

**OID General Manager's - Monthly Report**

Hello. I thought it time for OID to send out a general newsletter to all the folks who reside in the Oakdale Irrigation District service area. At this point, I think it important to fill you in on both the challenges and opportunities OID faces as your agricultural water provider.

Managing an irrigation district that has 3,000 irrigation accounts and 14,800 registered voters, of which about 8,800 live in the City of Oakdale, can be politically challenging. That diversity of ag and urban customers means that those who live and reside in the City of Oakdale, but receive no irrigation water service from OID, have a significant say in the course and direction of OID and the 64,000 acres of irrigated agriculture around our community. The take-away of this reality is; OID needs to be doing a better job educating ALL its constituents about water issues and the water challenges we face, both now and into our future.

For this newsletter, and for the ones to follow, I want to focus on establishing a baseline of what OID has accomplished for the benefit of all its constituents. I think you'll find it informative and telling on how well positioned OID has become in meeting and addressing our future water challenges. Because of space I'll just bullet these facts;

- OID approved a Master Water Resources Plan in 2007. It took 2 years to develop. The Plan evaluated 4 future scenarios on how to manage, address and protect our water resources. It was updated in July 2013. It is the policy document by which OID operates and conducts its business. A link to the Plan is on our website.
- On the overview side, OID is an organization of 72 full time employees. It has an \$18 million budget that stimulates our local Oakdale economy. By comparative standards OID is a very lean organization. OID's operational cost escalate annually at less than 3%, which is below the inflation rate. The cost control management OID has on its budget expenditures make that an impressive number compared to other utility agencies in our business.
- Last year, in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a severe drought, OID provided the highest water allocation (44 inches) north of the Tehachapi's to its ag water users. Difficult to find any agency that provided more in this State.
- This year OID has no restrictions on water use except that irrigators be "water smart" in their use. To my knowledge, OID is the only agency that is providing such a benefit to its customers.
- Water rates were raised last year for the first time since 1990. A 26 year run of leaving money in our constituents' pockets. Again, find another agency that can say that in the State. Constituent water rates today are exceptionally low and among the lowest in the State. Sorry if I seem to be repeating myself.
- OID has spent \$55 million dollars in infrastructure and modernization improvements since 2006. Stimulating our local economy while at the same time providing better customer services and meeting all the new State legislative requirements for water management. Again, accomplished with but one rate increase in 26 years.
- OID is pro-ag and is the only irrigation district that has expanded its service area lands to the tune of 10,000 acres.
- 10 years ago it took 290,000 acre feet to meet OID water needs. Today it takes 240,000 acre feet. Those efficiency improvements were paid for by water transfer revenues, not rate increases. OID water rates would be close to \$142 per acre annually if landowners had to carry those improvement costs. We work hard to make sure you don't.
- OID will have \$58 million in cash and in designated reserve funds at the end of 2016. In 2002 OID had just \$14.5 million. OID is financially positioned to meet any challenge that may arise. OID will spend \$20 million of these reserves building a tunnel in 2018/19 to replace a failing South Main Canal section. It will pay cash for this!! With smart water management, OID is looking to pay off its \$28 million in bond debt by 2021, making OID debt free.
- In OID's Master Resources Plan, OID has reserved 10,000 acre feet of its water portfolio to meet the future water needs of the City of Oakdale. OID has not deviated from that goal or commitment to our community.

OID is not in this position by luck or chance. It's in this position because of a Board of Directors that has worked hard and diligently to make strategic, prudent and fiscally minded decisions. It developed a Plan and its sticking to that Plan. The OID team assigned to carry out that vision are dedicated hard working employees who believe in community service to the betterment of its constituents. Their team mission statement is to the management of our community water assets to the maximum benefit of our constituents. OID's accomplishments are a testament to our commitment.

Do you want to get more OID news quicker by email? Send an email to [oakdaleirrigation.com](mailto:info@oakdaleirrigation.com) and say "add me to your email list." Also check out [savethestan.org](http://savethestan.org) for the latest on how the State's upcoming water management plan for the Delta may impact you. Talk to you again in July for more OID "real" facts on the "real" issues.



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**Water Report as of June 1, 2016**

Facility	Max Storage (af)	Current Storage (af)	% Capacity	Inflow (cfs)	Storage Change (af)
New Melones -Federal	2,419,523	624,233	26	2,297	750
Donnells	64,325	58,731	91	1,784	293
Beardsley	97,802	77,838	80	1804	599
Tulloch	66,968	37623	56	1,838	306

New Melones Inflow since Oct. = 725,000 af

OID 2015/16 Water Allocation = 300,000 af

OID Water Used since Oct 1 = 49,178 af

Project Use June 1-Sept 30 = 153,450 af

Total Projected Use Oct 1-Sept 30 = 200,647 af

Water Sold this year (April/May) = 42,500 af

Water made available for local use = 5,000 af

Local Water Use to date = 0 af

Total Projected OID water lost to Government on September 30 = 56,853 af