



## Out in the Field:

NID Water Treatment Operator Chance Wick enters a clarification basin as he starts to clean it.

The clarification process is an essential part of the production of drinking water. Early in treatment, the large tank removes suspended solids from raw water before further purification processes.

## Featured Inside

\* HR Corner: Work anniversaries, New Hires, Promotions [Page 2](#)

\* Board of Directors gear up for 2025: President, VP appointed, and two Directors sworn in, [Page 3](#)

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\* *Flash from the Past* - What was a top Pipeline headline in December 2007? Can you name this place? [Page 9](#)

... and more

### December Anniversaries

**Chris Berg**, Construction Inspector II, 26 yrs. Dec. 14

**Ken Copher**, Recreation Facility Superintendent, 25 yrs. Dec. 13

**Aurora Penaluna**, Customer Service Administrator, 17 yrs.

**Glen Alexander**, Utility Worker II, 11 yrs. Dec. 2

**Danny Granholm**, Chief Water Treatment Operator, 10 yrs. Dec. 1

**Neysa King**, Environmental Resources Administrator, 9 yrs. Dec. 30

**Kris Stepanian**, Board Secretary, 8 yrs. Dec. 5

**Joshua Frates**, Utility Worker II, 5 yrs. Dec. 30

**Jason Devlin**, Senior Park Ranger, 4 yrs. Dec. 7

**Cameron Townsend**, Environmental Resources Technician II, 4 yrs. Dec. 21

**Dianna Traylor**, Accountant I, 2 years

**Sandra Dunlap**, Director of Finance, 2 years

**Ryan Pfile**, Equipment Mechanic I, 2 years

**Amanda Fejes**, Office Assistant II, 2 years

**Mason Angel**, Utility Worker I, 2 years

**Aaron Brinkman**, Water Distribution Operator I, 1 year

**Carrie Ann Signett**, Customer Service Representative I, 1 year

### New Hires

**Corey Schmitt** – Senior Survey Technician  
– 11/25/24

### Promotions & Transfers

**Amanda Fejes** – promoted to Office Assistant II – effective 12/1/24

**Justin Koster** – promoted to Hydroelectric Generation Superintendent – effective 12/16/24



Ken Copher



Danny Granholm

### Address Change?

Please notify Human Resources of any address changes that happened in 2024. It is important that we know where to send year-end W2 forms!



## Board of Directors gears up for 2025:

*President/VP appointed, and incumbent and new director sworn in*



Rich Johansen (left) and Brad Fowler are sworn in during the Dec. 11 Board of Directors meeting.

Nevada Irrigation District (NID) Directors welcomed new members and elected officers for next year, during their Dec. 11, 2024, meeting.

Director Ricki Heck will serve as Board President, and Chris Bierwagen will serve as Vice President. Heck (Division I) represents portions of Nevada City and Grass Valley. Bierwagen (Division II) represents the Chicago Park area.

NID welcomes a new member to its Board of Directors. Longtime Rancher Brad Fowler (Division III) was sworn in on Dec. 11. Fowler defeated incumbent Karen Hull in the recent election. Division 3 includes Alta Sierra and Lake of the Pines in Nevada County, as well as a portion of northern Placer County.

In addition, Incumbent Director Rich Johansen (Division V), who ran unopposed in the recent election, was sworn in for his second term. First elected to the seat in 2020, his new term will expire in 2028. Division 5 includes Lake Wildwood and Penn Valley.

### NID's full Board for 2025:

- \* Division I – Ricki Heck - Grass Valley and Nevada City area
- \* Division II – Chris Bierwagen - includes Chicago Park
- \* Division III - Brad Fowler - includes Alta Sierra and Lake of the Pines in Nevada County, as well as a small portion of northern Placer County.
- \* Division IV – Earl Stephens - portions of North Auburn and Lincoln areas
- \* Division V – Rich Johansen - Lake Wildwood and Penn Valley



Officers for 2025: President Ricki Heck and Vice President Chris Bierwagen

Read NID Director bios, [click here](#)

# NID closes foothill boat launches to address threat of invasive golden mussels

*No motorized watercraft allowed on Scotts Flat, Rollins reservoirs*



The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) is taking immediate proactive action to keep out highly destructive invasive golden mussels from the District's waterways. To address the threat, the District will close all boat launches to motorized watercraft at Scotts Flat and Rollins reservoirs.

The freshwater bivalve can block water intakes and infrastructure, harm native species, increase water clarity due to intense filter feeding and diminish water quality.



"NID will immediately implement a temporary boat launch closure due to the recent discovery of the golden mussel in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta. The golden mussel is probably one of the most invasive species we could get and would not only destroy our powerhouses but could also overtake the canal systems," said Greg Jones, NID's assistant general manager.

On October 17, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) reported finding adult golden mussels at the Port of Stockton. The species is originally from China and Southeast Asia, and it was the first time they had been detected in North America. State officials called the situation a "significant immediate threat."

One concern is the mussels will spread to other waterways, such as NID reservoirs in the foothills. To address the immediate threat, the District will temporarily close all launches to motorized boats at Scotts Flat and Rollins reservoirs. This includes Long Ravine, Orchard Springs and Greenhorn at Rollins, as well as the Scotts Flat boat launches on both the Cascade Shores and Scotts Flat sides.

"While no golden mussel has been detected at NID facilities, we cannot take a chance," Jones said. "This invasive species could significantly damage the District's infrastructure and the ecology of waterbodies."

Read the entire news release, [click here](#)

Above left: Golden mussels colonize a water pipe at a hydroelectric plant in Brazil in 2021.







Reservations for NID campgrounds are just around the corner. The 2025 reservation period begins on Jan. 2.

Recreation Director Monica Reyes urges everyone to act fast to secure camping sites. See more information on the [NID webpage for campground information](#).

### Scotts Flat Lake

Scotts Flat Campground: Phone (530) 265-5302. Campground address: 23333 Scotts Flat Road, Nevada City, CA 95959. Hours Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Reservations can also be made online.



Scotts Flat

### Rollins Lake

Orchard Springs Campground: For reservations phone (530) 346-0073 (gatehouse located at 19085 Larsen Road, Grass Valley).



Rollins

Long Ravine Campground: for reservations phone (530) 346-6166 (gatehouse located at 26909 Rollins Lake Road, Colfax).

Peninsula Campground: Reservations by phone (530) 477-9413 or online on our Peninsula webpage.

### High Sierra Jackson Meadows and Faucherie Lakes

Reservations for Faucherie, Aspen, and Silvertip Groups can be made by phone (530) 265-5302 or in person at our Scotts Flat Office located at 23333 Scotts Flat Road, Nevada City, CA 95959. Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. When leaving a message please tell us the campground you would like to book.



Jackson Meadows

# Storekeeper Greg Callison is recognized as a stand-out employee

Omitted in last month's Pipeline story was the honor to Storekeeper Greg Callison as a stand-out employee for 2024.

He was recently recognized for always going above and beyond the call of duty with a positive attitude. Thanks Greg for all you do!

The new stand-out employee award is way to acknowledge exceptional NID workers. This year's recipients were announced at last month's Chili Cook-off. Here are the five 2024 recipients:

- \* Greg Callison, Senior Storekeeper
- \* Bob Page, Senior Water Distribution Operator
- \* Greg McCay, Senior Right of Way Agent
- \* Mike McCluskey, Equipment Mechanic
- \* Ted Blank, Hydro Compliance/Protection System Specialist



## 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.)



## In Memoriam



### Karen Brown

Karen Brown, the camp host at Rollins Lake for the last 10 years, passed away peacefully at home on December 9, 2024 after a courageous battle with cancer. A Celebration of Life will be held in the spring.

Karen was born on November 28, 1944 in Santa Rosa, CA to Delmar and Donna Frye. She moved to North San Juan in 1952 where her mother, Donna, owned and ran Peterson's Corner. Karen and her family moved to Grass Valley in 1954. She attended Nevada City Elementary and she was in the first class to graduate from the Nevada Union Ridge Road Campus in 1962.

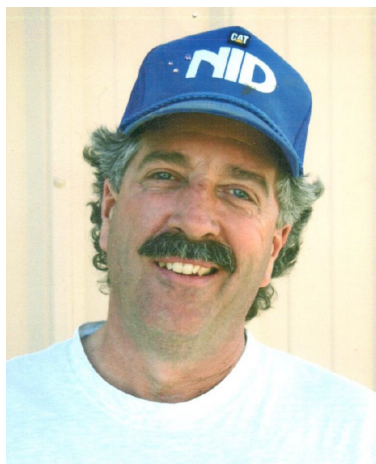
She loved golf and was the first woman president of the Nevada County Country Club. Karen had a great love for the outdoors and people. Cross country skiing was her favorite winter activity.

For the past ten years she was the camp host at Rollins Lake.

She will be missed by many. Karen is survived by her daughter Kelly (David) Dokimos, her son Kevin (Jamie) Brown, grandchildren Justin, Jacob and Kylee, her sisters Hunter (Marion) DeCarlo and Dolores Greg, brother Scott Frye and her partner Tim.

She is preceded in death by her father Delmar Frye and her mother Donna Frye-Gregor-Casteel and former in-laws Helen and Orin Brown.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Hospice of the Foothills or a [charity of your choice](#). Arrangements are under the direction of Hooper & Weaver Mortuary. To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

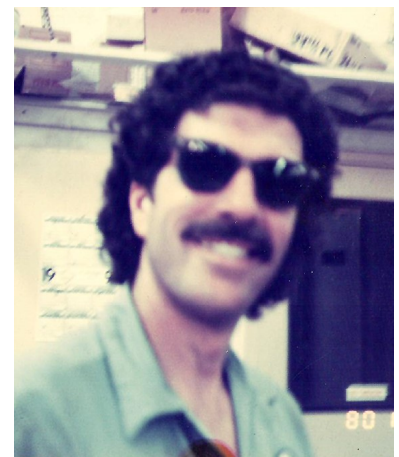


### Lawrence Sorensen

Longtime employee Lawrence Sorensen passed away on Christmas Day 2024.

Lawrence joined the District May 1980 as a utility worker and retired after 35 years in June 2015 as an equipment operator.

An obituary and memorial information will be forthcoming.





### Curb your bad driving

#### *Slow down!*

Driving an NID vehicle means you can never hide behind the steering wheel. Your every driving move – especially the bad behavior – is on full display behind that bright blue logo on the side of your truck or SUV.

The public recognizes that logo, and people instantly know who to call with complaints. Our customer service and safety office deal

with calls every month. The most common complaint is driver speeding.

Here's a reminder to slow down.

Speeding is one of the most dangerous driving behaviors, causing for one out of every three crashes. Plus, the probability of death or serious injury grows with impacts at higher speeds—doubling for every 10 MPH over 50 MPH that a vehicle travels. Here are some reminders of good driving behavior:

**Slow down.** Speeding won't get you where you're going any quicker – it will only increase your chances of not getting there at all.

#### **Come to a full stop at red lights and stop signs**

Avoid running yellow lights.

#### **Don't follow other drivers too closely**

Allow for some extra space between you and other vehicles, even if they are driving slower than the speed limit.

#### **Allow more time to get to your destination**

If possible, alter your schedule to avoid driving during peak congestion periods.

#### **Give others the benefit of the doubt; be polite and forgiving**

Put your pride in the back seat. Don't challenge an aggressive driver by speeding up or attempting to hold your position in your travel lane.

#### **Smile and chill**

Ignore baiting gestures and name-calling, and do not return them. Show the person that you're not going to give them the response they want. Smiling shows the person that you're not getting angry like they want you to.

#### **Stay focused**

Keep 100% of your attention on driving at all times. That means no multi-tasking. Don't use your phone or any other electronic device while driving.

#### NID Drives Responsibly

Remember, your actions are a reflection of NID and you personally, thanks to that blue logo and the truck number that can be easily tracked back to you.



# PIPELINE

A Newsletter to the Employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume 28 • Number 12 • December, 2007



**A Happy  
Holiday  
Season  
to All !**

### **NID Christmas Party**

*Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007  
6 p.m.*

DarkHorse Golf Club  
Information: Erica Salter  
ext. 241

### **Maintenance Shop Party**

*Friday, Dec. 7, 2007  
5 p.m.*

Nevada Co. Sportsmen's Club  
Information: Sharon Jones, ext.  
200 or Donna Dooley, ext. 210

## ***Can You Name This Place?***



This historic photo comes from the new book "Powerhouses of the Sierra Nevada" by Placer County author Steve Hubbard. See page 4 for information on the photo.

Answer:

### **Page 1 Photo**

LOCATION: Lower Boulder Street, looking down at the Plaza, Nevada City.



"In 1903, teamster Charles Graham hauled his heavy load through the streets of Nevada City on his way to the Deer Creek Powerhouse. His horses pulled a 60,000-volt transformer on a trailer."



NID History Book: *Delivering Water for Life*

Download the book (by chapter or entirety) for free. [Click here](#)



# Meetings & Events



## Board of Directors Meeting

The next January meeting will be announced soon.

1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley

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

## Past Pipeline Editions

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| <a href="#">October 2024</a>   | <a href="#">May 2024</a>         |
| <a href="#">September 2024</a> | <a href="#">March/April 2024</a> |
| <a href="#">August 2024</a>    | <a href="#">February 2024</a>    |
| <a href="#">July 2024</a>      | <a href="#">January 2024</a>     |

