



The Waterfront



Serving El Dorado County Since 1925
A Brief History of El Dorado Irrigation District



A History of El Dorado Irrigation District

Water has been and continues to be an undeniable force in shaping the economic, ecological, and cultural face of El Dorado County. And El Dorado Irrigation District has been at the forefront of providing essential water services in the county since 1925.

This brochure gives a short overview of milestones in the District's history starting with its early days as an irrigation water purveyor. The brochure discusses the story of water rights in El Dorado County, the formation of the District, the history of Sly Park's Jenkinson Lake, and the complex issues facing the water and wastewater utility it is today.

The document is available on our website and in our headquarters building lobby.



New EID Website for Enhanced Service and Efficiency

EID is rolling out a new website designed to present a more streamlined appearance so that our customers, stakeholders, and other interested parties can find information more easily.

The old site, last refreshed in 2006, did not contain many customer-friendly features that our customers have been asking for. The new website uses updated technology to allow visitors to sign up to be notified when news, meetings, documents, jobs, and projects are posted to the site.

Behind the scenes, the new content management system will allow District employees to update the website with fresh information more efficiently, getting important information online in a timely manner.

Remember: Sewer Repairs Can Be Costly, Call EID First

If you experience a sewer backup and have EID sewer services, call us before you phone a plumber. EID will come out and check your sewer lines to see if the problem is on your side of the cleanout or on our side. If it's on ours, calling us first could save you from making unnecessary repairs or from paying a plumber to check it out. If you are unsure about where your cleanout is, have a look at the last *Waterfront* newsletter to see a graphic that explains this. Go to our website at www.eid.org to read previous editions of the *Waterfront*.

Call 530-622-4513 or 916-965-0930 to speak with EID customer service. They can either schedule a technician to come out and do an inspection or have someone call you back to answer more questions in detail.

2012 Water and Wastewater Facility Tours

To learn more about our water and wastewater operations, please join one of our tours.

- **EDH Water Treatment Plant**
Wednesdays: 7/18, 8/15, and 9/19
- **EDH Wastewater Treatment Plant**
Thursdays: 7/19, 8/16, and 9/20

Tours are limited to 25 participants. EID customers have priority for reservations. Please RSVP to Jim Murphy at jmurphy@eid.org or 530.642.4408. Please advise us if you need special accommodations when making your reservation.



Message from the General Manager

Sly Park — Jewel of EID's Recreation Facilities

Jim Abercrombie

As you'll read in the Q & A segment on page three, the District is very fortunate to have such wonderful recreational facilities that we can offer to the community. For those who want to plan weekend camping trips, daylong picnics or hikes, photography excursions, peaceful trail bike rides, or even book a special event at our event center, Sly Park offers it all. We also have great camping and boating facilities further up in the Sierra at Silver Lake West Campground and Silver Lake boat launch and day-use area, Caples Lake boat launch and day-use area, as well as picnic facilities at Forebay Reservoir in Pollock Pines.

Why does EID offer such recreational amenities? One might wonder that since our core business is in water and wastewater.

“Recreation is directly related to our core business. All of our recreational facilities are located near, at, or on EID drinking water sources.”

— *Jim Abercrombie*

District's supply of water to the communities' economic viability from the early days of the gold rush and growth in agriculture in the region, to today's modern day businesses and residential growth. This growth has been driven, in part, by the water and other services EID has provided the community over the years.

As mentioned in the EID history brochure, some things have changed quite a bit in El Dorado County since the vote to form EID was certified in 1925. The county's population grew from about 6,400 in the early 1920s to more than 181,000 in 2011, and EID's service area has grown from 31,500 acres in 1925 to 140,800 acres today. Other things have not changed a lot. Clean water originating in the high Sierra continues to help shape economic, ecological, and cultural aspects of the county. Agriculture remains an economic cornerstone. Rural attributes and outdoor recreation opportunities still attract visitors and new residents. Just as the gold rush miners considered water and gold key to economic prosperity, so too the District continues to protect, defend, and enhance the water supply portfolio for the long-term prosperity of El Dorado County.

The District's commitment to provide customers with high-quality services and products hasn't changed either. That's been a constant since 1925.

As noted in the Q & A, recreation is directly related to our core business. All of our recreational facilities are located near, at, or on EID drinking water sources. Additionally, EID is mandated by our Project 184 hydroelectric license to operate these recreational facilities so that the general public has the side benefit of enjoying these amenities all while we responsibly use the water for drinking and irrigation purposes.

You'll be able to trace the history of the District in our new EID history brochure, as it outlines these ties to the

The News—Briefly

CIP Public Workshop Set

A public workshop focusing on capital improvement projects is set for Wednesday, September 26, 2012, at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the EID headquarters building in Placerville.

Board honors Albert Hazbun



During its April 23, 2012 Board meeting, the EID Board of Directors presented Albert E. Hazbun a Board resolution in recognition of his more than 25 years and thousands of hours of exemplary volunteer service to the District.

The Resolution recognized Mr. Hazbun for his tireless dedication, commitment, inspiration, motivation and ongoing support of the District which contributed greatly to the District's efforts, including serving on numerous District committees. "His true entrepreneurial work in the field of recycled water benefited not only the District, but also the State of California and parts of the world as well," said Bill George, EID's Board President, as he presented the resolution to Hazbun.

EID General Counsel Tom Cumpston commented that "Albert is an exemplar of vision. He always has the long range and big picture in view and is able to communicate that vision and stay true to the vision without getting distracted, and that's not easy to do. He has taught me the importance of maintaining and pursuing the vision. He has made a lot of people better professionals because of it."

Hazbun will also be honored with a bronze plaque, donated by friends and colleagues, to be placed at the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant for his many contributions to the District's recycled water program.

Q & A about EID's Recreation Facilities

EID's Communications and Community Relations Director Mary Lynn Carlton talks with EID Parks and Recreation Supervisor Cheri Jagers



Can you please provide a brief historical overview of Sly Park?

The American River Act of October 14, 1949, signed into law by President Harry Truman, authorized the construction of the Sly Park Unit by the United States

Bureau of Reclamation. The Unit was designated to augment the District's existing water system, due to a growing demand for water for agriculture and a growing population. Originally, the District had a ditch conveyance system as its water source. The Sly Park Unit included the construction of Sly Park Dam and Reservoir (now known as Jenkinson Lake), Camp Creek Diversion Dam and Tunnel, and conduits used to convey, treat, and store water delivered from Sly Park's Jenkinson Lake. The project was completed in 1955 as a detached unit of the Central Valley Project. Sly Park was operated by EID under contract from the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) from 1955 until the District purchased it on December 23, 2003. The reservoir holds over 40,000 acre-feet of water, but to guard against drought, EID calculates its annual water yield at 20,920 acre-feet annually. More of Sly Park's history can be found in the new EID history brochure located on our website.

What makes the park so attractive and how many people visit it each year?

Sly Park Recreation Area serves more than 400,000 visitors annually. Every year, EID's Sly Park Recreation Area and the District's other recreation sites rank among the most popular destinations for campers, hikers, boaters, anglers, equestrians, photographers, and all-around nature lovers. Visitors can enjoy Sly Park as well as the other EID facilities at Silver Lake, Caples Lake, and Forebay Reservoir.

The District is proud to host the thousands of families and friends who visit our recreation sites. And we're proud to serve our customers, who enjoy the high-quality water we deliver from Sly Park's cool, clear Jenkinson Lake and from reservoirs at higher elevations that supply both drinking water and water to run our hydroelectric power generation facilities.

Day-use picnic areas are located throughout the park area. One large day-use area is located a half mile from the gatehouse entrance, and all are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

How many campsites and how many miles of trails does the park have? Can you rent recreational equipment at the park?

Sly Park features six group camps, equestrian campsites, an

event center, a scout camp, and eight family campgrounds that contain a total of 191 individual sites, each with a picnic table, fire ring, and barbecue.

Sly Park Recreation Area offers over eight miles of hiking, mountain bike, and equestrian trails. Trailhead parking is located four miles past the gate at Hazel Meadow. This location is best for hiking to the waterfall. A second trailhead parking lot, Bumpy Meadows, is located just past the second dam on Mormon Emigrant Trail.

Kayaks, paddleboats, and canoes can be rented on weekends at the Stonebraker boat launch between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Why does EID provide recreational facilities for the public and what does this have to do with EID's core businesses?

EID is mandated by the Project 184 hydroelectric license to operate Silver Lake West Campground, Silver Lake boat launch and day use facilities, Caples Lake boat launch facilities, and Forebay Reservoir.

Recreation is directly related to our core business of water. All of our recreational facilities are located near, at, or on EID drinking water sources.

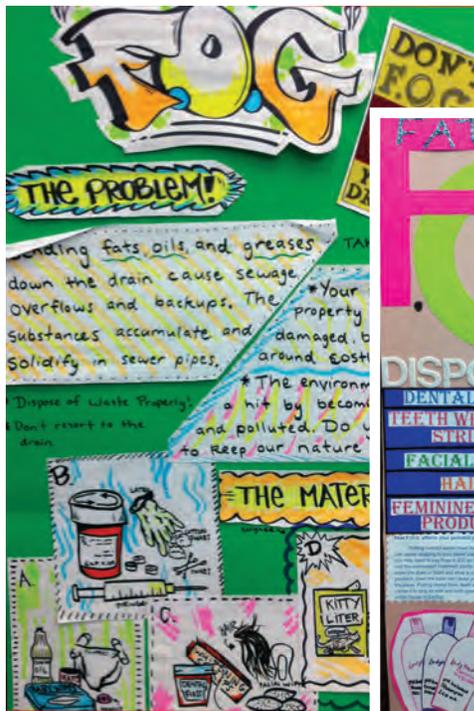
We recognize the need to manage recreation uses in a manner that preserves the high quality of water. Recreation's mission is to provide financially and environmentally sustainable recreation opportunities to District residents and visitors while protecting water quality and the natural and cultural resources of recreational lands.

Please tell me about EID's other recreational facilities?

Our facilities at Silver and Caples Lakes serve more than 100,000 visitors annually. At Silver Lake we have day-use facilities at our boat launch and have 42 campsites at Silver Lake West campground. The new Caples Lake boat launch facility, which opened in 2010, also has day-use facilities. Additionally, we have a day-use facility at Forebay Reservoir in Pollock Pines.



Top: Jenkinson Lake is a popular destination for campers, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts
Middle: Marina at Jenkinson lake
Below: Hazel Meadow was recently restored to a functioning meadow. The meadow includes a boardwalk and educational plaques that explains the role of a healthy functioning meadow in naturally filtering water that goes into the lake



The students' posters depict what should not go down the drain, including FOG and other household items



Ponderosa Chemistry Students Study FOG

For the second year in a row, students in Carl Gwyn's chemistry classes at Ponderosa High School learned about the damage FOG (fats, oils, and grease) can do if sent down the drain. The students are required to research the problem (with a little help from the EID website) and develop posters that show what not to send down the drain.

Carl developed the lesson after participating in an externship at EID in 2010. The externship program is a county-wide career technical education partnership funded by a grant from the California Department of Education.

RECREATION, continued from page 3

I understand that Sly Park has won numerous awards. Can you tell me about some of them?

Sly Park Recreation Area was voted the "Best Recreational Facility" for the fifth year in a row in the 2011 *Mountain Democrat* Readers' Choice survey. Sly Park was also voted "Favorite Kid's Activity" by the El Dorado County Foothills *Style* magazine

How does the park pay for its operations?

Park operational costs are wholly funded from the recreational fees paid by park visitors.

How do I purchase an annual pass?

Annual passes may be purchased online, by mail, or in person. Passes are also sold at the park entrance gatehouse.

Why does the District restrict dogs and other domestic animals from going into Jenkinson Lake?

As mentioned earlier, in 2003 EID purchased Jenkinson Lake from Reclamation. This change also transferred oversight of the lake from federal to state authority. The State of California does not allow body contact in drinking water reservoirs. Jenkinson Lake is one of approximately six drinking water reservoirs with an exemption from the "no body contact" regulation. When the legislation was passed in 2006 allowing body contact to continue at the lake, certain legislative conditions

were imposed. The conditions were: 1) to provide fencing and buoys at the second dam to protect the drinking water intake, 2) not allowing domestic animals in the water, and 3) not allowing diapers of any sort in the water. Violations of these conditions could result in the revocation of the "no body contact" exemption. "No body contact" is defined as no wading, swimming, or boating (kayaks, rafts, fishing boats, etc.) of any kind for people or dogs. Obviously, it would be devastating if we lost the exemption, so it is very important for park staff to enforce the rules.

Tell me about the park's event center. I understand it's a nice place to rent for all types of gatherings.

Event center visitors can enjoy a scenic outdoor wooded setting with lake views. Outside the facility there is plenty of room for up to 100 guests. There's a barbeque area as well as picnic tables and a large deck overlooking the lake. Inside, the house can hold up to 50 people. There is one large room and a smaller room, as well as a full kitchen with a stove, refrigerator, and microwave.

To make a camping or event center reservation, or for more information about Sly Park and the District's other recreational facilities, please visit our website at www.eid.org.

2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
9	13	12	9	14	11	—	13	10	9 (T)	13 (T)	10
23	27	26	23	29 (T)	25	23	27	—	22	—	—

Board meetings generally occur on the second and fourth Monday of each month. The dates marked (T) take place on a Tuesday.

The Waterfront is written and designed by EID's Communications and Community Relations Department.