

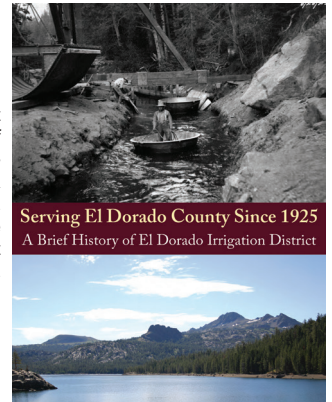


The Waterfront

95 Years of Service to the Community

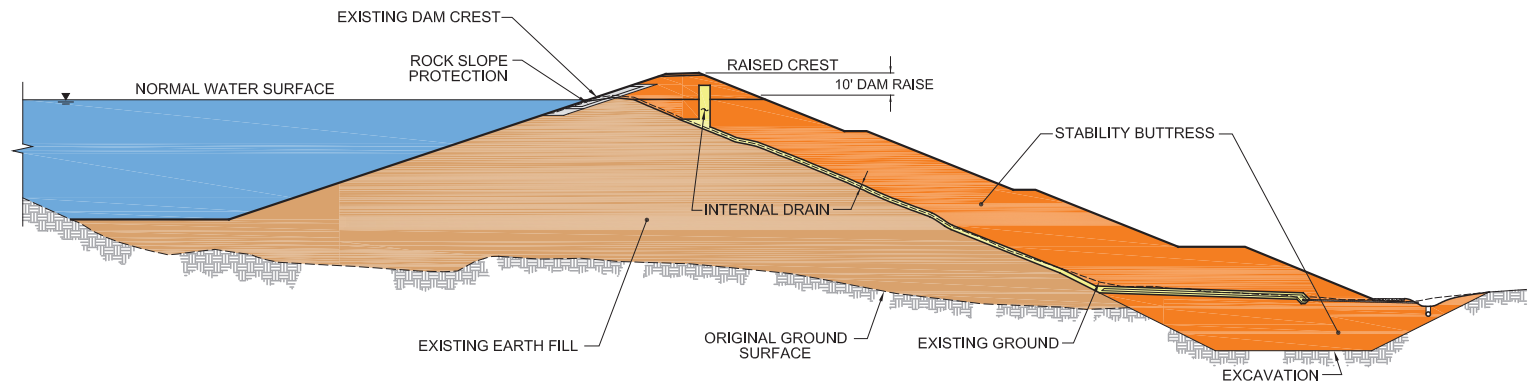
For almost a century, El Dorado Irrigation District has been at the heart of this community, providing the water (and later) wastewater service that more than 125,000 people in El Dorado County rely on. Reliable operation requires 230 pressure-regulating zones as our service area ranges from 500 feet in elevation to more than 4,000 feet. The water system contains more than 1,106 miles of pipeline, 27 miles of ditches, 5 treatment plants, 36 storage tanks and reservoirs, and 38 pumping stations. The wastewater systems operate more than 450 miles of sewer lines, 60 lift stations, and four treatment facilities. Though we have come far in the past 95 years, adding recycled water and hydroelectric generation and recreation services, our aim is always to serve our community the safe, reliable services they deserve. We look forward to doing it another century and beyond.

Read a short history of EID by scanning the QR code with a smart phone or tablet camera



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

Forebay Dam Modification Project Complete



After three years of work, the El Dorado Forebay Dam Modification Project has come to an end.

"This has been a significant work of engineering and construction," said EID General Manager Jim Abercrombie. "The newly raised dam will benefit our customers and community in important ways now and for decades to come. Generations in our community will benefit from improved water supply reliability, increased power generation revenues, and recovered storage capacity in the reservoir."

The work completed has brought the near century-old facility up to current dam safety standards as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and State Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). The primary improvement is constructing an earthen stability buttress and raising the dam 10 feet (shown in orange on graphic above) that both strengthens the dam and increases its storage capacity.

The El Dorado Forebay Dam and Reservoir, constructed in 1923, is a key part of the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project. Forebay, located in Pollock Pines, is an off-stream reservoir that regulates water for drinking, irrigation and hydroelectric power purposes. The sources of water conveyed into Forebay include the South Fork American River and from four upper watershed reservoirs: Caples and Silver Lakes located along Highway 88, and Echo Lake and Lake Aloha near Highway 50.

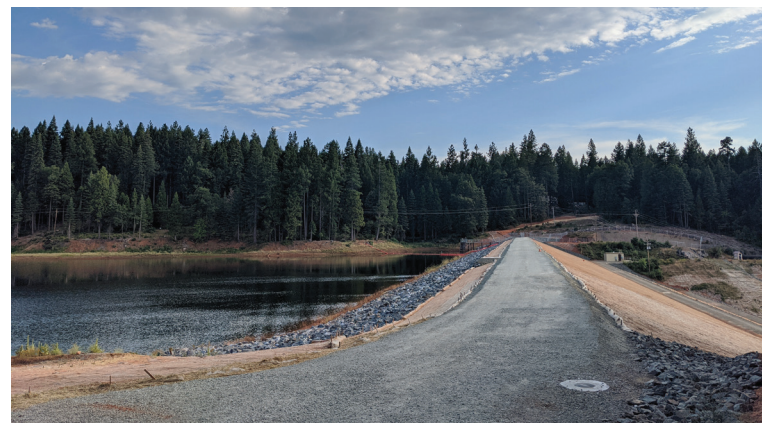
Water is diverted from the South Fork American River at the El

Dorado Diversion Dam in Kyburz and conveyed through the 22-mile-long El Dorado Canal.

Forebay's water is utilized for both hydroelectric power generation and water supply. The water supply portion is released from Forebay into EID's Upper Main Ditch and conveyed about three miles to Reservoir 1 water treatment plant, where it is treated and delivered to customers from Pollock Pines all the way to El Dorado Hills.



Scan QR code at right with a smart phone or tablet camera to watch a Forebay construction video





Message from the General Manager

Delivering Essential Services for 95 Years

Jim Abercrombie

As I write this column, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the lives of our families, our friends, and the communities we live in. I want to express my deepest respect and thanks to the front line “essential” workers who work to keep important services available. I thank the nurses and medical personnel who care for us in our times of need, the teachers who work with our communities’ children, as well as law enforcement and firefighting personnel.

There are many more who work every day to keep important services available. I want also to acknowledge the essential women and men at El Dorado Irrigation District. I am proud of the work our staff performs to ensure safe, reliable drinking water and wastewater treatment is available 24 hours a day, year round for EID’s customers.

As I look at the rest of 2020 and into 2021 and beyond, I am encouraged by where we are heading in addressing EID’s aging infrastructure.

Earlier this year, the EID's board of directors made the tough but necessary decision to adopt a five-year rate schedule that includes moderate increases.

The rate revenue will help pay for important projects that our customers depend on like the \$42 million Folsom Lake intake project, which accounts for a third of EID’s entire water supply. Those modest rates will also help fund needed flume replacements in our high-country Project 184 hydro system—a system that provides water from high elevations to our water treatment plants and is distributed to Pollock Pines, Placerville, Shingle Springs, Cameron Park, and El Dorado Hills.

Those rates will help us fund the recently approved construction of a three-mile stretch of the Upper Main Ditch. This section of ditch, from Forebay reservoir to our Reservoir 1 water treatment plant in Pollock Pines has been identified as a project that will benefit our entire service area. Not only does it increase water quality as it comes into the plant, it decreases costs of treatment, and has the potential to save 1,800 acre-feet of water per year.

This kind of savings goes a long way toward meeting state-imposed requirements for water conservation and water loss. Water that travels through this facility can serve communities all the way to El Dorado Hills. Reducing the levels of E. coli and the input of impurities in the raw water is good for everyone and is an industry best practice.

Rates help pay for the bonds that financed our recently completed Forebay Dam modification. Regulators required a dam that meets modern safety standards and between 2017

and this year crews worked diligently to raise Forebay’s dam 10 feet. Now we have a dam that meets safety standards and also increases our emergency water supply storage from less than a day to six days. It also allows us to increase hydroelectric power revenues by around \$300,000 every year. And this dam will last generations and provide those benefits now and continuing into the far future.

All of these projects have high costs. Thankfully, in concert with the rate adjustments, we have managed to refinance much of our current portfolio of debt. Much like refinancing a home for a more favorable payment, our refinancing effort resulted in a net present savings of almost \$17 million over the life of the debt.

95 Years of Service

The year 2020 also marks a milestone for the District. This is the ninety-fifth year that EID has been in business. On October 5, 1925—77 years after Marshall discovered gold—El Dorado County residents voted to form El Dorado Irrigation District. The reasons? To protect water rights, ensure a secure water supply, keep irrigation rates reasonable, and increase the value of agricultural lands. In those days, water was also essential to gold mining as well. Water rights became more precious than the gold that was mined from the local mountainsides and streams.

Many things have changed over the years, as our service area transformed from mostly agriculture to increasingly offering water, wastewater, and recycled water service to more than 125,000 residents in El Dorado County. As the years have passed, we have aimed at balancing the increasing needs of our aging infrastructure with balanced, right-sized, fiscally conservative approaches to repairing and replacing our communities’ vital assets.

Our dedication to providing safe, reliable service is unwavering. It has been for generations, and it will continue to be for another 95 years and beyond.

“We have managed to refinance much of our current portfolio of debt. Much like refinancing a home for a more favorable payment, our refinancing effort resulted in a net present savings of almost \$17 million over the life of the debt.”

Upper Main Ditch Piping Project Approved by EID Board

Construction Activities to Start Fall 2020

On August 24, 2020, EID's Board of Directors awarded a construction contract to Steve P. Rados, Inc. for the Upper Main Ditch Piping Project. The project will replace the three-mile section of the Upper Main Ditch with a buried pipeline located primarily within Blair Road. The new pipeline will convey raw water from Forebay Reservoir to the Reservoir 1 water treatment plant located in Pollock Pines for treatment and distribution to EID customers throughout its service area. The map below shows the Upper Main Ditch and the new pipeline alignment.

The project has numerous benefits to EID customers including protecting drinking water quality, reducing water loss from seepage and evapotranspiration, improving water reliability, and reducing operations and maintenance costs. EID appreciates everyone's patience and support while we complete this very important infrastructure improvement project.

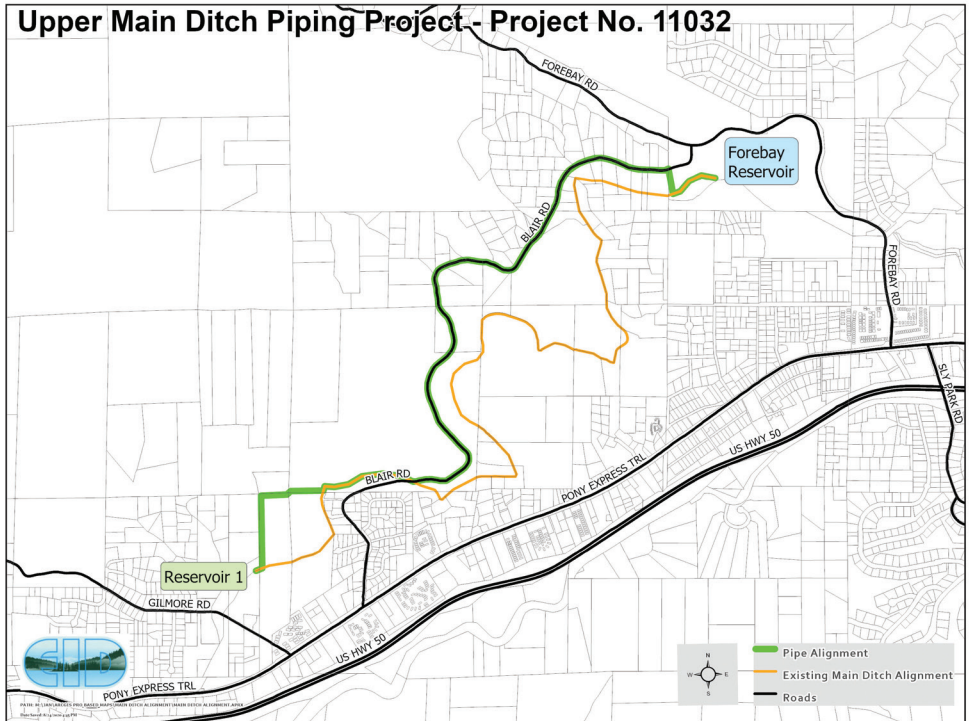
Construction activities are planned to begin in the fall of 2020 and will proceed until weather conditions halt work. Work planned for 2020 involves clearing vegetation and preparing areas along the alignment for pipeline installation. Project work on Blair Road is anticipated to start in the spring of 2021 and proceed through November 2021. During this time, there will be temporary road closures along Blair Road in order to facilitate installation of the pipeline.

EID is committed to minimizing inconvenience to the community and has required the contractor to maintain access for residents and emergency vehicles during construction. The final construction activity associated with the project is the repaving of Blair Road, which is expected to occur in the spring of 2022.

The original project design would have installed a new pipeline within the existing ditch alignment. However, early in the public outreach efforts, EID received comments raising concerns regarding installing a pipeline within the Upper Main Ditch. In an effort to address these concerns, the District evaluated other alternative alignments including the current Project alignment. Installing the pipeline primarily in Blair Road minimizes the number of trees to be removed and also minimizes construction activities along the Upper Main Ditch.

Updates for the project will be posted on EID's project website at www.EID.org/MainDitchProject. To receive email updates, please sign up to receive notice that updates have been posted to the project website, please sign up for eNotifications at www.EID.org/eNews and select the Main Ditch Project category.

If you have additional questions regarding the project you may email the project team at MainDitchProject@EID.org or call 530.642.4513 and ask for a project representative for the Main Ditch Project.



Above: The project alignment for the Upper Main Ditch Piping Project. Middle: The ditch is an earthen, unlined conveyance that requires regular removal of debris. Below: Piping the ditch will reduce the levels of impurities introduced into the water and treatment costs will be reduced.

Public Safety Power Shutoff Preparations

The EID Board of Directors, recognizing the need to ensure uninterrupted power at critical EID facilities, authorized the purchase and installation of a number of backup electrical generators at critical sites. While EID's backup power resiliency has increased in response to PG&E's PSPS program, EID encourages everyone to prepare for possible multi-day outages. Backup power is just that, something meant to provide limited-duration power in emergency situations. In the event of a PSPS event, we ask our customers to reduce water use so that demand on the overall system is lower. But being prepared for extended outages is always prudent. The following list includes important steps you can use in your planning process.



- Have an emergency supply of drinking water available.
- During a power outage, minimize water usage to only critical health and safety needs to help EID maintain service to its customers.
- Plan for medical needs such as medications that may require refrigeration or devices that need power.
- Identify backup charging methods for phones and keep hard copies of emergency numbers.
- Build or restock your emergency kit with flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies, and cash.
- Sign up for alerts about PSPS events by going to <https://PrepareForPowerdown.com>.
- Subscribe to updates on the EID website under eNews Sign Up, "like" our Facebook page @EIDoradoIrrigationDistrict, and ensure your contact information on file with us is up to date.

EID is committed to providing the continued 24/7 service our customers rely on throughout potential power outages. However, since the extent of PG&E's outages will not be fully known until the day of the event in response to localized weather conditions, it is not possible to know in advance where potential interruptions to water and wastewater services could occur.

EID will notify customers immediately prior to and during PSPS events when we obtain information from PG&E regarding outage locations and are able to evaluate how such outages are anticipated to impact our ability to maintain drinking water and wastewater treatments services.

To help ensure we can maintain communication on this important public safety matter we ask customers to ensure that they have accurate contact details on file with us. You may email our customer service group at billing@eid.org, call them at 530-642-4000, or visit our website at www.eid.org/UpdateMyAccount to update your information.

Public Participation in Board Meetings

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order (EO) N-29-20, which waives certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act). Specifically, EO N-29-20 waives the requirements that local public agencies:

Board meetings are available to join via Zoom or by phone. Instructions are included in each board agenda. The agendas are posted to the EID website at www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors/meetings-agendas-and-minutes.

Prioritizing Leak Repairs

When an EID customer or community member reports a leak, EID dispatchers first determine if the leak is in our service area. If it is, then dispatch notifies a water distribution operator who schedules a site visit. Very large breaks that create-or have the potential to create-large outages or cause damage to property are treated as emergencies and crews are sent to the site immediately.

Sometimes a member of our community will notice a small leak that may go unfixed for a longer period. Due to finite resources and staff, sometimes it's necessary to put off a fix in order to focus on more pressing project elsewhere. To report leaks you can call 530-642-4000 or visit our website at www.eid.org/ReportWaterLeak.



2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
13	10	9	—	11	8	13	10	14	13 (T)	9	14
27	24	23	27	26 (T)	22	—	24	—	26	—	—

Board meetings generally occur on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Dates marked (T) are scheduled on Tuesdays.



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) 642-4013 or e-mail at adacoordinator@eid.org.

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