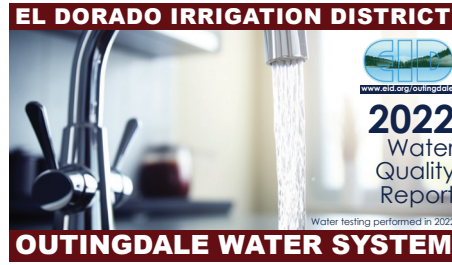




The Waterfront



The District operates three water systems, the main system serves the majority of our customers

2022 Water Quality Reports Available

Each year, EID provides its customers with an annual water quality report (sometimes referred to as a consumer confidence 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 2022.

For more information about the sources of your water, read the 2022 water quality report for your community by visiting the following web addresses or scanning the QR code with your smartphone or tablet camera.

- Main System:** www.eid.org/main
- Outingdale:** www.eid.org/outingdale
- Strawberry:** www.eid.org/strawberry



Where Your Water Comes From

EID maintains three water systems and has rights to approximately 75,000 acre-feet (an acre-foot equals one acre of land covered by

a foot of water; there are 325,851 gallons in an acre-foot) of water from various sources in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

Jenkinson Lake, at the center of Sly Park Recreation Area in Pollock Pines, provides nearly one half of our main system's water supply.

The main water system runs from El Dorado Hills to Pollock Pines and encompasses the majority of EID's service area, providing water to more 131,000 people.

The Outingdale system provides water from the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River to approximately 535 people in the small community of Outingdale, about 15 miles southeast of Placerville.

The Strawberry system provides water from the upper South Fork American River to approximately 400 people in the community of Strawberry located about 40 miles east of Placerville along Highway 50.

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

Program Helps With Water/Wastewater Bills

EID is enrolled in the Federal Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). This program allows District customers to request assistance from the LIHWAP, a federal program that provides financial assistance to low-income Californians to help manage their residential water utility costs and ensure low-income households have access to safe and clean water.

EID has been made aware of changes to the LIHWAP that will increase relief for Californians facing large past due water and sewer bills. The program will now be able to assist customers in paying current bills and/or bills that are past due. Any income-eligible family will be able to apply for water and sewer assistance. Families will receive benefit amounts based on their income and household size.

The maximum benefit for approved LIHWAP Arrearage Assistance has increased from \$2,000 to \$15,000. Local Service Providers (LSPs) can now approve applications for assistance with past-due bills that exceed \$2,000.

Please visit www.eid.org/lowincome for links to additional information and resources. To apply for assistance, please contact the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency at 530-621-6150 to schedule an appointment. Their office is located at the Placerville Senior Community Center at 937 Spring Street, Placerville, CA 95667. You can also visit their website for more information at www.edcgov.us/heap.

Would You Like Help Paying Your Water Bill? LIHWAP Can Help

The El Dorado County Low Income Household Water Assistance Program can assist you in paying your water and wastewater bills.

ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS

- El Dorado County resident
- Have a current water bill or waste water bill
- You must meet the income guidelines or currently be receiving CalWorks, CalFresh and or LIHEAP

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Current water bill or waste water bill
- Proof of income for all household members 18 or older
- Government issued ID for the applicant
- Proof of citizenship for the applicant

HOW TO APPLY

- Fill out an application
- Obtain all necessary documents

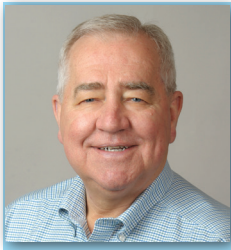
To submit your application please call for an appointment
530-621-6150

Gross Annual Monthly Income Guidelines	
Household Size	Maximum Monthly Income
1	\$2,700.17
2	\$3,531.00
3	\$4,361.83
4	\$5,192.75
5	\$6,023.59
6	\$6,854.43

For more information or to pick up an application, please call 530-621-6150 or visit the Health and Human Services Agency, HEAP Program, 937 Spring Street, Placerville, CA 95667.

For more information call 530-621-6150 or visit our website at edcgov.us/heap

Placerville Senior Center, 937 Spring St, Placerville



Message from the General Manager

Customer Investment Makes EID's Vital System Resilient and Secure

Jim Abercrombie

As we head through spring toward summer, EID's water situation has strengthened as we have experienced record-breaking snowfall in the Sierra Nevada. The Sierra snowpack is our largest "reservoir" and this year's snowpack is impressive. So much so that Governor Newsom ended some water restrictions in late March. At its April 24 meeting, the EID board of directors approved ending the District's Stage 1 Water Alert, which had previously requested 15% voluntary conservation from our customers.

I would like to thank our customers and community for their positive efforts and the overall excellent response to the call for voluntary reduction in water use during the water alert.

In earlier editions of the Waterfront, we have focused some attention on large capital improvement program (CIP) projects like the replacement of the Silver Lake Dam and the need to keep up with recoating or rehabilitating some three dozen drinking water tanks throughout the district's service area.

In this issue I'll highlight flume replacement. Flumes are above-ground water conveyances that are a part of EID's 22-mile-long canal and flume system. Approximately one-third of EID's water supply flows through them. Each year we invest several millions of dollars to strengthen and make more resilient these vital arteries.

The Caldor Fire showed how vulnerable wood-constructed flumes can be—a common building material employed across California's gold country for over a century and still in use today. Unfortunately, four flumes were destroyed during that intense fire in 2021, and as a result, the District has redoubled its efforts to replace this important infrastructure with more resilient concrete flumes.

To ensure the continued functioning of these systems, including projects like flume replacement, EID implements a robust CIP that includes various projects and initiatives aimed at upgrading and maintaining infrastructure, increasing operational efficiency, and meeting regulatory requirements. The CIP is a long-term plan that outlines projects and initiatives over a five-year period, with annual updates and revisions to ensure the district's needs are met.

One such project on our horizon is the replacement of 3,339 feet of EID's Flume 46. This wooden flume is located in hard-to-access terrain east of Placerville perched above Highway 50. In terrain like this, with few access roads, helicopter is the only means of bringing in materials so we are looking for more economic alternatives. But even those are expensive. In our CIP, Flume 46 is anticipated to cost \$30 million. The article on page three gives even more detail about these important water conveyances and what it will take to keep them functioning, safely and reliably.

While the CIP is an essential component in ensuring reliable

service, it requires significant funding to implement. EID funds its CIP through a combination of sources, including grants, loans, and rates. Rates are necessary to provide sufficient revenue to fund capital projects, operations, and maintenance costs. Rates are based on the actual cost of providing service, and EID's board of directors approves them after a thorough review of the district's finances and operational needs.

As many across our service area know, inflation has had a significant impact on a wide variety of materials and services that have begun to impact our ability to pay for needed projects without adjusting rates.

EID, like other public utilities, funds most of its operations through direct rates or charges for services provided. The rate, or fee, is established by the agency and, under state law, must be reasonable and directly reflect the cost of providing that service. With costs rising, we must again have a close look at how current rates must change to reflect our ongoing service needs. In light of that, the District has initiated a cost of service study during 2023 to evaluate its rates.

The cost of service study, which is led by outside experts with direction from the board of directors and staff, will help us refine proposed rate adjustments that will be outlined in the Proposition 218 process later this year. We will continue to provide information to our customers about why these rate changes are needed and where we will invest the funds. In the Proposition 218 notice, which will be mailed to all customers, we will also detail how each customer rate class will be affected.

The District and its employees know the impact of rate adjustments, the vast majority of us live and work in the communities we serve. We also see, every day, the need to repair and replace the facilities we all rely on around the clock.

We are committed to using our customers' investments carefully and transparently. The facilities that bring water from high in the Sierra, as well as the pipelines that connect our vast infrastructure and the plants and other facilities that allow us to deliver safe and reliable service will benefit from our customers' investment.

Using an average asset life of about 50 years, the District needs to plan to replace/rebuild approximately two percent of its

“We are committed to using our customers' investments carefully and transparently. The facilities that bring water from high in the Sierra, as well as the pipelines that connect our vast infrastructure and the plants and other facilities that allow us to deliver safe and reliable service will benefit from our customers' investment.”

Customer Rates Fund Vital Projects: Flumes

Flumes are a vital component of El Dorado Irrigation District's complex water conveyance system.

They deliver up to 15,080 acre-feet—approximately one-third of EID's total drinking water supply—to EID's customers through a 22-mile-long canal and flume system that is part of EID's federally licensed hydroelectric project (Project 184).

The El Dorado Canal system is the primary means of supply to the northern portion of EID's service area and also contributes significantly to supplying the rest of EID's 220-square-mile service area and the more than 125,000 people who rely on our services.

The majority of the canal system is constructed on a bench occupying a relatively steep, north-facing slope. This exposed location has been subject to failure, primarily due to natural events including occasional disasters caused by fire and landslide. The recent Caldor Fire, where four sections of flume were destroyed, underscores EID's need to convert the wooden flumes to concrete and harden this important conveyance against further risk.

To rebuild these vital water conveyances is costly and difficult. The location of the flumes makes helicopter sometimes the only method to access and place equipment and materials.

Each year, the condition of the wooden flumes along the El Dorado Canal is assessed. EID staff identifies flume sections that are high priority for replacement in order to remain in service. Additional flume sections are identified for replacement in the five-year capital improvement plan and it will be important to remain diligent in addressing these assets to avoid potential failures and outages.

Flume replacement and repairs are performed during the district's outage period from October 1 to mid-December each year. Large and complex flume projects may be constructed in phases over multiple scheduled canal outages.

EID has steadily worked to replace the wooden flumes with concrete canals where feasible and cost-effective. EID continues to undertake work every year through its capital improvement plan. With such vital water infrastructure located in areas that have been continually threatened by wild-fire, the effort to find additional funding and advance the schedule of replacement is ongoing.



Estimated Project Costs

\$84 million for the following projects:

- Flume 13 (**\$9 million**)
- Flume 45 Section 1 (**\$19 million**)
- Flume 45 Section 3 (**\$12 million**)
- Flumes 45A, 46A, 47A, 47B (**\$4 million**)
- Flume 46 (**30 million**)
- Flume 48 (**\$10 million**)

Safety

EID's flume and canal system runs through steep terrain above Highway 50 for much of its length. Catastrophic failure of the flumes could also damage this vital transportation artery as it did in April of 1983, when a massive landslide destroyed 3,610 feet of the system and major portions of the highway.

Impact

Flume replacement significantly reduces the risk of catastrophic failure and enhances EID's ability to meet peak water demands for the more than 125,000 residents who rely on our services.

► **GM COLUMN, continued from page 2**

assets annually. Oftentimes sewer line and emergency water pipe repairs must take top priority when they occur. However, with careful planning and vigilance in preparing a reasonable and efficient capital improvement program, the District can ensure that the community’s water, sewer, and recycled water system are in safe working order.

When we invest in the (mostly) unseen infrastructure that provides safe and reliable drinking water, collects and treats wastewater from homes and businesses, and treats and distributes recycled water, the district is helping to strengthen this community infrastructure to last for our grandchildren’s grandchildren, and beyond.

What can we do to pay for these needed projects? Utilities like EID can increase rates sufficiently to pay cash up-front for projects as they are needed and we do this to a degree already, but as you can imagine, rates would go up exponentially if EID chose to pay for everything this way. Instead we obtain bonds (loans) similar to how a home mortgage is secured and carefully and methodically pay off the costs of that investment over time.

Further, it is not equitable for current ratepayers to bear the full cost of facilities and infrastructure that will benefit multiple generations. Therefore, using bonds allows future customers to pay their portion, along with accumulated interest, once they connect to the system in the future.

Some customers may ask if we can just delay construction projects. While it would lower the debt burden, it would also lower the service reliability—something that no one wants. We know that many years of delayed reinvestment in the system can (and has) affected the community negatively in terms of unreliable service and decaying infrastructure.

No one wants to find our community facing public health and safety challenges like inadequate fire protection and drinking water quality or unreliable service. And my commitment and conviction is to make sure that doesn’t happen. Public safety—safe and reliable drinking water and protecting public health and the environment through effective wastewater collection and treatment—is EID’s top concern at all times and we simply cannot compromise on that.

District Financial Documents Serve as Roadmap to Resilience

EID's annual comprehensive financial report is a thorough and detailed look at the District's finances.

The report includes a financial overview, discussion of the local economy, and an organization chart of the District, as well as the independent auditor's report, management's discussion and analysis, and audited basic financial statements and other statistical information.

For 25 straight years, EID has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) for this document. Read EID's 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 to learn more about District finances and accomplishments go to www.eid.org/finances.

To read past reports, visit the EID document library (www.eid.org/DocumentLibrary) and find a list of historical annual comprehensive financial reports.

The District's capital improvement program (CIP) is updated each year and provides a five-year plan that identifies necessary improvements to ensure the safety and reliability of the District's infrastructure. EID's Board of Directors reviews and adopts this comprehensive blueprint that is presented by staff each year. Through the preparation and adoption of the CIP, the District helps to ensure long-term funding is secured to pay for these vital projects.


The adoption of the CIP does not mean that funding and approval of each project is set in stone. Staff must bring each project and each funding request to the Board as project planning progresses. The 2023–2027 CIP was approved at the November 14, 2022, regular Board meeting. Learn about the CIP by heading to www.eid.org/CIP.

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2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
—	13	13	—	—	12	—	14	—	10 (T)	14 (T)	11
23	27	27	24	22	26	24	28	25	23	—	—

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.