

THE GROWER



WATER & POWER
Serving Central California since 1887



FEBRUARY 2024

TID Board Approves Additional Recharge Opportunities

TID Board of Directors voted to authorize the development of groundwater recharge projects beginning as early as this year. In addition to traditional recharge, these projects will also include existing micro drip basins and idle lands. Implementation will vary throughout the District and will take into account water availability, local groundwater elevations, off-season maintenance schedules, the need to move storm water for flood control and the constraints of our existing system infrastructure.

TID is looking to identify grower interest in potential recharge projects. Please take our quick, 3-minute survey to help TID assess growers' interest in groundwater recharge projects.

Participation in the survey does not guarantee participation in recharge projects, nor does it mean you must participate in any proposed projects. This is simply an information gathering process.

If you have questions about potential groundwater recharge projects or the survey, please email gwrecharge@tid.org.

Irrigation Rule Updates

While minor updates had been made to the TID Irrigation Rules in recent years, it had been roughly 14 years since the Rules had received a comprehensive review. A significant update to the Irrigation Rules is a new section on micro irrigation.

If you would like a printed copy of the Irrigation Rules booklet, please contact the Water Distribution Department at (209) 883.8356.

Off-Season Canal Use

Growers intending to use TID canals and laterals or Improvement District facilities for irrigation purposes during the off-season must contact the Water Distribution Department (209-883-8356) to coordinate such use.

Regular maintenance and repairs are often conducted in/around canals and laterals during the off-season and any use of TID infrastructure must be preapproved.



Check out the TID Water & Power Podcast, Episode 34: Groundwater Recharge Projects



Go to: TID.org/podcast or wherever you get your podcasts.



Take Our 3-minute Recharge Projects Survey Now!

Canal Outage Map

During the winter irrigation offseason, TID performs regular maintenance and improvement projects throughout our canal system. Periodically, canals and laterals must be taken out of service to conduct this work.

TID has developed a new map to help you identify when canals and laterals near you will be undergoing maintenance and out of service. The map is updated weekly.

Find out about current canal outages at:

www.TID.org/Irrigation.



State Requires Revision of Turlock Subbasin's GSP

On January 18, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided comments on the Turlock Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) following a two-year review period. DWR determined the Turlock Subbasin's GSP to be incomplete and is requiring a revision within 180 days.

The Turlock Subbasin GSP was a joint effort between the West Turlock subbasin, of which TID is a member, and the East Turlock subbasin groundwater sustainability agencies. The two GSAs jointly-filed the GSP in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

DWR supported many portions of the Turlock Subbasin's GSP, including the minimum thresholds set forth by the plan. However, DWR identified deficiencies related to the 20-year implementation of the GSP which noted that groundwater conditions may worsen before they improve. DWR has asked that the GSP be revised to address the near term impacts of declining groundwater levels and provide more details on projects and programs that will reduce overdraft and increase groundwater levels. Both GSAs have begun to analyze DWR's comments and, just as with the GSP development, will seek public participation in the GSP revisions.

The Turlock Subbasin will continue to move forward with current groundwater sustainability projects during the revision of the GSP.

Outlook of 2023-24 Water Year Helped by January Storms

The 2023-2024 Water Year started slowly, however late-January and February storms brought significant precipitation to the Tuolumne River Watershed.

As of February 21, the watershed has received 20.9 inches of precipitation or 86.4% of average. Snowpack is currently at 64% of the April 1 average, the date of the typical peak of the snowpack annually.

Last year's water year was one of the largest on record, seeing over 4.1 million acre-feet (MAF) of run-off (average run-off is 1.9 MAF). Don Pedro was able to store or divert 1.6 MAF, but 2.3 MAF had to be moved down the river due to lack of storage opportunities.



PRECIPITATION

20.09 inches; 86.4% of average



DON PEDRO

800.4 feet elevation



SNOWPACK

64% of April 1 average



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WATER CALL CENTER

Open 7 days a week during irrigation season from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(209) 883-8456

CONTACT US

Water Distribution
(209) 883.8356