

The Pipeline

Employee Newsletter

Volume 46~ Number 2 February 2025



Utility Worker Zachary Clark-Ware puts the finishing touches on the construction of a check structure in Newtown Canal, <u>Page 4</u>

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- * *Flash from the Past* Top headline in the February 2005 Pipeline Newsletter: "Going Deep at Scotts Flat," <u>Page 7</u>

... and more

HR Corner

February Anniversaries

Will Barker, Hydro Plant Operator I, 25 years, Feb. 7

Ken Bartsch, Equipment Operator, 19 yrs

John Foppiano, Water Distribution Operator II, 19 yrs

Jason Gates, Equipment Operator, 16 yrs, Feb. 17

Matt Baker, Maintenance Supervisor, 16 yrs, Feb. 17

Jim Belleque, Electrical Systems Technician II, 13 yrs, Feb. 13

Julian Gonzalez, Water Distribution Operator II, 13 yrs, Feb. 21

Troy Gomes, Cross Connection Control Technician I, 12 yrs, Feb. 4

Alex Ramirez, Utility Worker I, 12 yrs, Feb. 25

Greg Callison, Senior Storekeeper, 10 yrs, Feb. 9

Seth Miner-Gann, Vegetation Control Worker I, 10 yrs, Feb. 17

Evan Parks, Senior Hydro Maintenance Technician, 9 yrs



Seth Miner-Gann



Greg Callison

Ted Blank, Hydro Compliance & Protection Systems Specialist, 6 yrs

Nathan Droivold, Project Manager, 5 yrs

Brian Nunnink, Water Distribution Operator I, 4 yrs

Shawn Droivold, Utility Worker I, 3 yrs, Feb. 14

Brandon Fabela, Utility Worker I, 2 yrs



Will Barker



Nathan Droivold

HR Corner

Promotions & Transfers

Rod McGhee – promoted to IT Analyst II 1/13/2025 Tina Haenny – promoted to Hydroelectric Compliance Administrator 1/27/2025 Chance Wick – promoted to Chief Water Treatment Operator 2/10/2025

Certifications

Josh Hynie, Water Treatment Operator II, earned his Water Treatment Grade 4 license David Straub, Water Treatment Operator II, earned his Water Distribution Grade 3 license



Josh Hynie



Rod McGhee



Chance Wick

Retirement

Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering Hire date: Nov. 22, 2004 - last day with District: Feb. 21, 2025

NID project highlights:

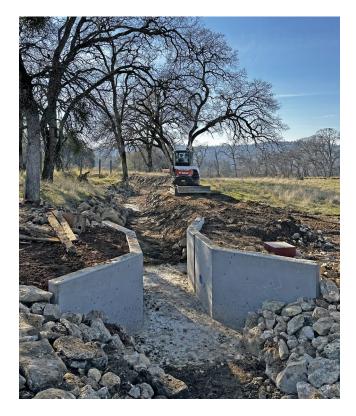
- Combie North Powerhouse: tear-down and rebuild of a powerhouse
- Cement Hill Treated Waterline Extension: a new pump station, tanks and treated water mains brought treated water to a much-needed area in the North Bloomfield Cement Hill area
- Banner Taylor and Alta Sierra Reservoir retrofits: earthen treated water reservoirs were replaced with fortified concrete storage tanks for 13 million gallons of treated water storage
- Hemphill Fish Passage: the new diversion works well (and salmon are now enjoying six additional miles of spawning habitat)
- Combie Phase One Pipe: an eight-foot pipe is two miles long. The project also includes a suspension bridge across the Bear River
- Plan for Water process: Doug helped spearhead the 50-year planning document that set the district on the path to a sustained water supply in the face of climate change
- Centennial Reservoir Project: the controversial proposed storage project.



New check structure on Newtown Canal

To improve the flow to customers in the Newtown Canal, the raw water crew has finished a project to build a check structure.

The structure will serve as a little dam to raise the water level within a section of the main canal. That will provide adequate head pressure to divert sufficient water to customer boxes.





The Raw Water crew: Tim Rowe, Maintenance Supervisor; Chris Friedman, Equipment Operator; Zachary Clark-Ware, Utility Worker I; Daniel Roth, Utility Worker I; Juan Uriel Cobian-Mitchell, temp Utility Worker

(Above left) Chris Friedman works to line the canal with boulders

(Above) Juan Urial Cobian-Mitchell gets the job done from a precarious position straddling the wooden form. And yes, that's freshly poured concrete.

(Left) Notice the hole in the check structure that directs water flow to the red customer box. From there, the water is directed to the customer's property.

The work never ends!



Readying roofs for storms

To protect against harsh storms, the maintenance department has installed roof cleats on NID's Grass Valley build-ings.

Roof cleats are also called "snow guards" and block and hold piles of snow in place until it can melt and flow off the roof.

On the roof (right) Josh Frates Utility Worker II and (left) Wyatt Landrum, Utility Worker I.



Jason Gates, Equipment Operator, installs a water meter box for new development off Table Meadows Road.



Dark Horse Pump Station

Our crew installed a new pump at the Dark Horse Pump Station to help circulate the water for better quality.

(On top of tank) Coby McCoy, Water Treatment Supervisor. (Left) Greg Cornejo, Electrical Systems Tech II, and Robert Stice, Senior Welder.



Now available: Catalog with NID-logoed apparel

Employees can now purchase apparel with the NID logo from a catalog designed to feature District colors and styles.

What's for sale? Choose among "non-FR" shirts, hoodies and more. "Non-FR" stands for "non flame retardant." Brands include Carhartt, Ariat, Red Kap, and SanMar.

Browse the catalog and order for yourself. Click here

Username: your NID e-mail address

Password: NIDNONFR (Use all capital letters)

When you sign in, choose in the top menu "Shop by Category" and then select the "Non-FR" category to view the options.





Rollins spills!

The last round of storms brought us inches of rain and piles of snow.

As of Feb. 19, total reservoir storage was 119 percent of an 11-year average. Reservoirs contained 245,521 acre-feet, which is 91 percent of capacity.

That meant foothill dams at Scotts Flat, Rollins and Van Giesen (Combie Reservoir) were spilling.

Thanks to Office Assistant Katie Kemp for capturing the moment at Rollins last Sunday!

Track the NID reservoir data on our website



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Flash from the Past

A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 26 • Number 2 • February, 2005

Going Deep at Scotts Flat

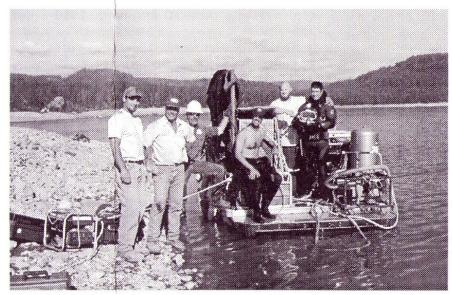
sing a team of divers from Advanced Diving Services, Inc. of Chico, the Maintenance Dept. has partially replaced four hydraulic lines on the bottom of Scotts Flat Reservoir.

Maintenance Supt. **Howard Browning** said the submerged lines control the reservoir's inlet gates and that one had malfunctioned a year ago, leaving one gate partially closed.

The 500-foot-long lines date to 1948 during construction of the reservoir and were extended another 500 feet to a new pump control building in 1961 when the dam was raised, Browning said.

The underwater work was conducted on a rotation basis by four divers working in 54-degree water at depths of 112-120 feet.

Experience Counts Due to the depth and lake elevation of 3000 feet, each diver was limited to 20 minutes of work at the bottom. Decom-



Support Crew Kenton Early, Tim Nunnink and Ted Gilbert are pictured at Scotts Flat with divers from Advanced Diving Services, Inc.

pression stops on the ascent to their working barge accounted for 40 minutes of each diver's rotation.

The project began with removal of the old lines near the hydraulic cylinders attached to the inlet gates. Compressed air was used to remove hydraulic oil from the old lines.

Four 500-foot lengths of new hydraulic hose were then filled

with hydraulic oil, and the ends were capped off. With the lines attached to their boat, the divers pulled the lines into position over the gate.

The divers then pulled the lines into position and connected them one at a time to the cylinder ports.

The work was made more difficult by the dark waters where visibility was only a few feet.

Close Call? Almost injured? It's a warning...

A "close call" or accident without injury is easy to shrug off and forget. But, there is a danger in brushing off accidents. When a "close call" happens, it should immediately send up a red warning flag that something was wrong and could happen again. This may result in serious damage, injury or death.

For every accident there are usually several contributing factors, most of which can be controlled. The best way to prevent the reoccurrence of an accident is by looking at those "close calls." By investigating the root causes of an accident, steps can be taken to eliminate the hazard.

Sometimes there are multiple causes for an accident involving: equipment, environment (poor lighting or noise level), people (procedures not understood or not followed) or management (allowed shortcuts). Don't rush to judge. Examine the facts and find what's missing. Look for immediate and underlying causes.

Key strategies to prevent workplace accidents:

<u>Risk assessments</u>: Regularly evaluate potential hazards in the workplace and implement measures to mitigate risks

<u>Employee safety training</u>: Provide comprehensive training on safety protocols, proper equipment usage, and emergency procedures for all employees.

<u>PPE provision</u>: Ensure employees have access to appropriate personal protective equipment like gloves, safety glasses, and hearing protection depending on their job tasks

<u>Workplace inspections</u>: Conduct routine inspections to identify potential hazards like faulty equipment, cluttered areas, and damaged wiring

<u>Hazard reporting system</u>: Encourage employees to report any safety concerns or near-misses without fear of repercussions

<u>Clear signage</u>: Post clear safety signage throughout the workplace to alert employees about potential hazards

Maintain cleanliness: Keep work areas clean and organized to prevent tripping hazards and clutter

<u>Safety meetings</u>: Regularly hold safety meetings to discuss potential hazards, best practices, and recent incidents

<u>Addressing fatigue</u>: Implement measures to manage employee fatigue, such as scheduled breaks and appropriate workload distribution

Building a safety culture: Promote a "safety first" mindset where all employees prioritize safety in their daily tasks.







Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, February 26, 2025 NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2025 NID Main Office, Grass Valley

Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, March 26, 2025 NID Main Office, Grass Valley

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

Past Pipeline Editions

January 2025 December 2024 November 2024 October 2024 September 2024 August 2024 July 2024 June 2024 May 2024 March/April 2024 February 2024 January 2024

