

WaterWays

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Snowpack has 7th most water content in history, reservoirs full



Bowman Lake (5,650 ft) recorded 64 inches of snow, 158% of average (April).

The District conducts three official snow surveys each year in February, March and April. On average, the 5,650-foot elevation reservoir receives 69.2 inches of snow and rain each year. As a member of the California Cooperative Snow Survey, NID provides snow survey results to the state to determine water availability locally and statewide.

NID earns ASCE's "Small Project of the Year" award

The Sacramento American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has named NID's Combie Reservoir Sediment and Mercury Removal Project its 2018 Small Project of the Year. The purpose of the Project is to remove elemental mercury from the accumulated sediment and to restore reservoir capacity for drinking water use and recreational opportunities in Combie Reservoir.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for the project team, your organization, and all project proponents," noted ASCE President Michael Konieczki.

About 40,000 cubic yards of sediment were removed from the dry Combie Reservoir lakebed last fall. The next phase – from April through August of this year – will use a suction dredge to remove sediment in wet conditions, followed by centrifuge technology to remove elemental mercury.

Findings from this project will help state regulators and water managers address mercury in the aquatic food chain at locations around the Sierra. Learn more about the project [here](#).



About 40,000 cubic yards of sediment were removed from the Combie Reservoir last fall.

NID earns award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

For the third consecutive year, the NID finance team has been recognized for outstanding work, receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

This is the highest honor given by the Government Finance Officers Association, which represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada.

The Certificate was awarded for NID’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) that met the criteria of being organized, easily readable, and it exceeded both accounting principles and legal requirements.

“This is no small feat to earn this award, as the review process is quite rigorous. As well, the preparation of the annual CAFR to prepare for this review is equally intense,” said NID Controller Debbie Martin.



NID’s finance team: (seated left to right) Greg Jones, Debbie Martin, Nancy Alstrand, and (standing from left) Miranda Guidera, Desiree Ince, Cheryl Harris, JR Lewis and Marvin Davis.

Efforts to improve financial efficiency pay off

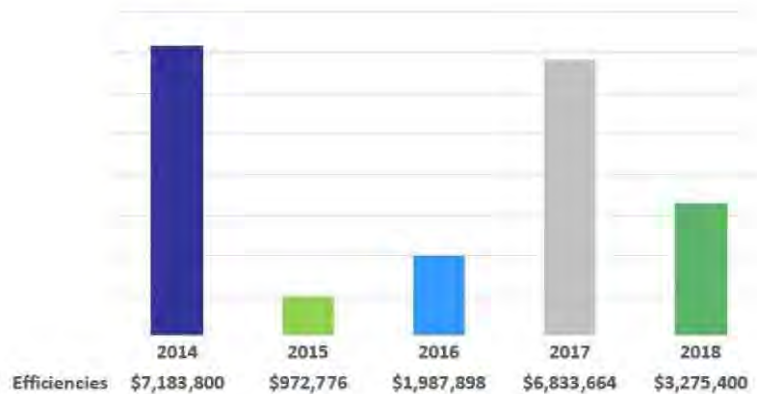
NID employees have been working to reduce costs and improve efficiency in their everyday work duties. These efforts literally have paid off with more than \$3.2 million in cost savings and additional revenues in 2018 and more than \$20 million during the past five years.

\$20,253,538 in Efficiencies Since 2014

5-Year Financial Efficiency Results (FY 2014-2018)

Savings achieved across all Departments (Finance, HR, Admin, Engineering, Operations, Maintenance, Hydro, Recreation), including:

- ✓ Staff vs. contractor labor
- ✓ Purchasing audits
- ✓ IT software
- ✓ Reduced insurance fees
- ✓ Equipment trade-in programs
- ✓ Staffing reorganization
- ✓ Innovative solutions



NID News Briefs

Community tour showcases NID's Forestry Project at Scotts Flat Reservoir

The NID Watershed team led an April 17 community tour of all of the work being done on District property around the reservoir to reduce fire fuels and protect against wildfire.

In its third year, the healthy forest project at Scotts Flat Campground addresses many factors that affect wildfire risk, watershed and forest health, and long-term water security. The two-hour tour was featured as part of *Know Your Watershed* month.

The Scotts Flat Fire Fuels Reduction and Healthy Forest Project is in partnership with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and CAL FIRE. Projects like this one within the Deer Creek sub-watershed will restore and maintain healthy, fire-resilient landscapes, while protecting water supply and quality in central Nevada County.

NID supports the Nevada County STEAM Expo

NID was a sponsor of role in the annual Nevada County STEAM Expo, which motivates students to take an interest in science, technology, engineering, art and math. The event was coordinated by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools and held at the Nevada County Fairgrounds on April 5-6.

On Friday, April 5, a team of NID employees judged student science projects. The District gave out 10 awards to recognize local youth that are working on and thinking about water resources, watershed health, and the environment.

On Saturday, April 6, NID hosted an information table in the "Career Exploration Wing" with fun activities and information to highlight employment opportunities for our local youth. The activities included a hands-on model of water system components and a hand-powered centrifuge that replicates the mercury removal process NID is using at Combie Reservoir during its award-winning sediment removal project (see p.1).

Scotts Flat wins two "best of" awards

Scotts Flat Reservoir has been voted best camping *and* best fishing spot in The Union Newspaper's annual "Best of Nevada County" awards competition. Scotts Flat also was voted runner-up for best boating location.

Every summer, about 60 seasonal employees join the Recreation Department's nine full-time staff members to assist the 240,000-plus annual campers and boaters who visit NID campgrounds and reservoirs.

In total, NID operates and maintains 15 campgrounds, plus camping sites in the Jackson Meadows-Bowman Lake areas.

Read more about NID recreation [here](#).



Kayakers enjoy the serenity of morning on Scotts Flat Reservoir during 2018's No Motor Day. Read more [here](#).

Save the Dates for Fun!

Bring the family and join in these fun events at NID Reservoirs and Campgrounds:

May 19: No Motor Day at Scotts Flat

Sept. 14: Kid's Triathlon at Orchard Springs

Sept. 15: BSM (Barbara Schmidt Millar) Triathlon at Cascade Shores Boat Launch

2019 MULCH MAGIC GIVEAWAY

FREE MULCH Available for Pick-up



Saturday May 11, 2019

7:00 am – 11:00 am

Location: Nevada County Fairgrounds
Enter Fairgrounds Gate 8 off Brighton Street
Event will be held in Arena

SELF-LOAD

Bring your own shovels, containers, truck, and tarp to cover your load

Do you need help loading?

Local Boy and Eagle Scouts will be available to help load mulch into your vehicle.

Make sure to tip your Scout!

- First come, first served while supplies last
- For personal use only; not for resale or commercial use

Questions? Contact Kaycee Strong

530-273-6185 ext. 244 or strongk@nidwater.com

Mulch is a great tool to help save water. 2-3 inches of mulch helps retain water keeping the soil moist for longer periods of time.

****Limit 1 cubic yard per vehicle****



Nevada County
Resource Conservation District
www.nrcd.org

NID and PCWA team up to protect the local water supply

To safeguard a primary water delivery system to local communities, the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) are teaming up to study the long-term feasibility of jointly taking over ownership and/or operation of Pacific Gas & Electric’s (PG&E) extensive Drum-Spaulding Project.

The Drum-Spaulding Project provides a vital supply to NID’s water conveyance system. The PG&E Drum-Spaulding Project and the NID Yuba-Bear Project operate under a Coordinated Operations Agreement in a highly organized, coordinated system. Both NID and PCWA are reliant on the continued operation of the Drum-Spaulding Project.



Pacific Gas & Electric Company’s bankruptcy filing could have a dramatic effect on the future of a vital and reliable water supply in the region. It could lead to a transfer of the Drum-Spaulding Project to a third party.

Why It Matters

- Local Control**
- Water Supply**
- Environment**
- Food**
- Hydroelectricity**

Uninterrupted supply of safe, clean water and power for our community under local control.

Sierra water delivery for 250,000 agricultural, residential and industrial customers in Nevada and Placer counties.

Healthy watersheds - improved water quality and quantity, wildlife habitat and biodiversity protection.

Agriculture supporting local farms and feeding our families. Total value of agricultural production ~\$90 million.

Renewable electricity - enough power for more than 100,000 homes!

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION Nevada Irrigation District and Placer County Water Agency, the largest water providers in the region, are partnering in a Joint Powers Agreement that works to understand and influence PG&E regarding the Drum-Spaulding Project.

THE END RESULT If NID and PCWA should need to acquire the Drum-Spaulding Project, the purchase would ensure local control of water, land and power-generation, and would be established and funded through a separate government body. This is essential for the continued success of the Drum-Spaulding Project and our community.

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