

# DISTRICT UPDATE



**Two meetings with landowners and water users were held in the District on September 14, 2022.**

GCID General Manager Thad Bettner and staff provided updates on the latest District developments, including ongoing drought and water supply challenges, maintenance work, projects, finances and strategic planning. Information from the meetings is highlighted in this document.

## WATER SUPPLY

The Sacramento Valley continued to suffer through unrelenting drought this summer, coupled with all-time-low allocations from the Central Valley Project. GCID's Sacramento Settlement Contract period is April 1 - October 31. A limited supply of water is available for purchase through the District prior to the end of the contract period.

Water users are encouraged to buy or sell their remaining allocation. Please call the District office for assistance.

From November 1 to March 31, GCID relies on a Winter Water Permit to divert water for rice straw decomposition and crop irrigation. The permit is subject to limitations under Term 91, which is enforced during dry year conditions.

The District intends to make water available if Term 91 curtailments are lifted, subject to winter construction projects.

Carryover storage in Shasta Reservoir is expected to be 1.5 million acre-feet at the end of September, 65% of average for the date.



## WATER MEASUREMENTS

This season, GCID instituted new policies for measuring water use to ensure every drop is accounted for. The District is taking these additional actions to further drill down on water use:



Purchased seven new handheld flow meters to accurately account for open channel on-field water use



Equipped Water Operators with smart phones to increase productivity through use of email, photos, Excel and Google Earth



Water Supervisors are undergoing training on Excel and Microsoft Teams to process and record field data



Staff has increased communication with water users to better understand water use, provide updates and share data



## Projects

Numerous replacement projects are underway across the District's service area for check, spill and drain structures, as well as meter turnouts and county culverts.

The District is coordinating with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to remove a mid-channel gravel bar on the Sacramento River downstream of the gradient facility. Up to 160,000 cubic yards of gravel will be removed to slow erosion of the riverbanks, protect juvenile salmon and other threatened species from predators and restore optimal function of GCID's fish screen.

The project is a pre-component of the Gradient Facility repair that was part of a settlement with the Army Corps of Engineers. Work is expected to conclude by the end of October.

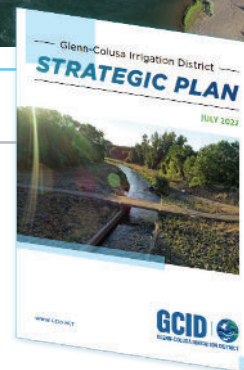


## Budget Update

The District will use its reserve funds to cover a \$9.9 million deficit identified in the draft budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23. The shortfall is the result of drastically reduced water sales due to drought.

The sale of surplus water not claimed by landowners from the supplemental purchase pool to federal wildlife reserves helped offset a 2021-2022 deficit.

No water rate increase is planned for the 2023 water year.



## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

GCID began work this summer on a Strategic Plan, which will identify priority actions and projects for the coming year. Additional details will be provided to landowners and water users after the Board of Directors finalizes the plan later this year.

## COMMUNICATIONS

GCID is transitioning from printed mailers to providing immediate information via email and automated calls. Landowners and water users can update their email addresses and cell phone numbers with the District to receive the latest updates through electronic newsletters, robocalls and texts.

### Ways to update your contact information:

 Call the office: (530) 934-8881

 Email: [contact@GCID.net](mailto:contact@GCID.net)

 Use the kiosk/tablet at office front counter

Follow Us:  /GlennColusaID

 /GlennColusaIrrigationDistrict