** – July 10th
- Wade Townsend** – July 25th



Leit Hammer - 5 years



Please welcome ...

Congratulations to Jonathan, Kellie, and Cooper Ettlin on the arrival of baby Lainey born in late June!

English Meadow Restoration

NID's English Meadow Restoration project has been possible through grants. Last year \$1.25 million from the Wildlife Conservation Board helped fund work to improve the natural ability of the meadow to store and release water. The aim is to enhance the functionality of this source watershed.

NID has been working with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to improve the connectivity of the Middle Yuba River floodplain to the main river channel. This has many benefits, including improved hydrologic function, catastrophic wildfire risk reduction, and habitat enhancement.

As part of the project, our environmental resources team installed a camera to monitor the river flow and also the wildlife.

The Middle Yuba River watershed is integral to the NID water supply. Every year, on average, this watershed produces approximately 80,000 acre feet of runoff, about 60,000 of which is used to generate power and delivered to homes and farms downstream. The Middle Yuba River headwaters provides approximately 30% of the water annually stored in NID reservoirs.



Snow was deep when a coyote strolled by on March 27.

Recently, two black bears were captured on camera.

Treats & Training – let's all come together to be better leaders

A new leadership training opportunity has started and is open to everyone.

Every third Thursday of the month, a leadership learning session is being held in the boardroom. These one-hour sessions are intended to be a chance for employees from all departments to discuss a variety of topics, learn something new, and contemplate how each of us can incorporate what we have learned into our own daily lives (on and off work). In addition, this is a great opportunity to spend time with your co-workers with whom you may not normally see and to get to know each other a little more.

The concept is to watch a short leadership-based video (YouTube / TED Talk / etc.) and have an open, honest and informative conversation about its meaning, and how each of us can take something away from it. The sessions will be facilitated each month by a different department director.

If you would like to attend, please simply show up every third Thursday at 2 pm in the boardroom. Don't miss the next session on August 22. Oh yes, it's called "Treats & Training" for a reason. Join the discussion and enjoy some snacks!

Last month, 31 employees from all departments watched a short TED Talk by Celeste Headlee titled "[10 Ways To Have A Better Conversation](#)." The discussion was lively, and we all learned something about the topic plus got insight into our co-workers. The take-away was we all can be more engaged in how we relate to others, like our colleagues at work, friends in a social environment and partners and spouses at home.

So how can we have better conversations? Here are some ways:

- * Don't multitask. Put that mobile phone away!
- * Use open-ended questions to learn more about a person
- * Go with the flow
- * If you don't know, say you don't know
- * Don't pontificate and express your opinion in an arrogant way
- * Don't equate your experience with theirs
- * Try not to repeat yourself
- * Stay out of the weeds

[Check out the TED Talk](#)
See you next month!



Brush-busting goats protect against wildfire at NID reservoirs



A herd of goats is enjoying a feast and, at the same time, helping to protect against wildfire at five of NID's small reservoir sites. The goats are grazing vegetation and fire fuels, including blackberry bushes and poison oak, around the reservoirs.

The NID Vegetation Management team uses goats to reduce fire fuels and tidy up the NID properties.

The reservoirs getting the special treatment are Cunningham Reservoir in south Nevada County, Sugarloaf Reservoir and Snow Mountain Reservoir outside of Nevada City, Rex Reservoir near Rough and Ready, and Union Reservoir near Smartsville. First Rain Farm in Nevada City is providing the Nubian Kiko cross goats for grazing.

New video showcases the Auburn Ravine interpretive sign



This video showcases the Auburn Ravine Interpretive Signage project, a collaborative effort led by the Friends of the Auburn Ravine, in partnership with Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), the City of Lincoln, and NID.

The video highlights the natural beauty and ecological importance of the Auburn Ravine, in Placer County, California, a vital waterway that supports diverse plant and animal life.

Key interviews with project stakeholders, including Jim Haufler (Friends of the Auburn Ravine), Holly Andreatta (City of Lincoln Councilmember), Ben

Ransom (PCWA Environmental Services Manager), and Greg Jones (NID Assistant General Manager), provide insights into the significance of the Auburn Ravine and the impact of the new interpretive signage.

Viewers are encouraged to visit the Auburn Ravine, explore the new interpretive signs, and learn more about this natural treasure in their own backyard.

Repeat after Me: Avoid Repetitive Motion Injuries

REPETITIVE MOTION INJURIES



REPETITIVE MOTION INJURIES:

Injuries caused by performing the same motion over and over. These conditions are due to overuse, without adequate recovery. Low back strain due to repeated lifting, especially with poor technique, is an example.
- Suzanne Tanner, M.D. (Mayo Clinic)

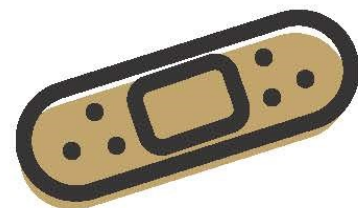
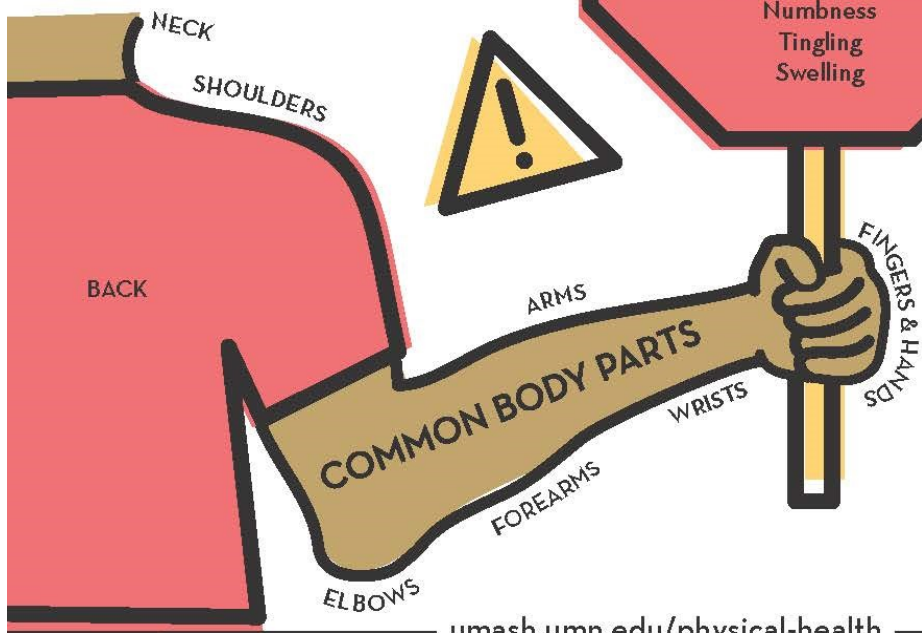
PREVENTION METHODS:

- ◆ Engage abdominal muscles in the core and stomach frequently to prevent back pain
- ◆ Stretch before beginning work
- ◆ Work at a comfortable height
- ◆ Avoid bending over frequently
- ◆ Push/pull rather than lift
- ◆ Don't stay in one position too long
- ◆ Bend knees while lifting



CAUSES:

- Poor posture
- Hot, cold or wet conditions
- Fatigue
- Long shifts



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PIPELINE

A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 29 • Number 7 • July 2008

NID Buys First Hybrid Vehicles

The district has purchased two ultra-low emission Ford Escape hybrid sport utility vehicles, the first of what could become many hybrids in the district fleet.

“Our goal is to bring more of these into the fleet as our vehicles exceed their service lives,” said Maintenance Manager **John Kirk**.

Hybrid vehicles will help reduce overall district fuel costs, which have tripled in the last two years; and reduce emission levels, Kirk said.

Good Mileage

The new vehicles, rated 27 city/25 highway, replace older vehicles that averaged about 11 mpg. Purchasing Supv. **Jim Williams** is driving the first four-cylinder Escape, while the second will be used in Operations.

“It’s a really nice vehicle,” said Williams after a few days behind the wheel. “I like the size and it’s got plenty of get up and go.”



John Kirk, Jim Williams and Ed Barton are pictured with a new 2008 Ford Escape hybrid.

Supervising Equipment Mechanic **Ed Barton** said he is studying up on hybrids and has been impressed. “We’re going to get the economy without sacrificing performance,” Barton noted.

Using the state’s fleet purchase program, the district paid \$28,238 for each new hybrid.

Cost-Of-Living Raise is 3.9%

District employees will have some help in meeting the ever-increasing costs of living.

Employees are receiving a 3.9 percent cost-of-living raise for the coming fiscal year. The upward wage adjustment covers all employees and takes effect on June 23.

Meetings & Events



Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 14
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 28
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

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

Past Pipeline Editions

[June 2024](#)

[May 2024](#)

[March/April 2024](#)

[February 2024](#)

[January 2024](#)

[December 2023](#)

[November 2023](#)

[September 2023](#)

[August 2023](#)

Short Videos featuring employees



- * [E. George Treatment Plant tour \(5:02 minutes\)](#)
- * [NID Rex Canal automated main gate \(1:55 min.\)](#)
- * [NID Cascade Canal orifice change \(2:16 min.\)](#)
- * [South Yuba Canal repairs \(2:52 min.\)](#)
- * [Anatomy of a Powerhouse \(1:41 min.\)](#)
- * [Surveying Dams for Safety \(2:07 min.\)](#)
- * [Dutch Flat Flume Repair \(2:26 min.\)](#)