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“No body contact is defined as not allowing wading, swimming, or boating of any kind for people or dogs,” said Hawkins. “Obviously, it would be devastating if we lost the exemption, so it is very important for park staff to enforce the rules.”

Additional Lakes and Recreational Sites

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.

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2016 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

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Board meetings generally occur on the second and fourth Monday of each month. The date marked (T) take place on a Tuesday. Dates with an asterisk are tentative.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, if you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an alternative format or if you require any other accommodation at the ADA Coordinator of 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) 642-4013 or e-mail at adacoordinator@eid.org.

Visit beautiful Sly Park Recreation Area

Camping and recreation for the whole family!

4771 Sly Park Road, Pollock Pines, California (530) 295-6810 • www.eid.org/recreation

Owned and operated by El Dorado Irrigation District

www.eid.org • El Dorado Irrigation District • 2890 Mosquito Road • Placerville, CA 95667 • 530-622-4513 | 916-965-0930
During its March 28 meeting EID’s Board of Directors voted to rescind the drought emergency that has been in continuous effect since February 4, 2014. In fact, the board would have unanimously rescinded its drought declaration entirely were it not for the state’s mandate to continue to implement the district’s drought contingency plan.

For now, we are maintaining the Stage 2 Water Warning, which includes the 24 percent conservation mandate and restrictions on certain uses of potable water. We are doing this solely because the state requires that we do it. But the state mandates do not adequately take into account regional differences in supply.

For EID and other water purveyors in our region, the drought is over.

The district has returned to normal water supply conditions. Our largest reservoir at Jenkinson Lake, which holds a two-year supply, is full and spilling. Folsom Lake is making flood-control releases and will likely fill this year. Every reservoir upon which the district relies is full or will fill, and EID anticipates again having surplus water available for transfer in 2016.

Due to our customers’ superb performance when called to conserve, the district has exceeded the 24 percent conservation mandate and restrictions on certain uses of potable water mandated by the State Water Resources Control Board since June 2015.

Throughout the drought, beginning with the first dry year in 2012, the district has been able to serve its customers without risk of shortage. And in 2015—in the depths of the drought—EID was able to transfer surplus water (water that would otherwise have been lost to downstream users) to an agricultural water purveyor in central California, enhancing the non-rate revenues that we use to help pay down debt and fund needed infrastructure reinvestments.

In addition to customer conservation, EID has developed a reliable water supply in part due to the district’s investment of many millions of dollars to build infrastructure and prudently manage its robust water portfolio.

Our greatest drought-management challenge at this point is explaining to our customers why they must still conserve when there is no reason to believe that we will be short of water to serve them. The short answer is, we believe that we will be short of water to serve them. The short answer is, we believe that we will be short of water to serve them.

The Facts on Leaks

It is estimated that ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.

The average household’s leaks can account for over 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year.

Every year, EID’s recreation sites rank among the most popular destinations for campers, hikers, boaters, anglers, equestrians, photographers, and all-around nature lovers. Sly Park Recreation Area, located in Pollock Pines, serves more than 400,000 visitors annually. In 2015—for the ninth consecutive year—Sly Park was voted “Best Recreation Facility” by readers of the Mountain Democrat newspaper, as well as “Best Campground” on the KCRA 3 A-List.

Recreation Opportunities Abound

Whether you come to camp, or just spend the day hiking and enjoying the scenery, the amenities around Sly Park’s Jenkinson Lake are hard to beat. 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.

Camping opportunities are plentiful. Sly Park features six group camps, equestrian campsites, an event center, a scout camp, and eight family campsites that contain a total of 191 individual sites, each with a picnic table, fire ring, and barbecue.

There is access to 30 miles of hiking, mountain bike, and equestrian trails around the lake and in the surrounding Eldorado National Forest land. Trailhead parking is located throughout the park. Visitors wishing to hike to the waterfall should use the Hazel Creek Meadow day use area, which is located four miles past the gatehouse entrance. Additional trailhead parking is located just past the second dam on Mormon Enigmant Trail at Bumpy Meadow.

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Getting on the water is a breeze and there are many opportunities to rent kayaks, paddleboats, stand-up paddleboards and canoes on weekends at the Stonebraker boat launch between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day.

“EID takes pride in hosting the many thousands of families and friends who visit our recreation sites,” said EID Parks and Recreation Manager Greg Hawkins. “Not only do these facilities serve a vital role in our water and hydroelectric systems, but they are also the places where generations of our visitors return again and again to make lasting memories.”

Not only does it have beautiful facilities for recreation, Jenkinson Lake at the heart of Sly Park Recreation Area represents a vital component in EID’s drinking water system.

“Recreation is directly related to our core business of water,” said Hawkins. “All of our recreation facilities are located at or near EID drinking water sources and we recognize the need to manage recreational uses in a manner that preserves the high quality of water. Recreation’s continuing mission is to provide financially and environmentally sustainable recreation opportunities for our visitors while protecting water quality and the district’s resources.”

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When EID purchased Jenkinson Lake from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for $1.5 million in 1976, it was a relatively unknown destination, much like the current-day state of California drought planning. It was a time when the state had not yet implemented its 24 percent conservation mandate and restrictions on certain uses of potable water.

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There is also a day-use facility at Forebay Reservoir in Pollock Pines. Forebay includes a delightful picnic area with fishing access. Forebay Reservoir—a no-body-contact reservoir—was created to regulate water flow to EID’s hydroelectric power generation facility. But it is also a great daytime recreation spot, perfect for barbecues, quiet walks, and fishing. The area is located on Forebay Road in Pollock Pines, just off Pony Express Trail at Highway 50’s Sly Park Road exit. The area is open from dawn to dusk.

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Drought Update—EID in Good Shape

Since water conservation became mandatory by order of the State Water Resources Control Board in June 2015, EID customers have cumulatively reduced water use by 30 percent compared to 2013. This result exceeded our 28 percent target, and continues to exceed our new 24 percent reduction target. EID pressed for and received a climate credit that reduced our conservation mandate in early April 2016. As this newsletter is going to press, EID is still required to reduce its water consumption by 24 percent through October 2016.

On April 20, the State Water Board is soliciting input on whether to relax or rescind the order Governor Brown issued in the spring of 2015. At that meeting, EID is requesting elimination of the drought declaration to return authority to EID to manage its water supply portfolio. The State Water Board will announce its proposed revisions to the policy in early May.

At this time, the district continues to be under a Stage 2 Water Warning and watering restrictions are in place. From April 16 through May 31, customers can water twice weekly with the schedule that is based on their address ending number.

For the most current updates, please keep an eye on the EID drought page at www.eid.org/drought. To read more about how EID is pressing for more regional control to manage the drought, turn to page two and read the Message from the General Manager entitled “Restore Local Control for Drought Management”.

The graphs above show (at left) EID’s compliance tracking numbers that are transmitted to the state each month. On the right is the current (as of April 18) status of Jenkinski Lake, EID’s primary drinking water reservoir.

Your Water Quality Report is Now Available Online

Each year, EID provides its customers with an annual water quality report to let you know how our water quality stacks up against established federal and state drinking water standards. We encourage you to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to your community in 2015.

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 to the right with your smartphone or tablet to read the 2015 water quality report for your community. Or go to the following addresses.

MAIN SYSTEM: www.eid.org/main
OUTINGDALE: www.eid.org/outingdale
STRAWBERRY: www.eid.org/strawberry

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.