

DISTRICT UPDATE

2023 Season: Full Water Supply Confirmed



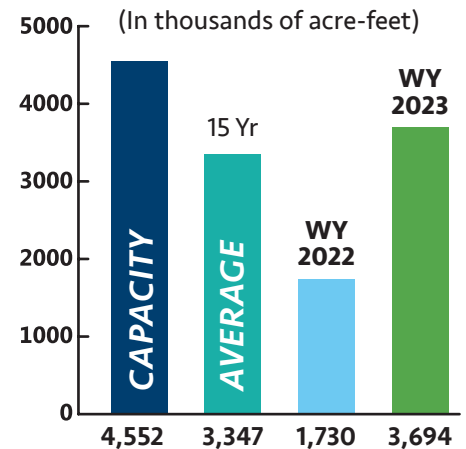
The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) notified GCID that 2023 is a Non-Critical Year and the District will receive 100% of its contracted supply for the April 1 through October 31 period. While that is positive news and a welcome relief from last year's drought and record-low deliveries, the water year will not be without challenges. The District and landowners must work together to make this a successful irrigation season.

The District expects a compressed flood-up schedule this year since fields are saturated from the recent rains and growers will all be needing water around the same time. Landowners and water users should begin talking with the District's water operations staff about projected planting dates, irrigation needs, and water budgets. At a special meeting on March 30, the Board of Directors approved changes to the District's Water Management and Conservation Policy which will be included in the Application Packet as well as available online at www.gcid.net.

The District mailed water applications on April 3 and will keep the application period open until April 28. Water will not be available until landowners have completed and submitted the application to the District, including payment, and the District has reviewed the application for completeness and notified the Water Department that irrigation service can commence, which could take several days at a minimum. With the District processing more than 700 water applications, landowners are encouraged to plan accordingly.

RATES: \$41.95 per irrigable acre, plus \$8.62/acre-foot based on unit duty

Shasta Reservoir Storage



DAILY CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT WATER SUPPLY - U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvo/vungvari/dayrpt.pdf>

Operational Changes in the Works

Here are some of the steps GCID is taking so landowners and water users get the water they need, when they need it, and the delivery system operates as efficiently as possible:



Metering and measuring initiatives started last year will continue. Staff anticipates mailing growers monthly water usage reports and will communicate with growers directly if they notice that water deliveries are ahead of the expected schedule.



To help the irrigation season run smoothly, GCID has hired 14 Water Operations Workers this year, bringing the total to 24, plus utilizing existing maintenance staff as needed for meter reading. Each operator will focus on one area for continuity and better understanding of the area. Operators will work 10-hour days, eight on, six off, with two operators per area.



Seasonal water budgets are being established for each water operations worker area. Budgets will be fair to each area based on their acreage and crops to maintain a steady flow and canal elevations for irrigation. This will be the first year for an area budget for all crops.



District staff are asking that growers clean the pipes to their rice fields prior to the irrigation season. This will ensure optimal flow and prevent delays or disruptions in water deliveries to those fields.

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April Landowner Meetings

Details about 2023 water area budgets and the delivery schedule will be discussed at landowner meetings on:

Monday, April 10

- 10 a.m. at Willows City Council Chambers, 201 North Lassen Street, Willows
- 1:30 p.m. at Granzella's Banquet Facility, 457 7th Street, Williams

Deadline set for Private Lateral Petition Process




Landowners with private laterals historically maintained and operated by GCID have until the end of this year to sign easement agreements that would permanently shift the responsibility for service to the District. Because all landowners on each stretch of lateral will need to sign the petitions to advance the process, they are encouraged to find common ground with their neighbors so their laterals can be converted to District maintained and operated.

Laterals not converted by December 29, 2023, will be considered private and will no longer be served by the District. The District's efforts to complete the conversions across its 175,000-acre service area have been ongoing. The new deadline was set by the Board of Directors at its February 2, 2023, meeting. For additional information, contact District Engineer Zac Dickens at (530) 934-8881.



GCID is committed to timely and effective communications with landowners and water users. If you haven't already done so, please provide your email address and cell phone number so we can send 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
-  Use the kiosk/tablet at the office front counter