



PID NEWS

2023 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 2022, major project updates, action that the Board took in 2022, a recap of operations for 2022 and a projection for 2023.

Staff Anniversaries

Steve Trinta – Operations Supervisor – 19 years
Toni Russell – Secretary/Treasurer – 17 years
Joe Silva – Mechanic – 17 years
Allan Hooper – Mechanic – 12 years
Ethan Dias – DSO – 10 years
Joseph Martin – DSO – 8 years
Vince Sottile – DSO – 7 years
Vince Lucchesi – GM – 6 years
Darrel Worthy - Maintenance – 3 years
Greg Reichmuth – DSO – 2 years
Juan Ramirez - Maintenance – 2 years
Adelaide Etheridge - Maintenance – 1 year



Featured Employee – Ethan Dias

The 2023 newsletter is featuring Ethan Dias. Ethan came to PID in April of 2013 with going on 10 years of dedicated service. Ethan likes working at PID because it's close to home, he has a flexible work schedule, and he enjoys the people he works with. Ethan grew up in Patterson, with most of his family still living in the area. Like most of his family, Ethan is a farmer.

Prior to PID, Ethan was farming with his family. Ethan's hobbies include Jeeping, working on his Jeep and fixing it up, playing at farming, camping, going to Kennedy Meadows, and target shooting.

Ethan's breadth of experiences and knowledge has been a huge asset to the district and has helped make water operations successful on the southside of the District. The District would like to extend a Thank You to Ethan and all he has accomplished in his years employed with PID. And we look forward to many more years with Ethan.

Drought

With 2020 being dry, 2021 being the lowest precipitation year on record, and 2022 being awful with teases of rainfall then complete dryness, California was parched. Reservoirs being depleted and little snowpack led to 2022 being one of the most difficult year to navigate. The San Joaquin River was at its lowest levels in years and temperature and water quality became an issue due to the limited water in the River. In addition, from August 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted emergency regulations that allowed them to curtail water rights in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watersheds. These emergency regulations granted the State Water Resources Control Board the authority to curtail for up to an entire year based upon their water unavailability tool that they developed internally and diversion reports made in 2018. This Emergency Regulation extended into 2022 and even 2023.

To navigate 2022, staff worked on having water in storage to mitigate diminished pumping off the San Joaquin River in addition to reliance on our wells. The Two Drains Project ran nonstop and was a life saver during the critical months of June, July and August. In July we had higher demand than capacity with the operations crew working tirelessly to get growers water, PID did not have to ration any in-district water user.

Looking into 2023, with the emergency regulations in place, the State Water Resources Control Board may impose curtailments at any point in the water year. However, the December January, and February rains and snowpack, its anticipated that we may very well be okay for 2023. However, there's no guarantee the State Water Resources Control Board will implement the curtailments, especially considering the precipitation and snow pack we currently have. PID still has water in storage in the event that the State imposes some kind of curtailment.

Capital Improvements

In regard to construction, PID completed the 2N pipeline project and piping between Sperry and Poppy avenues for M lateral. These projects were a huge help in maintenance efforts. However, no other large projects were commenced into construction for winter 2022 in anticipation that some larger projects may go to bid in 2023.



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In regard to design, in mid-2022 PID retained the services from Dahl Consulting to design the final pump station and pipeline from the end of the Main Canal to the Delta-Mendota Canal. This effort is just for the design services to have the project shovel ready in the event funding becomes available. The pump station will be designed to pump up to 165 cubic-feet per second (cfs) in concert with the 35 cfs that Pumping Plant No. 6 can do. In addition, the pump station will be able to return up to 165 cfs back down from the DMC to be able to serve PID entirely off the Delta-Mendota Canal. PID is only designing the pump station in the hope that in the future after the completion of the Main Canal Rehabilitation Project, we may be able to move forward with construction of this project if funding is available.

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.

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.

One requirement that PID is requesting, is that landowners within PID that own 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.

In January of 2020, the Delta-Mendota Sub-Basin submitted its first iteration of the six GSP's and respective common chapter summarizing all plans. On January 21, 2022 the Delta Mendota Sub-Basin was notified that its plans were deemed incomplete and the Sub-Basin had 180 days to make

amendments and resubmit the plans. After a frantic six months, the amended GSP's were submitted to DWR on July 20, 2022 for a final determination. We still await a final determination with the hopes that the plans will be deemed complete.

In the event DWR deems the GSP's for the Delta-Mendota Sub-Basin to be incomplete, the State Water Resources Control Board will step in to perform its own independent evaluation of the plans to determine if they agree with DWR's determination. If the State Water Resources Control Board determines consistency with DWR, the GSPs will need to make amendments and prepare for a public hearing. The Sub-Basin will be evaluated together and no individual GSP will be treated differently, even if their plan is sufficient.

End of Year Evaluation

For 2022, the District Budgeted Operating Costs (District expenses not including capital improvements and costs for transfer water) at \$4.9 million (\$129/acre-foot after the assessment). With a 0.5 acre-foot per acre allocation and a water rate of \$45 per acre-foot, the District generated roughly \$2.05 million from PID growers and landowners. At the end of the year, the unaudited expenses put the District at operating costs of approximately \$4.7 million (\$124.71/acre-foot after the assessment); which translated to a \$2.7 million subsidy to PID growers, or a subsidy of approximately \$85.96 per acre-foot.

The 2022 subsidy would not be possible without the efforts of PID with transferring surplus water at opportune times not impacting operations. These transfers were only made possible through the agreements made to allow PID to pump into the Delta-Mendota Canal, and the agreements made with the United States Bureau of Reclamation for water supply impacts from the construction of the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project. These transfers maintain the subsidy and the low rate water users within PID enjoy.

For 2022, the District allocated 0.5 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 \$2.9 million. As the year progressed, the District's staff worked to constrain costs and to transfer and wheel what the District could, however as the drought progressed, pumping costs, water purchases, and storage and conveyance costs with the Delta-Mendota Canal required budget adjustments to ensure growers were getting water.

The information below is an unaudited summary of District operations for 2022:



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2022 WATER DELIVERIES (AF)	
Allocated Water	5,738
Excess Water	31,536
District Wheeling	334
Out of District	815
Wheeling to DMC	670

2022 BUDGETED FINANCIAL	
Budgeted Operating Expenses	\$4,891,385
Budgeted Non-Operating Expenses	\$129,300
Budgeted Capital Expenses	\$3,753,600
Budgeted Internal Revenues	\$2,045,305
Budgeted External Revenue	\$2,095,962
Total	(4,956,620)

2022 FINANCIAL ¹	
Operating Expenses	\$4,726,834
Non-Operating Expenses	\$181,448
Capital Expenses	\$2,222,108
Internal Revenues	\$1,987,313
External Revenue	\$8,086,543
Total	\$2,943,466

Note: 2022 Financials are estimates and draft until the audit is complete

2023 Outlook

WATER SUPPLY: As we move into the 2022-23 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 possible above normal.

2022 was critical on the San Joaquin River and PID experienced water availability, water quality, temperature and pond grass and algae problems. In addition, PID was curtailed due to these critical conditions. Its hopeful with the strong storms and snow pack that water quality will improve on the River and the temperatures will slow the growth of the aquatics.

Current 2023 projections estimate CVP contractors will receive an allocation in the range of 35% 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 2023, special operations and efforts 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 continue work on Project #2 of the Capital Improvement Plan, a northside recharge and recirculation project,
- The District is going to start construction on the Pumping Plant 4 and 5 improvements for the Main Canal Rehabilitation Project;
- Continue the Design of the expanded DMC pump station; and,
- The District may go into construction on:
 - A pipeline along Pear Avenue as a relief for lateral 3 South.
 - Pipeline of Lateral 4N between Las Palmas and 1st Street (Capital Improvement priority number 7)

Mark Your Calendars
2023 Grower Workshop

A grower informational meeting is scheduled for April 14 at 9 am at PID's shop at 948 Orange Avenue. At this meeting, there will be a presentation recapping 2022, a discussion on SGMA, and projections for 2023.