



## Manager's Message

As we come to the end of 2021, we reflect upon the extreme difficulties NUID and its patrons have faced. Record drought, heat, paltry crop yields, and unrelenting wind, to name a few. These difficulties exhibit the importance of NUID continuing its efforts to find new water sources, while also looking for opportunities both inside and outside the district. Efforts including transfer of water from Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) to NUID, conserved water projects, inter-district transfers, water marketing strategies, and pursuance of the Lake Billy Chinook Pumping Plant Concept.

NUID, in collaboration with COID, has been able to take advantage of federal funding to pipe the open canal systems in Central Oregon and utilize water otherwise lost to seepage and operational inefficiencies. Work has recently begun on COID's Pilot Butte Canal Piping Project and new NUID spill. The project consists of installing 3 miles of 105-inch steel pipe, which has the potential to spill up to 200 cfs of water through COID's system, directly into NUID's main canal. It is estimated to conserve approximately 30 cfs of water that can be transferred directly to the NUID spill or Bend diversion.

As part of a federal \$200 million wildfire and drought relief program, the district applied for \$5 million to begin work on a feasibility study for the Lake Billy Chinook Pumping Plant Concept (LBC). The LBC would allow NUID to source its 200 cfs of water from its existing Crooked River water rights and enable access to water NUID was previously unable to utilize, such as wintertime flows. NUID would decommission its existing Crooked River pumping plant, allowing fish unobstructed access to Bowman Dam. The LBC offers numerous district and environmental benefits and our partners are excited about securing consistent and safe water for future farming generations, while providing ongoing environmental benefits.

As many know, 2021 was the implementation year of the Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan (DBHCP), which Central Oregon irrigation districts and the City of Prineville worked on collectively. The 30-year plan has elements which include modification of river flows during certain periods of the year, modified reservoir operations, and a financial commitment aimed at restoration projects in the Upper Deschutes River basin. Needless to say, implementation of the HCP coupled with record drought and limited water, made for one of the most difficult years in the district's history.

As we continue towards the end of the year, drought conditions remain in the basin and the prospect of Wickiup Reservoir filling for the 2022, irrigation season does not look promising. We hope the projected La Nina conditions arrive quickly.

More information concerning current projects, future operations, and water supply will be discussed at a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The meeting will start at 6:30pm and will be located at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds - Maccie/Conroy building.

### Energy Trust of Oregon Incentives

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent non-profit that provides cash incentives to many sectors, including agricultural producers. To qualify:

1. Project must save electricity and/or natural gas.
2. Site must be served by Pacific Power, Portland General Electric, Cascade Natural Gas, NW Natural or Avista (natural gas service) and contribute to the Public Purpose Charge.
3. For natural gas projects: sites on transport-only or third-party natural gas rate schedules are not eligible.
4. The project must be located in Oregon .

Purchases made in the last six months are still eligible for incentives, but applications must be submitted before 12/31/2021.

Visit [www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org) for more information.



### Equipment Rental

Remember to schedule your equipment rental jobs before March 1, 2022 in order to allow District staff time to complete your project prior to the 2022 irrigation season. Contact Dennis Krueger for arrangements.

### District Charges

The 2022 District Operating Budget was approved and charges were set at the board of directors' meeting on November 16, 2021. The board unanimously voted to increase the Account and O&M charges from last year. The account charge increased from \$190.00/account to \$225.00/account and the O&M increased from \$64.00/acre to \$66.08/acre. All other charges remain unchanged. An explanation of the 2022 District Charges is attached. The approved budget is available for review at the district office.

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## Water Portal

All water users who have signed up for the district's water portal can view their allotment, water, orders, usage and land records in one location online through their customer portal.

The portal has proven to be a valuable tool in helping water users monitor and track their water operations particularly in water restricted years. For more information, please go to [www.northunit.com/customer-portal/](http://www.northunit.com/customer-portal/) For assistance setting up your account, please e-mail or call the office.

## Board Member Election Results

Two petitions were received for Division 4 which resulted in a district wide election held on November 9, 2021 between candidates Evan Thomas and Michael Alley. Evan Thomas received the most votes and will serve a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2022.

The term of office for Richard Macy, Division 4 will expire December 31, 2021. Director Macy has served on the board since 1985!

## Ownership Changes

Ownership changes due to marriage, divorce, death, establishing trusts, LLC's, etc. must be reported to the district once processes are finalized. It is important that the district's records are kept current and match the ownership documents recorded with the county. These changes can

directly effect those water users that are required to complete Reclamation Reform Act certification forms and can delay the delivery of water until records are brought current. Please update the district as these changes occur.

## Temporary Water Right Transfers

For several years now the district has been participating in a pilot project for temporary transfers of water, which allows a landowner to dry up a piece of land and move the water right to another parcel for the water season. If you plan

to participate in a temporary transfer in the future please contact the District office for a list of requirements, procedures, or with any questions.

## Employee Changes

We are pleased to announce Collin Cow-sill joined our team as the new Water Operations Specialist in September.

Wayne Jakobsen formerly ditchride 51 is the new 34 ditchrider.

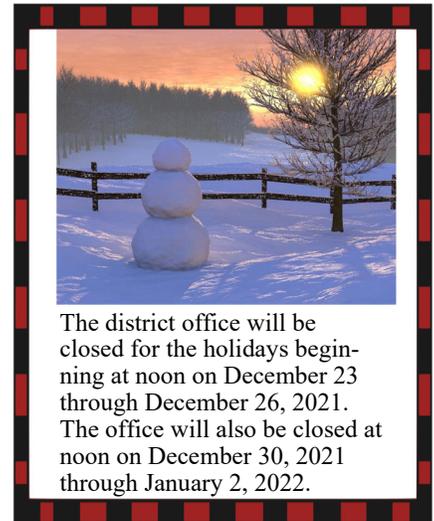
David Ludwig formerly maintenance, has accepted the 51 ditchride position.

Please join us as we wish them all success in their new roles.

## District Right-of-Ways/Easements

Tis the season for maintenance and general upkeep of the irrigation project. District canals, laterals, service roads and control devices are within specified Right-of-Ways (RoW) established by the Bureau of Reclamation when the irrigation project was constructed. The RoW's were established to allow the District to operate, maintain and repair the irrigation project works. Landowners and water users may not encroach or prevent the district from

accessing these lands. Please keep these RoW areas clear of buildings, fences, equipment, etc. in order to prevent delays and damage in performing district maintenance operations. Maps of RoW widths are available at the district office. Please call in advance to request copies of maps. Keep in mind that tree and woody vegetation removal from canals and easements is also part of routine operations and maintenance.



The district office will be closed for the holidays beginning at noon on December 23 through December 26, 2021. The office will also be closed at noon on December 30, 2021 through January 2, 2022.

### Management:

- Josh Bailey**, District Manager  
[jbailey@northunitid.com](mailto:jbailey@northunitid.com)
- Mike Britton**, Executive Manager  
[mbritton@northunitid.com](mailto:mbritton@northunitid.com)
- Gary Calhoun**, Operations Manager  
[gcalhoun@northunitid.com](mailto:gcalhoun@northunitid.com)
- Dennis Krueger**, Watermaster & Construction Supervisor  
[dkrueger@northunitid.com](mailto:dkrueger@northunitid.com)
- Jackie Looney**, Finance Manager  
[jlooney@northunitid.com](mailto:jlooney@northunitid.com)

### Office Staff:

- Pam Watson**  
[pwatson@northunitid.com](mailto:pwatson@northunitid.com)
- Sue Light**  
[slevitt@northunitid.com](mailto:slevitt@northunitid.com)
- Michelle Camphouse**  
[mcamphouse@northunitid.com](mailto:mcamphouse@northunitid.com)
- Collin Cow-sill** Water Operations  
[ccowsill@northunitid.com](mailto:ccowsill@northunitid.com)

### Board of Directors:

- Division 1: Ryan Boyle
- Division 2: Mike Kirsch, Vice Chair
- Division 3: Martin Richards, Chair
- Division 4: Richard Macy
- Division 5: Vern Bare

### Office Hours:

- Irrigation Season
  - Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00
  - Saturday 8:00 - 4:00
- Non Irrigation Season
  - Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30
- Phone: (541) 475-3625  
(541) 475-3652
- Fax: (541) 475-3905