



# The Waterfront

El Dorado Irrigation District • May – June 2007

## Message from the General Manager

### Seasonal awards—showcasing performance above and beyond the expected



Four times a year, I'm presented with a true honor—the opportunity to give special recognition to some of your District's employees.

**Ane D. Deister**

These seasonal awards show appreciation for outstanding performances by EID employees. The difficulty in presenting the awards—and one of the reasons we allow ourselves to do so fairly often—is that it compels us to single out individuals among groups of people who set very high bars for themselves. In other words, the awards salute employees who work with people who are themselves outstanding public servants.

I'm very proud, professionally and personally, of how our employees not only respond to challenges but also how they anticipate and deal with them before they can become problems. We're very much into responsiveness here, but even more so into prevention.

The EID Seasonal Award winners for the first quarter of 2007 were honored at the Board of Directors' meeting on March 26. They are pictured to the right along with a short description of their contributions this past winter that went above and beyond the norm, even the expected.

Congratulations to them all and to all of us at EID who are fortunate enough to have them working for our customers.

## Seasonal awards announced



Team of the Season: Andy Ault, Scotty Baldrige, Guy Barritt, Joel Beall, Raul Calderon, Sharon Campbell, Mary Lynn Carlton, Brenda Chun, Robert Constancio, Eric Cosens, Mike Davis, Mike Elder, Auggie Flores, Rick Fox, Rich Gneri, Matt Heape, Linda King, Deanne Kloepfer, Kim Kocis, Kurt Mikkola, Larry Notaro, Radenko Odzakovic, Bryson Pearson, Enrique Robles, Ryan Rodriquez, Mike Royere, Jesse Saich, Jim Smith, Nigel Smith, Cindy Starr, Casey Steel, Buddy Tanner, Philip Veerkamp, Paul Waldow, and Clay Wicks.



Tim Sullivan, Employee of the Season



Myron Gonsalves, Supervisor of the Season



Liz Mansfield, Manager of the Season

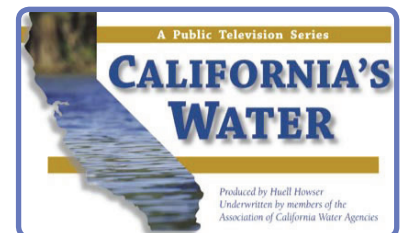


Vickie Caulfield and Len Marino, Managers of the Season

General Manager Seasonal Awards went to the employees pictured above for their exceptional performances during the 2007 winter season. The awards covered a wide range of activities—from extraordinary supervision and collaborative teamwork across departments during planned rehabilitation of a water pipeline to excellent leadership in managing emergency repairs on roads heavily impacted by landslides, organizing a major regional planning effort, securing funding to fix flood-related damages to the District's hydroelectric power generation system, and working around the clock to improve operations and cut costs in EID's wastewater/recycled program.

## 2007 Board Meetings

- May 14 and 30
- June 11 and 25
- July 9 and 23
- August 13 and 27
- September 10
- October 10 and 22
- November 14 and 26
- December 10



Keep an eye on KVIE's schedule for upcoming episodes of Huell Howser's *California's Water*, a series that explores California's water resources and its complex system of natural and man-made features.

## Wastewater copper-treating agreement saves EID an estimated \$6 million

In an example of multi-agency coordination and cooperation, EID recently reached an agreement with the Regional Water Quality Control Board that should ultimately save the District at least \$6 million—while still protecting the environment.

The agreement, which took seven years to reach, resets Regional Board guidelines on the treatment of copper at EID's Deer Creek wastewater treatment plant. Without the agreement—based on extensive scientific research that showed the low levels of copper in the treated wastewater pose no harm to aquatic life—EID would have needed to significantly change its treatment process at the plant.



Aerial view of Deer Creek wastewater treatment plant

The key players in the agreement included state, regional, and national regulatory agencies, as well as environmental organizations and the academic community.

“This agreement shows that good science and good relationships never need to be mutually exclusive,” said EID General Manager Ane Deister.

## “New and improved” defines EID’s five-year capital improvement plan

EID’s five-year capital improvement program (CIP) is one of those rare efforts that truly deserve the popular advertising slogan “new and improved.”

After extensive reviews, the District’s Board of Directors adopted the 2007-2011 CIP at its March 26 meeting, paving the way for staff to approach projects with greater agility based on the constant monitoring of safety, supply, and economic realities.

The new CIP arose from a revitalized, interdepartmental process. We established an expanded CIP review committee that consists of District-wide senior-level management, assisted by project and division managers and supervisors. The committee developed the CIP by examining the entire program from multiple perspectives, which led to a more strategic, integrated, and comprehensive CIP in which our Board has greater confidence.

Five years ago, EID created the first CIP in its history that grouped capital projects into categories—such as regulatory requirements, state and county road projects, reliability and service-level improvements, strategic initiatives, and master-planning—according to function and need.

The new approach builds on and vastly improves the earlier effort and includes a model based on the risks of undertaking or completing a project—or not doing so—to save money without compromising the safety, supply, and reliability of service.

EID’s staff CIP presentation to the Board of Directors is available from District headquarters. Contact Jesse Saich (530-642-4127 or [jsaich@eid.org](mailto:jsaich@eid.org)) for a copy.



### Clothes washer and toilet rebates available!

Call 530-642-4126  
E-mail [h2osaver@eid.org](mailto:h2osaver@eid.org)

## May is Water Awareness Month in California

Once again, May has been proclaimed Water Awareness Month across the state. For the past several years, EID has recognized this special designation with informative displays in the lobby of our Harry J. Dunlop Customer Service Building. This year is no exception, and we invite District customers and members of the public to visit us at 2890 Mosquito Road in Placerville to view our exhibits and learn more about rebates on water-efficient toilets and appliances and also about our other water-savings programs—home and commercial water surveys, irrigation efficiency, and more.

The District coordinates with the California Water Awareness Campaign each year, and especially in anticipation of Water Awareness Month. For more about the Campaign and water efficiency programs throughout California, visit the Campaign’s web site at [www.wateraware.org](http://www.wateraware.org).

### Water-saving tips = \$\$ savings

Schedule your complimentary water survey today by calling 530-642-4071 or by e-mailing [theslin@eid.org](mailto:theslin@eid.org). You can also fill out a survey request from our web page at [www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org).

## Landscape Suggestions

### May and June: mulching and irrigation

Mulching with organic matter such as chipped tree trimmings, compost, or barks not only reduces water usage, but also improves the soil. Apply at least two to three inches of material (three to six inches of larger bark pieces), keeping it several inches away from the trunks of trees and shrubs to prevent crown rot.

Check your irrigation system to be sure it’s in full working order. If you have drip lines, open the end and flush with water. Close the end and check that the emitters and sprayers are working properly. Check pop-up sprinklers for full spray and proper placement of water—unnecessary spray watering of shrubs and trees can cause disease problems, so make sure your irrigation timer is set correctly.