

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026 ISSUE

KEEPING OID FLOWING

— The Team Behind the Numbers —

At Oakdale Irrigation District, many of the services our customers and community rely on every day are made possible through teamwork across all departments - including the dedicated employees behind the scenes in Finance.

The Finance team plays an important role in ensuring District resources are managed responsibly and efficiently. From preparing budgets and financial reports to supporting purchasing, payroll, inventory, and day-to-day operations, the department provides the foundation that allows other District departments to perform their work effectively.

In addition to supporting internal operations, the Finance Department also works directly with the public each day. Staff assists customers with billing questions, irrigation schedules, District processes, and other inquiries, helping provide responsive customer service and clear communication to the community.

Although much of the Finance Department's work takes place outside the spotlight, its impact can be seen throughout the District.



FLOWING FORWARD:

A Major Upgrade for
the Paulsell Lateral

The District is proud to announce the completion of the two-year Paulsell Lateral Expansion and Modernization Project. This significant improvement increased the capacity of the upper portion of the lateral from 30 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 150 cfs, enhancing the District's ability to deliver water efficiently and reliably for years to come.

Largely funded through a \$14.4 million grant from the California Department of Water Resources, the project extends 6 miles from Paulsell Lateral headworks on the South Main Canal down to Tim Bell Road. We invite you to scan the QR code to view before-and-after photos, project highlights, and key statistics showcasing this important investment in the District's infrastructure and future.

≡ SCAN ME ≡



Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin:

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) submitted their first 5-year update of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2025 for review and approval. DWR recently requested clarification and additional information that must be provided by November of this year. DWR's decision to either approve or reject the GSP will be issued by January 2027. This is an important step in ensuring groundwater management remains under local control. In addition to the GSP update process, work continues on the development of the well mitigation plan and demand reduction plan, both of which are key components of long-term groundwater sustainability efforts throughout the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Modesto Subbasin:

The Stanislaus & Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association Groundwater Sustainability Agency (STRGBA GSA) adopted their well mitigation plan as well as the demand management plan (Groundwater

Use Management Program) in January. Stanislaus County has retained a consulting firm to assist in developing an action plan for reducing groundwater pumping in the Non-District East Management Area (lands east of OID and MID) as it was identified as experiencing aquifer overdraft. This action plan is required to be submitted to the STRGBA GSA by November of this year in anticipation of beginning implementation next year. The STRGBA GSA is also working on their first 5-year update to the GSP. The amended GSP and Periodic Evaluation in the Modesto Subbasin is required to be submitted to DWR by January 2027.



At Oakdale Irrigation District, community safety is a top priority. Each year, OID fills its irrigation canals to deliver water to farms and customers throughout Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties.

While these canals play an important role in our region, they can also be extremely dangerous. Fast-moving currents, steep and slippery canal banks, and water control structures can create hazardous conditions that make escape difficult or impossible. To help keep our community safe, remember:

- Never swim, wade, kayak, canoe, or tube in canals.
- Stay well back from canal edges.
- Keep pets on leashes and away from the water.
- Stay away from water delivery gates and equipment.
- Do not drive motorized vehicles on canal banks.
- Respect private property and dispose of trash properly.
- If someone falls into a canal, call 911 immediately. Do not jump in after them.

Please use caution and good judgment around canals and ditches.

Remember: **Stay Out and Stay Alive!**

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

2025 AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) prepared its 2025 Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP) update before the April 1, 2026 deadline in compliance with state water management legislation; it also describes ongoing advancements in water stewardship across its service area and the broader region.

The updated AWMP includes OID's comprehensive evaluation of its Water Resources Plan (WRP), a detailed water budget through 2024, a calculation of net groundwater recharge, a review of efficient water management practices, and expanded efforts in drought planning and water use efficiency.

Water Resources Plan (WRP)

OID's WRP provides a full evaluation of its water resources, delivery system, and operations and identifies strategies and projects to protect water rights while meeting regional stakeholder needs. WRP strategies and projects include canal maintenance and rehabilitation, flow control and measurement upgrades, pipeline replacements, regulation reservoirs, boundary outflow management, SCADA system expansion, and annexations.

Since the start of WRP implementation in 2006, **OID has completed approximately 1,100 capital improvement projects**, including more than 280 projects since the most recent 2020 AWMP update. Total investment in infrastructure improvements exceeds \$116 million, with \$29.1 million in improvements since 2020.

WRP Recent Success



The WRP anticipated the annexation of 4,250 acres by 2020. As of 2024, OID has **annexed over 10,500 acres**, providing financial support for system improvements and reducing regional groundwater reliance.



OID has installed **137 SCADA sites** for remote monitoring and automated water control – including 80 Total Channel Control (TCC) sites automating the operations of 34 miles of canals. Additional installations include **204 flow measurement devices** with radio telemetry for systemwide remote monitoring.

Highlight of an Ongoing Capital Project

Paulsell Lateral Expansion Project – Expands system capacity from 20 cfs to 180 cfs, increasing flexibility and supporting direct and in-lieu groundwater recharge. Construction began in 2024 with Phase 1 completed and operational in Spring 2026.

To review OID's 2025 AWMP update, visit www.oakdaleirrigation.com/agricultural-water-management-plans

2025 AWMP Highlights

- Implementing the WRP represents a major, long-term investment by OID, and the results are delivering significant value to customers.
- WRP benefits are observed in the water budget through increased diversions, reduced groundwater pumping, reduced spillage, lower boundary outflows, and greater delivery flexibility.
- OID's water budget demonstrates that the district is a net recharger of groundwater, providing substantial benefit to both the Eastern San Joaquin and Modesto Groundwater Subbasins.

