Commemorative Gold Edition of California’s Water Now Available

A commemorative Gold Edition featuring all 25 segments of the California’s Water series is now available from the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA).

Produced by iconic public television personality Huell Howser and underwritten by ACWA and its member, the first-of-its-kind series has taken viewers on an educational journey through California water since its launch in 2006. Over the course of the series, Howser visited water agencies from one end of California to the other, seeing water from every angle and getting a first-hand look at canals, water recycling plants, reservoirs, cutting-edge treatment facilities and even water-efficient toilets.

Howser died in January, just weeks after announcing his retirement.

"This is an excellent way to learn about California's water, which is truly complex in nature," said EID Director of Communications and Community Relations Mary Lynn Carlton. "Those who are interested in learning more about this fascinating subject should not miss this opportunity to purchase the series. It is an especially good resource for students."

This special, limited edition boxed set is priced at $30 (including shipping) and can be ordered by visiting ACWA’s website at www.acwa.com/catalog/74. Proceeds from the sale will benefit a scholarship fund honoring Howser, called the "California's Gold Scholarship Endowment." The fund will award scholarships to students who demonstrate a positive outlook and are actively pursuing ways to improve society as altruistic change agents.

Water Tours this Summer

For the fourth year, EID invites you to tour its El Dorado Hills water treatment plant. Please join us at 10:00 a.m. on either Wednesday, July 17 or Wednesday, August 21. Both tours last about two hours. Tours are limited to 25 participants, so be sure to reserve your spot today by going to our website reservation page under About Us > Community Outreach > Join a Tour. Or, call Jim Murphy at (530) 642-4045 or e-mail at adaordinator@eid.org.

If you need an ADA accommodation, please call 72 hours in advance to (530) 642-4045 or (916) 965-0930. EID’s ADA Coordinator can be reached by phone at (530) 642-4045 or e-mail at adaordinator@eid.org.

2012 Water Quality Reports Available

EID maintains three water systems—two small systems that supply the unincorporated communities of Strawberry (approximately 40 miles east of Placerville on Highway 50) and Outingdale (approximately 15 miles southeast of Placerville), and the main system, which covers the rest of EID’s service area. Scan the QR codes below with your smartphone or tablet to read the 2012 water quality report for your community.

The reports are available on the EID website at www.eid.org or may be requested by calling (530) 642-4000 or (916) 965-0930.

Scheduled 2013 Regular Board Meetings

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, it is the policy of the El Dorado Irrigation District to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the number or address below at least 72 hours prior to the meeting or when you desire to receive services. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. The District ADA Coordinator can be reached by phone at (530) 642-4045 or e-mail at adaordinator@eid.org.

Noel Russell, senior construction maintenance worker in the drinking water division, was awarded the H.R. LaBounty Safety Award from the Association of California Water Agencies-Joint Powers Insurance Authority.

Noel has been an employee with the District for eighteen years and regularly contributes in making safety and operational improvements. The award recognizes his contribution toward the installation of fixed ladders on the sides of District dump trucks, effectively eliminating a serious fall hazard for those performing work.

"Noel’s safety improvement idea is an excellent example of personal responsibility and integrity," said EID Safety and Security Officer Ron Kilburg. "One of EID’s core guiding principles is 100% safety, so it’s really gratifying to see this recognition for Noel, who, along with his colleagues, really take this principle to heart."
Jim Abercrombie

With 2013 proving to be a second consecutive dry year for most of California, it does not bode well for the region’s water supply. Fortunately for EID and our customers, we are not facing the same outlook this summer as others around us. This is due to the fact that in anticipation of another dry year earlier in the year, we took the proactive measure of topping off Jenkinson Lake with water from our Project 184 system (from South Fork American River, Caples Lake, Echo Lakes, Lake Aloha, and Silver Lake) with about 4,000-acre-feet of water. Although this reduced the amount of revenue we could generate at our hydroelectric plant, we felt that it was a prudent thing to do so as to ensure that we had ample amounts of drinking water for this summer. We also have good supply in our other reservoirs, which will help us get through the hot summer months to come.

“...we also have good supply in our other reservoirs, which will help us get through the hot summer months to come.”
—Jim Abercrombie

Q & A: Wastewater Facilities Master Plan

The WWFMP was approved by the EID Board of Directors on May 28. What is the purpose of the plan and how does it tie in with the District’s Integrated Water Resources Master Plan (IWRMP)? The goal behind the WWFMP is to develop a comprehensive plan that provides a roadmap for cost-effective planning and implementation of future infrastructure, and maintenance of existing wastewater treatment facilities.

The IWRMP—approved by the Board in March—is the planning document for the water side. Taken together, the two plans allow EID to more effectively respond to infrastructure expansion and maintenance needs, as well as respond to any future demands as approved through the El Dorado County’s General Plan.

What are some of the key issues the WWFMP addresses? During the development of the WWFMP, three key issues were addressed. One focuses on wastewater discharge alternatives and future role of recycled water. Since 1999, demand for recycled water has steadily increased. In the El Dorado Hills community of Services were built with dual pipes—a water supply for the household and recycled water (purple pipes) to irrigate exterior landscapes. Current requirements at our Deer Creek wastewater treatment facility require us to discharge a minimum of 1.0 million gallons per day of tertiary treated effluent to Deer Creek. This represents a significant volume of recycled water that could be used to meet the increasing recycled water demand. In fact, to meet maximum day demands in the recycled water system, the District has to support the Project costs currently with potable water. The District is actively pursuing termination or reduction of the discharge requirement to Deer Creek.

Another key issue identified was future regulatory requirements. This is an uncertain area for the District but one that we monitor and engage closely. Things like salinity, metals concentratons, and other contaminants may require additional advanced treatment processes to be added to the WWFMP. We actively engage in the stakeholder process by writing letters during the public review period of proposed legislation and policies, and providing testimony at hearings of the State Water Resources Control Board. While the District doesn’t like regulation and resulting impacts to our wastewater facilities, we have been successful with using science-based approaches to mitigate some metal and other constituent limitations. Also, we have written and sponsored legislation that reduces regulatory impacts on the District.

The Wastewater Facilities Master Plan (WWFMP) has built on the success of prior programs—such as the Project 184 Program—which will help us to save more water today. And remember, EID’s water waste regulation (Administrative Regulation 1041)—which gives the District the ability to enforce prohibitions against water waste—is in effect all year around. The WWFMP has been designed to level the playing field for the District and its customers.

These actions taken together have saved millions of dollars in wastewater facilities that otherwise would have had to be built to be in compliance with our discharge permits.

The third key issue addressed in the plan is aging infrastructure. The District’s collection system dates back to the 1960s and pipelines and lift stations are reaching the end of their useful life. The package of improved infrastructure and the results of which were included in the WWFMP—that better allows the District to understand and incorporate the necessary repairs to maintain a safe and operable conveyance system.

Can you talk a bit more about how the plan takes into account future growth? It’s important to remember that capacity building in the WWFMP is based on the county’s approved General Plan; it is dependent on actual growth and demand and is scalable. The plan will be updated regularly to ensure planned projects are right-sized and right-timed to meet any approved growth.

What are the next steps for implementing the WWFMP? All of the capacity-related facilities included in the plan will be scheduled to correspond with actual development in the El Dorado Hills and Deer Creek collection systems. Repairs to and replacements of existing facilities are prioritized and folded into our regular capital improvement planning process. Those are the real drivers of the plan.

How does a “roadmap” document like the WWFMP help the District and its customers? The WWFMP along with the IWRMP provides a comprehensive plan to address the District’s evolving needs—to coordinate system improvements with recommended replacement activities and create an affordable and sustainable capital improvement program. This flexibility will ensure the District maintains a safe and secure and right-sized collection and treatment system now and into the future.

To read the 2013 Draft Wastewater Facilities Master Plan, go to the EID website document library and look under “Master Plans...”
With 2013 proving to be a second consecutive dry year for most of California, it does not bode well for the region’s water supply. Fortunately for EID and our customers, we are not facing the same outlook this summer as others around us. This is due to the fact that in anticipation of a possible dry year earlier in the year, we took the proactive measure of topping off Jenkinson Lake with water from our Project 184 system (from South Fork American River, Caples Lake, Echo Lakes, Lake Aloha, and Silver Lake) with about 4,000-acre-feet of water. Although this reduced the amount of revenue we could generate at our hydroelectric plant, we felt that it was a prudent thing to do so as to ensure that we had ample amounts of drinking water for this summer. We also have good supply in our other reservoirs, which will help us get through the hot summer months to come.

“...We also have good supply in our other reservoirs, which will help us get through the hot summer months to come...”

—Jim Abercrombie

Because a drought can occur in our area in any given year, EID has developed a very detailed drought plan which we update regularly. The EID Drought Action Plan was originally developed by EID employees in conjunction with members of a citizens’ advisory committee that included representatives from the El Dorado County Citizens’ Advisory Committee and the El Dorado County Water Agency.

The drought plan identifies specific drought “triggers,” which are indicators that tell us when we need to take certain steps to start additional conservation measures or other actions to prepare us for drought conditions. One such trigger is our reservoir storage levels at certain times of the year, as compared with our historical levels during those same periods. Because of the good supply of water in our reservoirs in this time period, we do not anticipate formally implementing any part of our drought plan this year. However, if these dry conditions persist through next winter and spring, we may need to re-evaluate the water storage levels and may need to implement our drought plan.

Even though we are not currently calling for formal implementation of our drought plan, we still recommend that you use water efficiently. We offer many water efficiency tips on our website at www.eid.org on the Water Efficiency page. You may also schedule an in-person complimentary water survey for your home or business by calling our water efficiency staff at 530-642-4126.

Q & A: Wastewater Facilities Master Plan

The WWFMP was approved by the EID Board of Directors on May 28.

What is the purpose of the plan and how does it tie in with the District’s Integrated Water Resources Master Plan (IWRMP)? The goal behind the WWFMP is to develop a comprehensive plan that provides a roadmap for cost-effective planning and implementation of future infrastructure, and maintenance of existing wastewater treatment facilities.

The IWRMP—approved by the Board in March—is the planning document for the water side. Taken together, the two plans allow EID to more effectively respond to infrastructure expansion and maintenance needs, as well as respond to any future demands as approved through the El Dorado County’s General Plan.

What are some of the key issues the WWFMP addresses? During the development of the WWFMP, three key issues were addressed. One focuses on wastewater discharge alternatives and future role of recycled water. Since 1999, demand for recycled water has steadily increased. In the El Dorado Hills community of Services were built with dual pipes—a water supply for the household and recycled water (purple pipes) to irrigate exterior landscapes. Current requirements at our Deer Creek wastewater treatment facility require us to discharge a minimum of 1.0 million gallons per day of tertiary treated effluent to Deer Creek. This represents a significant volume of recycled water that could be used to meet the increasing recycled water demand. In fact, to meet maximum day demands in the recycled water system, the District has to supplement wastewater treatment process with some potable water. The District is actively pursuing termination or reduction of the discharge requirement to Deer Creek.

Another key issue identified was future regulatory requirements. This is an uncertain area for the District but one that we monitor and engage closely. Things like salinity, metals concentrations, and other contaminants may require additional advanced treatment processes to come in the future. We actively engage in the stakeholder process by writing letters during the public review period of proposed legislation and policies, and providing testimony at hearings of the State Water Resources Control Board. While we don’t like regulation and resulting impacts to our wastewater facilities, we have been successful with using science-based approaches to mitigate some metal and other constituent limitations. Also, we have written and sponsored legislation that reduces regulatory impacts on the District.

The Wastewater Facilities Master Plan (WWFMP) focuses on wastewater treatment facilities. The goal is to prepare a comprehensive plan that is expected to influence the District’s wastewater strategy for decades to come. The WWFMP is a great example of how EID aligns its goals with those of its customers. This plan allows EID to anticipate and prepare for the expected growth of our service area. It also helps EID to maintain a safe and reliable sewer system.

Who is responsible for the WWFMP? The WWFMP is led by the District’s General Manager, Jim Abercrombie, along with the District’s planning, engineering, and water resources staff.

What is the next step for implementing the WWFMP? The next step for implementing the WWFMP is the District’s IWRMP, which is the comprehensive water supply plan for the District. The IWRMP includes plans for water supply, treatment, distribution, and demand management.

How do we know what changes are necessary to make these systems more efficient? The WWFMP uses data collected over time to identify areas where improvements can be made. This data includes information about the existing facilities, customer use, and environmental regulations.

What is the expected timeline for implementing the WWFMP? The expected timeline for implementing the WWFMP is several years, depending on the scope of the project. This timeline is influenced by factors such as funding availability, regulatory requirements, and customer needs.

Why is this plan important to our community? The WWFMP is important to our community because it helps ensure that EID can meet the needs of our growing customer base while protecting the environment. It also helps us plan for future needs and make informed decisions about our wastewater treatment facilities.

Q & A: Water Efficiency

Did You Know? The EID website contains a wealth of information and links to educational resources for local teachers, students, and anyone with an interest.

Click on About Us > Community Outreach > Educational Resources and you’ll find links to student and teacher resources as well as water efficiency materials and resources.

EID works closely with community partners around the region. The links contained on the website provide teacher and student resources to find materials, lesson plans, and workshops at no cost.

Help Save California’s Water Now

While EID’s water supply looks good for this year, our state is facing severe water challenges, and many communities and ecosystems are suffering as a result.

State and local water managers are working on long-term solutions, including investments in our water infrastructure. But in the meantime, California needs every drop of water it can get, which is why we all need to do more to conserve water. Doing everything we can to save water today will go a long way toward helping our water supply situation while we move ahead with the necessary long-term fixes.

The good news is that it’s not difficult to save water in our daily lives—small changes in our daily habits can make a big difference for California.

For example, did you know that the typical Californian uses much more water outdoors than indoors? Watering the lawn, washing cars, and cleaning off the driveway and patio use much more water than you might think. Simple changes to our behavior, such as watering only when your landscape needs it or using a broom instead of the hose on the driveway, can add up to big water savings for the state.

And remember, EID’s water waste regulation (Administrative Regulation 1041)—which gives the District the ability to enforce prohibitions against water waste—is in effect all year under all conditions.

So join in this statewide effort to save California’s water. Plant water-wise landscaping, install a SMART irrigation controller, and take shorter showers. More tips may be found on our website. These are just a few of the easy ways we can all help to “save our water.”

These actions taken together have saved millions of dollars in wastewater facilities that otherwise would have had to be built to be in compliance with our discharge permits.

The third key issue addressed in the plan is aging infrastructure. The District’s collection system dates back to the 1960s and pipelines and lift stations are reaching the end of their useful life. The District initiated a condition assessment program—the results of which were included in the WWFMP—that better allows the District to understand and incorporate the necessary repairs to maintain a safe and operable conveyance system.

Can you talk a bit more about how the plan takes into account future growth? It’s important to remember that capacity building in the WWFMP is based on the county’s approved General Plan; it is dependent on actual growth and demand and is scalable.

What are the next steps for implementing the WWFMP? All of the capacity-related facilities included in the plan will be scheduled to coordinate with actual development in the El Dorado Hills and Deer Creek collection systems. Repairs to and replacements of existing facilities are prioritized and folded into our regular capital improvement planning process. Those are the real drivers of the plan.

How does a “roadmap” document like the WWFMP help the District and its customers? The WWFMP, along with the IWRMP, provides a comprehensive plan to address the District’s evolving needs—to coordinate system improvement with recycling water facilities and conveyance infrastructure sized to accommodate growing populations. It addresses the future role of the District’s recycled water program and describes how the recycled water is a valuable water supply for the District since it offsets potable water demands. It addresses the reality of maintaining the aging assets we have—it gives us a framework within which we can prioritize projects based on critical condition levels. It also allows us the flexibility to regularly update the plan to account for changing conditions, allowing for improvements with recommended replacement activities and create an affordable and sustainable capital improvement program. This flexibility will ensure the District maintains a safe and secure and right-sized collection and treatment system now and into the future.

To read the 2013 Draft Wastewater Facilities Master Plan, go to the EID website document library and look under “Master Plans.”
Commemorative Gold Edition of California’s Water Now Available

A commemorative Gold Edition featuring all 25 segments of the California’s Water series is now available from the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA). Produced by iconic public television personality Huell Howser and underwritten by ACWA and its members, the first-of-its-kind series has taken viewers on an educational journey through California water since its launch in 2006. Over the course of the series, Howser visited water agencies from one end of California to the other, seeing water from every angle and getting a first-hand look at canals, water recycling plants, reservoirs, cutting-edge treatment facilities and even water-efficient toilets.

Howser died in January, just weeks after announcing his retirement.

“This is an excellent way to learn about California’s water, which is truly complex in nature,” said EID Director of Communications and Community Relations Mary Lynn Carlton. “Those who are interested in learning more about this fascinating subject should not miss this opportunity to purchase the series. It is an especially good resource for students.”

This special, limited edition boxed set is priced at $30 (including shipping) and can be ordered by visiting ACWA’s website at www.acwa.com/catalog/74. Proceeds from the sale will benefit a scholarship fund honoring Howser, called the “California’s Gold Scholarship Endowment.” The fund will award scholarships to students who demonstrate a positive outlook and are actively pursuing ways to improve society as altruistic change agents.

Water Tours this Summer

For the fourth year, EID invites you to tour its El Dorado Hills water treatment plant. Please join us at 10:00 a.m. on either Wednesday, July 17 or Wednesday, August 21. Both tours last about two hours. Tours are limited to 25 participants, so be sure to reserve your spot today by going to our website reservation page under About Us › Community Outreach › Join a Tour. Or, call Jim Murphy at (530) 642-4045. Or email EID’s ADA Coordinator at adaordinator@eid.org.

If you need an ADA accommodation, please call 72 hours in advance to (530) 642-4045. Or email EID’s ADA Coordinator at adaordinator@eid.org.

Scheduled 2013 Regular Board Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15 (T)</td>
<td>12 (T)</td>
<td>12 (T)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

EID Crews Ready to Respond Year Round

Did you know that EID’s field crews are ready to respond to customer emergencies day or night every day of the year? The crew is made up of highly skilled employees who jump into action when emergencies arise at any hour of the day to assess the situation, make repairs, and get District services up and running as quickly as possible.

A large portion of the District’s infrastructure was built 50 to 75 years ago and many of the original pipelines and other facilities have reached the end of their useful life. EID has embarked on an aggressive capital improvement program to replace or repair the aging infrastructure. But we know we can’t do it all at once, and sometimes the result is a broken water main or a leaking sewer line. Sometimes it’s just an unexpected natural occurrence—a big storm may cause damage to a canal or flume, or cause flooding which impacts the collection systems. When that happens, our crews are ready to make immediate repairs.

In addition to being prepared for an emergency situation field crews regularly conduct preventative maintenance on water and sewer pipelines and the distribution and collection systems, monitor water quality per stringent government regulations, read and perform maintenance on meters, oversee cross-connection control and recycled water programs, inspect new water service/water main installations, and monitor water flow levels.

“EID’s collection and distribution system is extensive and requires regular and ongoing maintenance and repair,” said EID Director of Operations Tom McKinney. “Our employees are highly trained and ready at a moment’s notice.”

By having skilled crews available on call to respond immediately to emergencies, EID customers benefit with shorter outage times. If you experience an emergency in your service, please call (530) 622-4513 or (916) 965-0930.

EID Employee Receives Safety Award

Noel Russell, senior construction maintenance worker in the drinking water division, was awarded the H.R. LaBounty Safety Award from the Association of California Water Agencies–Joint Powers Insurance Authority.

Noel has been an employee with the District for eighteen years and regularly contributes in making safety and operational improvements. The award recognizes his contribution toward the installation of fixed ladders on the sides of District dump trucks, effectively eliminating a serious fall hazard for those performing work.

“Noel’s safety improvement idea is an excellent example of personal responsibility and integrity,” said EID Safety and Security Officer Ron Kilburg. “One of EID’s core guiding principles is 100% safety, so it’s really gratifying to see this recognition for Noel, who, along with his colleagues, really take this principle to heart.”