



PID NEWS

2021 PID NEWSLETTER

As the Patterson Irrigation District (PID or District) rolls into the New Year, it's time for the annual newsletter and District update. Provided in this newsletter are features about PID staff, updates from what happened in 2020, major project updates, action that the Board took in 2020, a recap of operations for 2020 and a projection for 2021.

Staff Anniversaries

Jim Boschi – DSO – 27 years
Steve Trinta – Operations Supervisor – 17 years
Toni Russell – Secretary/Treasurer – 15 years
Joe Silva – Mechanic – 15 years
Allan Hooper – Mechanic – 10 years
Ethan Dias – DSO – 8 years
Joseph Martin – Maintenance – 6 years
Vince Sottile – Maintenance – 5 years
Vince Lucchesi – GM – 4 years
David Gragg - Maintenance – 2 years
Darrel Worthy - Maintenance – 1 year

Featured Employee – Jim Boschi

The 2021 newsletter is featuring Jim Boschi. There aren't many people around the Patterson area who don't know Jim. Jim has been a staple with the Patterson Irrigation District since 1994 and hasn't wavered in his service and commitment to his job since then. Prior to coming to PID, Jim worked various jobs such as working for farmers in the area driving tractor, farming for himself, and Silva Machine and Welding as a welder.

In 1994, Jim started as a temp pump man then later became a full-time DSO. Some of his hobbies include hunting and watching football. Mainly the Tennessee Titans. One thing Jim enjoys the most about the district is operating the heavy equipment. He enjoys being a team player and helping his coworkers to get the job done.



The District would like to extend a Thank You to Jim Boschi and all he has accomplished in his years employed with PID.

Aquatic Herbicides

In 2020, the District continued the aquatic herbicide program with the goal to 1) eliminate or reduce the need to chain the canals, which will reduce the impact to the integrity of District facilities; and 2) reduce the amount of vegetation that grows along the bottom of PID's canals that plug up flow meters and reduce the capacity of conveyance facilities. The herbicide program included the application of Teton herbicide into PID's conveyance facilities. Neighboring irrigation districts use the same chemicals to address aquatic weeds and feel that it is a better approach than to chaining canals.

For 2020, the Aquatic Herbicide program was more successfully implemented than in 2019. Through most of the summer months, the program was successful in reducing the need to chain. It was observed that during the peak of the summer, the treatments could not keep up with the growth of the pond weed and algae and moss. At that point, staff switched to chaining, herbicide treatment and dipping road crossings where the algae and moss built up.

Looking forward in 2021, Staff will be making modifications with the application rate, attempting to treating the moss buildup on road crossings, in addition to dipping the road crossings where the moss and algae building up. The District will continue to chain the canals when needed, implementing a modified program and applying the herbicide in a scheduled manner.

Capital Improvement Project #1 – Marshall Pump Station Relocation

The Capital Improvement Plan Adopted at the November 20, 2019 Board meeting set the stage for how the District will prioritize major capital improvements for the District barring any major facility failure. Project #1 from the capital improvement plan was to relocate the pump station at 3 South and Marshall into the Marshall Reservoir. This pump station relocation had the highest benefit to investment under the capital improvement plan.

This pump station and its location was part of the original design of the 2-Drains Project. Although experts informed the District at the time of design that the location of the pump station was sufficient and would operate successfully, 3 South was never able to keep up with the Pump Station. Therefore, the need to relocate the pump station would allow the full benefits of the pump station and 2-Drains to be realized. Currently, the pump station is under construction. It is anticipated that the pump station will be fully operational by March 1st barring any weather or equipment delays.



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New Contract With United States Bureau of Reclamation

On December 16, 2016, the 114th Congress of the United States of America enacted the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act. Included in the act was various funding mechanisms for storage projects, funding for restoration projects and also provisions for the conversions of Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Supply Contracts into repayment contracts. Repayment contracts would allow the contractor to payoff their share of the construction debt associated to the construction of the CVP. The money that is from repayment of the agreements will be dedicated to funding storage projects.

PID, being a CVP contractor, had the opportunity to enter into the repayment contract with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). In 2018, PID began the process into

enter a repayment agreement. By October 26, 2020 PID fully executed the contract and paid back \$1,273,192 in debt. Therefore, PID now has a perpetual agreement with USBR for water supply from the CVP.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

In 2014, the California State Legislature passed comprehensive groundwater legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In adopting that act, the Legislature intended to provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater. The act anticipates that each affected groundwater basin or sub-basin will be regulated separately by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies. Groundwater sustainability under the act is to be achieved through groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies, or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or sub-basin. The District is within the Delta-Mendota groundwater sub-basin, which is bounded by the coast range to the west, the San Joaquin River to the east, and extends from Tranquility north to Tracy.

From 2020 through 2025, PID will be working on collecting data and evaluating:

- groundwater in the upper unconfined aquifer,
- the relationship between the San Joaquin River and groundwater in PID,
- groundwater in the lower confined aquifer also known as sub-Corcoran, and
- extraction information for all irrigation wells within PID.

The data collected and evaluated in the coming years will help paint a better picture of what is happening beneath our feet. With the evaluations and data collected, projects and programs may be developed with the intention to prevent or reduce the need to restrict pumping within PID's boundaries. However; due to the limited data within our area the data collection effort will be substantial. In the event that an issue becomes apparent in the next 5 years, PID will work on determining means for action to work towards sustainability without causing significant impacts to water users.

Landowners within PID have been notified that the PID GSA is requiring all irrigation wells to have a flow meter installed to aid in the monitoring in extractions of groundwater within the PID GSA. A few landowners have responded, however, well owners are to be reminded of the new policy and the requirement to register their wells with PID to allow PID staff to check extractions of their respective wells.

New Policies

In 2020, the PID Board of Directors modified the Rules and Regulations to address certain deficiencies regarding issues that arose during the year:



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- Payments and Collections, which addresses what staff are to do when an account becomes delinquent:
 - If an account is delinquent, but owes less than \$10 on water, they will be allowed to get water, however the District will be finance charging the account due to the delinquency.
 - Finance charges, the District has set a floor for the finance charges at \$2.
- Well meter policy – All irrigation wells within the PID GSA are now required to be registered with the District and to have flow meters installed. This policy is intended to help better understand the quantity of water being extracted within the GSA. This information will combat assumptions being computed that may show PID has more groundwater being extracted than reality.

End of Year Evaluation

For 2020, the District Budgeted Operating Costs (District expenses not including capital improvements and costs for transfer water) at \$3.9 million (\$309/acre for 12,660 District acres). With a 1 acre-foot per acre allocation, the District generated roughly \$1.5 million (\$113/acre) from PID growers and landowners. At the end of the year, the unaudited expenses put the District at operating costs of approximately \$3.1 million (\$241/acre); which translates to a \$1.7 million subsidy to PID growers, or a subsidy of approximately \$128 per acre.

For 2020, the District allocated 1 acre-foot per acre with the expectation of some outside sales and no wheeling. It was projected that the District would lose or subsidize growers water rates by \$2.4 million. As the year progressed, the District's staff worked to constrain costs and to transfer and wheel what the District could.

The information below is an unaudited summary of District operations for 2020:

2020 WATER DELIVERIES (AF)	
Allocated Water	11,526
Excess Water	21,059
Out of District	1,231
Wheeling to DMC	13,104

2020 BUDGETED FINANCIAL	
Budgeted Operating Expenses	\$3,996,346
Budgeted Non-Operating Expenses	\$508,321
Budgeted Capital Expenses	\$1,018,855
Budgeted 9(d) Contract Conversion	\$1,300,000

2020 BUDGETED FINANCIAL	
Budgeted Internal Revenues	\$1,471,455
Budgeted External Revenue	\$4,557,327
Total	(794,740)

2020 FINANCIAL ¹	
Operating Expenses	\$3,148,865
Non-Operating Expenses	\$908,821
Capital Expenses	\$928,769
9(d) Contract Conversion	\$1,273,192
Internal Revenues	\$1,470,914
External Revenue	\$8,186,263
Total	\$3,397,530

Note: 2020 Financials are estimates and draft until the audit is complete

2021 Outlook

WATER SUPPLY: As we move into the 2021-22 water year, it's early to estimate exactly how much rain and snow will arrive this winter and spring, considering that the rainy season for the area runs from November through April. Water supply forecasts are putting our region in a critical condition, with limited runoff and rainfall. Critical conditions in the San Joaquin River means that the District's diversions will be limited. Water in the River will be warm and thus more moss and algae can be anticipated than previous years. In addition, water quality in the River will also be poorer which can create a hotbed in District canals for pond weed, moss, and algae.

Current 2020 projections estimate CVP contractors will receive an allocation in the range of 0-10% depending on San Joaquin River hydrology through spring. These translate into revenue projections for the District. A lower allocation provides more opportunities to wheel water and generate revenue from water transfers; inversely, a higher allocation lowers revenue-generating opportunities.

OPERATIONS: For 2021, special operations outside of delivering water and general maintenance efforts include:

- Staff will continue with a more aggressive Teton schedule with attempting different approaches to help alleviate the moss and algae growth,
- The District will begin work on Project #2 of the Capital Improvement Plan, a northside recharge and recirculation project, and
- The District will complete the re-design of 2N lateral between Magnolia and Loquat and put the project out to bid for construction in the fall.