



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 – 9:00A.M.

### AGENDA

1. Consent Agenda (approved with one motion).
  - a. Minutes of October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Board meeting.
  - b. Minutes of October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, Special Board meeting.
  - c. Status of Investments Report – October 31, 2023.
  - d. Treasurer’s Report– October 31, 2023.
  - e. Comparative Balance Sheet report for the nine periods ending September 30, 2023.
  - f. Statement of Income Expense report for the nine periods ending September 30, 2023.
  - g. Claims.
  - h. Declaration of Surplus items
2. Notice of Equalization / Assessment roll.
3. Division 2 & 4 elections.
4. \*Selah-Moxee Irrigation District water lease.
5. Stacked water rights.
6. 2024 budget planning.
7. Board of Directors travel authorization for Washington State Water Resource Association annual conference.
8. Watermaster’s report.
9. District Manager’s report.
10. Engineering Manager’s report.
11. Executive Session:
  - a. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Potential and pending litigation- State v. Acquavella, Terrace Heights Sewer District, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
  - b. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(2)(a)(iii). To evaluate the legal risk of a proposed action.
  - c. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). Selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate.

# Item #1

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# DRAFT

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2023

The Board of Directors for the Roza Irrigation District convened in regular session on Tuesday October 10, 2023. Present were President Ric Valicoff, Vice-President Jim Willard, Director Jason Sheehan, Director Jason Don, and District Manager Scott Revell. Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen, Watermaster Dave Rollinger, Assistant Watermaster Aaron Wiederspohn, Maintenance Superintendent Dave Clampitt, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent Glenn Bos, and Assessment Clerk/Assistant Secretary Kristel Espinoza.

Via telephone conference: Director Tanner Winckler and District Attorney Brian Iller.

The President called the meeting to order at 9:09 A.M.

District Manager Revell requested to amend the agenda to include item “d” to the executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. And add item “11” policy director. Mr. Willard moved, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and unanimously approved amending the agenda as stated above.

The President requested the Board consider the consent agenda as presented:

- a. Minutes of September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Board meeting.
- b. Status of Investments Report – September 30, 2023.
- c. Treasurer’s Report– September 30, 2023.
- d. Comparative Balance Sheet report for the eight periods ending August 31, 2023.
- e. Statement of Income Expense report for the eight periods ending August 31, 2023.
- f. Claims.

The following claims are approved for payment: Payroll numbers 29675 in the amount of \$149.46. Voucher numbers 69302 – 69307, 69386 – 69426 and 69439 – 69509 in the amount of \$404,060.75 and electronic payments 07-2023, 07-23, 23-26, 23-27, 24-2 in the amount of \$312,297.68 from the period of August 3, 2023, to October 10, 2023.

It was moved by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda.

District Manager Revell reported the water supply forecast remained at 73% in Mid-September and the 2024 water year began on October 1, 2023. Mr. Revell noted the El Nino patterns that have been evolving and added that El Nino years are not good for water supply but strong El Nino patterns can be good for water supply.

Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen requested from the Board; approval of Wasteway 5 Reservoir North Embankment modification bid award. An invitation to bid for the modification was advertised in the Yakima and Tri-Cities Herald on September 17 & 24, 2023. Mr. Sonnichsen stated that eight bids were received and read aloud on September 29, 2023. Following discussion, Mr. Willard moved, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and unanimously approved awarding the Wasteway 5 Reservoir Embankment Modification contract to Culbert Construction as the lowest responsible bid of \$ 268,887.20.

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## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2023

Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen presented to the Board the Main Canal Sealing bid award. Staff advertised for bids on September 17 and 24, 2023. Bids were received until 10:00 A.M. on September 29, 2023. Three bids were received. Following discussion, Mr. Willard moved, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and unanimously approved awarding the Main Canal Sealing contract to Pacific Coatings, as lowest responsible bid of \$537,680.00.

District Manager Revell, Maintenance Superintendent Glen Bos and Watermaster Dave Rollinger presented pictures and gave a brief overview to the Board on the Main Canal tree removal and trimming. Mr. Revell noted that activities the district began budgeting annually for tree trimming and removal in 2019. Mr. Rollinger noted that Roza crews can remove some trees with saws and excavators and other trees located near power lines or structures and large trees require the services of professional contractors with specialized equipment. Assistant Maintenance Superintendent Glen Bos noted the remaining work in the years ahead and discussed the inventory of the remaining trees to help the Maintenance Superintendent prioritize the need of removal.

District Manager Revell updated the Board on the Riparian Roundtable advisory group which was established after the Salmon Buffer bill failed to advance during the 2022 legislative session. Roza hosted part of a tour for Riparian Roundtable group in October and is examining issues statewide in anticipation of the latest version of the salmon buffer bill in the 2024 or 2025 legislative session. Mr. Revell noted the working relationships with the state and federal fish and wildlife management agencies in recent years have been very constructive.

Watermaster Dave Rollinger presented, and the Board reviewed the Watermaster's monthly report.

District Manager Revell presented, and the Board reviewed the District Manager's monthly report.

Engineering Manager Sonnichsen presented, and the Board reviewed the Engineering Manager's monthly report.

The President declared the Board to be in executive session for an estimated forty-five-minutes beginning at 10:55 A.M. pursuant to the items listed below and noted action may follow:

- a. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Potential and pending litigation-State v. Acquavella, Terrace Heights Sewer District, Family Farm Alliance Amicus brief.
- b. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(2)(a)(iii). To evaluate the legal risk of a proposed action.
- c. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). Selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate.

The President returned the Board to regular session at 11:39 A.M.

District Manager Revell discussed with the Board the policy director position which has been vacant since 2017 and is seeking authorization to advertise for recruitment of a policy director. Mr. Revell described a series of water policy, water supply and water administrative regulations

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
**DRAFT**

October 10, 2023

issues that the district is facing. Following discussion, Mr. Sheehan moved, seconded by Mr. Don, and unanimously approved to advertise to recruit for policy director position.

No further business appearing and upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Board did there upon adjourn at 12:17 P.M. on Tuesday October 10, 2023.

ATTEST:

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

# DRAFT

## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2023

The Board of Directors for the Roza Irrigation District and Kittitas Reclamation District convened in a joint special session on Monday October 23, 2023. Present were Roza Irrigation Board of Directors; President Ric Valicoff, Vice-President Jim Willard, Director Tanner Winckler, Director Jason Sheehan, and District Manager Scott Revell. Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen, Watermaster Dave Rollinger, Maintenance Superintendent Dave Clampitt, Assessment Clerk/Assistant Secretary Kristel Espinoza, and District Attorney Brian Iller, Special District counsel Matt Love and Walt Larrick.

Present for Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) were Board of Directors; Chair Fred Schnebly, Vice-Chair Mark Hansen, Director Sherry Swanson, Director Brad Haberman and Director Bart Bland and KRD District Manager Urban Eberhart, Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower, Treasurer Stacy Berg

Audience members are in the detailed attached list.

Via telephone conference: Will Jones, Doug Simpson, Mike Livingston, TH, JH

The President called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

District Manager Revell requested to amend the agenda to include item "c" in the executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii). Following discussion, Mr. Willard moved, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and unanimously approved the agenda to add item "c" to the October 23, 2023, special meeting agenda.

Phil Volker with Extended Range Forecast Company Inc., discussed with the joint board members about the past and future weather effects of El Nino and explained that a very strong El Nino pattern has formed and that there should be above average precipitation and some snow.

Chad Stuart- United States Bureau of Reclamation (U.S.B.R.), Yakima Field Office Manager and Chris Lynch- U.S.B.R. Operations Engineer updated the Boards on the 2024 U.S.B.R. water supply projections and historical prorationing. Mr. Lynch noted the late spring weather patterns the last several years and the impact it represents for total water supply available.

District Manager Revell and KRD District Manager Eberhart gave a brief overview of new leadership and changes since 2015 with Ecology and U.S.B.R. including successful financial support from Reclamation in part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

Tom Tebb- Department of Ecology, Director provided an overview and evaluation of the major water management projects at Ecology in 2023.

Urban Eberhart discussed the elements of conserving and storing water and groundwater rights in the Yakima Basin.

Walt Larrick- Roza Fish Biologist gave an update on the Box Canyon Creek straw bale channel and discussed the low summer flows and expressed appreciation to KRD and Roza Irrigation District for sending crews and equipment to expedite the work.

The President declared the Board to be in executive session for an estimated sixty-minutes beginning at 11:50 A.M. pursuant to:

- a. RCW 42.30.110(1)(i): To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.
- b. (iii) Litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice that the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.

District Manager Revell returned at 12:45 P.M. and noted the presiding office had determined that the Board would be in executive session for an additional twenty minutes.

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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2023

District Attorney Brian Iller recused himself and left the room at 12:51 P.M.

District Manager Revell returned at 1:07 P.M. and noted the presiding office had determined that the Board would be in executive session for an additional five minutes.

The President returned the Board to regular session at 1:10 P.M.

No further business appearing and upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, the Board did there upon adjourn at 1:11 P.M. on Monday October 23, 2023.

ATTEST:

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

**ROZA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
STATUS OF INVESTING ACCOUNTS  
October 31, 2023**

BANK	\$ AMOUNT	INTEREST EARNED	INTEREST RATE	BALANCE
L.G.I.P.	\$17,243,635.25	80,901.31	5.3973%	\$17,324,536.56
U.S. - MIA INV.	\$46.62	1.99	0.14905%	\$48.61
U.S. - SAVINGS	\$16,410.46	0.61	0.05%	\$16,411.07
U.S. - CHECKING	\$97,131.67	37.99	0.01%	\$97,169.66
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,438,165.90</b>

**ROZA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
STATUS OF INVESTMENTS  
October 31, 2023**

INVESTMENT	RATE	MATURE	EXPENSE	TOTAL
			0.00	0.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>			0.00	0.00

<b>TOTAL OF ALL CASH</b>	17,438,165.90
<b>MINUS RESTRICTED CASH</b>	612,840.40
(Construction/Reserve/Memo \$)	
(Drought)	4,049,213.59
(WSD)	4,049,138.39
<b>TOTAL O &amp; M CASH</b>	<b>8,726,973.52</b>



**ROZA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**October 31, 2023**

	EXPENSE	CONST.	RESERVE	MEMO	TOTAL
Balance First of Month	17,730,396.18	324,540.69	288,000.00	0.00	18,342,936.87
Collections	28,525.79	299.71			28,825.50
Miscellaneous	99,064.66				99,064.66
Matured Investments					0.00
Interest	81,565.07				81,565.07
Transfers					0.00
TOTAL	17,939,551.70	324,840.40	288,000.00	0.00	18,552,392.10
LESS:					
Voucher Checks Issued	153,537.80				153,537.80
Misc. Checks Issued	960,688.40			0.00	960,688.40
Tier 2 Checks					0.00
NSF Check Returned					0.00
Bank Charge	0.00				0.00
Void Check	0.00				0.00
TOTAL PAID	1,114,226.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,114,226.20
Balance End of Month	16,825,325.50	324,840.40	288,000.00	0.00	17,438,165.90

**STATEMENT OF INCOME EXPENSE**  
**Roza Irrigation District**  
**For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023**

	CURRENT PERIOD	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
ASSESSMENT INCOME/O & M	0.00	14,094,693.78	13,512,649.02
ASSESSMENT INCOME/CONST	0.00	1,351.05	1,624.70
TOTAL ASSESSMENT INCOME	0.00	14,096,044.83	13,514,273.72
INTEREST INCOME/INV/DELINQ	547.26	14,087.08	13,262.79
INTEREST INCOME/INV/OTHER	80,587.36	698,533.68	137,291.23
TOTAL INTEREST INCOME	81,134.62	712,620.76	150,554.02
RENTAL INCOME/HOUSES	525.78	4,838.17	4,863.15
TOTAL RENTAL INCOME	525.78	4,838.17	4,863.15
DISP OF FIXED ASSETS INCOME	0.00	(89.67)	969.60
MISC INCOME	0.00	155,899.73	133,261.51
TIER 2 INCOME	20,668.12	21,431.93	678,518.43
MISC. INCOME/HEALTH/SAFETY	12,086.85	84,013.22	76,925.47
MISC INCOME/ AQUALASTIC LINING	0.00	0.00	230,987.50
MISC INCOME/22-23 PRESSURE PROJECT	82,407.60	82,407.60	0.00
MISC INCOME/KACHESS STUDY	0.00	0.00	2,981.67
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	115,162.57	343,662.81	1,123,644.18
TOTAL OF ALL INCOME	196,822.97	15,157,166.57	14,793,335.07
MC/LINED/BURNING	0.00	11,635.68	13,977.52
MC/LINED/CLEANING	660.17	8,133.54	15,592.56
MC/LINED/GROUTING	108.72	39,712.93	105,733.09
MC/LINED/REPAIR	604.57	14,156.76	67,879.05
MC/LINED/SEALING	0.00	0.00	231,239.94
MC/LINED/DRAINS	356.38	20,217.72	14,386.57
MC/UNLINED/BURNING	0.00	39,328.54	31,134.01
MC/UNLINED/CLEANING	0.00	41,880.46	60,137.56
MC/UNLINED/CORING	0.00	0.00	20,955.82
MC/UNLINED/REPAIR	555.60	29,468.41	54,482.85
MC/GROUND WEEDS/SPRAY	1,277.16	60,385.19	58,461.29
MC/GROUND WEEDS/PULL	0.00	2,760.28	1,524.26
MC/GROUND WEEDS/MOW	46,857.46	207,637.39	234,918.87
MC/AQUATIC WEEDS	147.94	172,021.98	161,236.58
MC/STRUCTURES/CLEANING	446.07	15,994.01	31,693.95
MC/STRUCTURES/CONST	5,681.94	21,643.65	53,777.22
MC/STRUCTURES/GRAVEL PACK	2,071.04	34,602.61	28,657.17
MC/STRUCTURES/GROUT	0.00	244.45	134.84
MC/STRUCTURES/REPAIR	336.75	17,114.63	53,266.56
MC/WATER MEASUREMENT	0.00	12,888.68	5,934.81
MC/SCADA/O & M	3,021.36	8,476.36	8,700.33
MC/AUTOMATED STRUC/REPAIR	0.00	41,645.26	59,292.12
MC/ROADS/CONST	0.00	0.00	442.90
MC/ROADS/BRIDGES,CATTLE GUARDS	2,869.12	10,590.29	28,187.13

Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
MC/ROADS/REPAIR	36,768.69	103,542.74	259,357.70
MC/WASTEWAYS/BURN	0.00	3,197.13	4,176.66
MC/WASTEWAYS/CLEAN	4,405.49	15,555.14	1,108.79
MC/WASTEWAYS/REPAIR	0.00	4,483.29	4,701.79
MC/WASTEWAYS/SPRAY	0.00	0.00	386.80
MC/SIPHON & TUNNELS/CLEAN	0.00	6,178.23	13,472.37
MC/SIPHONS & TUNNELS/REPAIR	1,793.73	31,582.52	20,807.94
MC/UNDERSHOTS/CLEAN	0.00	12,321.66	21,735.90
MC/UNDERSHOTS/REPAIR	0.00	1,806.88	0.00
TOTAL MAIN CANALS	<u>107,962.19</u>	<u>989,206.41</u>	<u>1,667,494.95</u>
LATERAL/PIPED/CONST	0.00	29,382.05	109.80
LATERAL/PIPED/REPAIR	1,541.34	26,932.87	35,315.46
LATERAL/PIPED/LOCATING	407.73	4,361.84	602.20
LATERAL/OPEN/BURNING	0.00	23,246.40	24,838.70
LATERAL/OPEN/CLEAN	237.02	19,169.00	54,946.56
LATERAL/OPEN/CORING	0.00	11,968.70	367.92
LATERAL/OPEN/REPAIR	0.00	11,777.48	20,731.72
LATERAL/GROUND WEEDS/SPRAY	2,492.11	11,764.13	5,828.77
LATERAL/GROUND WEEDS/PULL	0.00	3,145.82	8,813.49
LATERAL/GROUND WEEDS/MOW	1,308.67	78,263.21	69,127.78
ECS/REPAIR	9,103.22	158,380.30	199,857.11
ECS/LOCATE	0.00	0.00	1,091.00
LATERAL/AQUATIC WEEDS	138.46	6,369.46	7,964.60
LATERAL/STRUCTURES/CONST	0.00	132.38	4,339.31
LATERAL/STRUCTURES/GROUT	0.00	0.00	329.44
LATERAL/STRUCTURES/REPAIR	0.00	2,460.51	6,977.26
FLOWMETER/CONST	0.00	0.00	13.25
FLOWMETER/REPAIR	8,101.69	58,077.08	27,224.45
LATERAL/ROADS/REPAIR	87.60	2,104.79	0.00
LATERAL/WASTEWAYS/CLEAN	0.00	1,239.44	23.10
TOTAL LATERALS	<u>23,417.84</u>	<u>448,775.46</u>	<u>468,501.92</u>
DRAINS/OPEN,TOE/BURN	0.00	1,706.90	3,227.44
DRAINS/OPEN,TOE/CLEAN	0.00	1,312.52	1,214.93
DRAINS/OPEN,TOE/REPAIR	0.00	0.00	980.66
DRAINS/OPEN,TOE/PULL	0.00	0.00	693.48
DRAINS/OPEN,TOE/MOW	0.00	1,625.08	1,378.44
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/BURN	0.00	557.39	3,456.09
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/CLEAN	3,506.46	8,729.19	11,535.79
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/REPAIR	0.00	0.00	1,253.52
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/SPRAY	0.00	125.96	0.00
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/PULL	0.00	164.46	443.80
DRAINS/OPEN,OUTLET/MOW	0.00	83.60	2,461.28
DRAINS/OPEN,PICKUP/REPAIR	1,430.40	1,430.40	0.00
ROZA MAINT/DID #11/CLEAN	4,005.45	18,811.38	0.00
ROZA MAINT/DID #11/REPAIR	0.00	0.00	10.45

STATEMENT OF INCOME EXPENSE  
Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
ROZA MAINT/DID #11/PULL	0.00	253.54	0.00
ROZA MAINT/DID #11/MOW & CUT	6,514.18	24,610.34	1,396.54
JOINT DRAINS/SVID	4,100.68	290,446.91	253,839.61
DRAINS/DID #11	39,862.69	44,890.16	39,280.04
DRAINS/PIPED,TOE/CONST	0.00	67.72	349.13
DRAINS/PIPED,TOE/REPAIR	0.00	5,599.43	1,730.82
DRAINS/PIPED,OUTLET/REPAIR	0.00	0.00	3,372.59
TOTAL DRAINS	<u>59,419.86</u>	<u>400,414.98</u>	<u>326,624.61</u>
PUMP PLANT/PUMP	14,354.75	146,526.65	144,899.33
PUMP PLANT/MOTOR	0.00	53,925.78	109,932.82
PUMP PLANT/CONTROLS	465.99	80,036.22	42,637.08
PUMP PLANT/STRUCTURES	541.19	1,039.42	8,993.95
PUMP PLANT/PIPE & VALVES	429.92	12,215.52	12,408.98
PUMP MAINT SHOP	463.64	2,206.54	611.18
PUMP PLANT/SCREENS O & M	0.00	8,950.22	7,514.83
PUMPS/SILT REMOVAL	0.00	3,895.84	6,503.97
FLOATING PUMP PLANT/STUDY	2,635.36	43,504.44	77,707.97
P14 UPGRADE	0.00	6,527.99	48,481.91
P16 UPGRADE	0.00	19,377.47	144,177.43
TOTAL PUMPS	<u>18,890.85</u>	<u>378,206.09</u>	<u>603,869.45</u>
SAFETY	5,817.78	24,194.18	34,247.60
DRUG TESTING	65.35	2,850.03	2,045.61
PORTA POTTY'S	627.36	3,731.10	4,831.33
TOTAL SAFETY/DRUG TESTING	<u>6,510.49</u>	<u>30,775.31</u>	<u>41,124.54</u>
21-22 PRESSURE PROJECT	0.00	97,445.18	95,018.21
22-23 PRESSURE PROJECT	0.00	468,785.75	1,336,277.09
23-24 PRESSURE PROJECT	13,699.99	1,109,329.41	0.00
24-25 PRESSURE PROJECT	838.35	2,469.01	0.00
TOTAL PRESSURE PROJECTS	<u>14,538.34</u>	<u>1,678,029.35</u>	<u>1,431,295.30</u>
REIMB/PRIVATE INDIV	282.76	11,827.18	14,818.95
TOTAL REIMBURSABLES	<u>282.76</u>	<u>11,827.18</u>	<u>14,818.95</u>
EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	16,876.92	3,939.74	(46,550.95)
EQUIPMENT EXPENSE/MISC	999.19	19,245.46	12,428.60
EQUIPMENT EXPENSE/TOOLS	1,037.72	10,804.92	13,182.81
STOREHOUSE EXPENSE	9,837.99	129,452.33	111,504.95
SHOP EXPENSE	3,132.46	57,569.90	35,354.77
YARD BUILDING EXPENSE	434.56	5,180.81	610.91
OFFICE BUILDING EXPENSE	1,770.56	35,479.86	3,722.81
SHOP BUILDING EXPENSE	671.58	13,319.58	353.68
WAREHOUSE BUILDING EXPENSE	1,529.00	4,106.55	301.93
SHOP ROOF EXPENSE/INSTALL	0.00	0.00	54.90
GROUNDS EXPENSE	9,423.44	67,329.96	45,626.14

Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
DISTRICT HOUSES/MISC	0.00	7,151.10	134.74
DISTRICT HOUSE/WW3	9.92	584.90	0.00
DISTRICT HOUSE/P8	0.00	15,876.64	0.00
DISTRICT HOUSE/P13E	0.00	10,752.56	0.00
DISTRICT HOUSE/P13W	0.00	428.96	12.65
DISTRICT HOUSE/P14W	0.00	10,553.65	1,094.35
SHOW UP TIME	0.00	0.00	65.58
RADIO	0.00	10,664.12	0.00
UTILITIES/SHOP & WAREHOUSE	159.44	4,510.65	3,868.60
UTILITIES/GATES & WASTEWAY	50.93	588.52	602.43
WW6 REREG/O & M	2,538.68	8,735.91	44,299.73
WW7 REREG/O & M	385.67	13,593.06	3,580.20
WW5 REREG/O&M	1,139.04	37,388.82	75,066.25
TOTAL EQUIPMENT/BUILDINGS	<u>49,997.10</u>	<u>467,258.00</u>	<u>305,315.08</u>
WATER MANAGEMENT	72,492.80	612,233.00	587,676.46
TOTAL WATER MANAGEMENT	<u>72,492.80</u>	<u>612,233.00</u>	<u>587,676.46</u>
CONTRACT/USBR/STORAGE	0.00	802,000.00	642,000.00
CONTRACT/USBR/RESERVED WORK	0.00	319,000.00	349,000.00
CONTRACT/USBR/POWER	0.00	1,113,350.00	1,113,350.00
CONTRACT/USBR/KACHESS	0.00	368,807.00	0.00
TOTAL USBR CONTRACTS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,603,157.00</u>	<u>2,104,350.00</u>
ADMIN & GENERAL SALARIES	63,530.96	743,764.54	698,485.98
DIRECTOR'S FEES	640.00	7,936.00	8,448.00
ENGINEERING MATERIALS	633.33	3,355.23	6,601.79
COMPUTER EXPENSE	882.65	14,593.35	4,779.95
COMPUTER PROGRAMS	0.00	4,571.26	2,199.00
COMPUTER MAINTENANCE	199.00	2,770.28	21,395.01
HEALTH & SAFETY COORD	4,234.22	51,784.90	48,172.16
ANNUAL LEAVE/UNION	8,789.57	120,164.29	110,281.92
SICK LEAVE/UNION	8,433.41	86,818.67	84,487.36
HOLIDAY/UNION	10,121.92	65,741.82	54,494.94
KEPT ON SALARY/UNION	0.00	0.00	2,196.00
ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE/UNION	0.00	2,519.20	8,297.90
SOCIAL SECURITY & MED TAXES	19,914.07	231,681.19	220,628.24
TAXES/UNEMPLOYMENT/UNION	0.00	2,852.73	8,469.57
INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE	4,764.91	56,587.48	82,063.54
GROUP INSURANCE/UNION	34,511.50	290,446.56	295,004.50
STATE RETIREMENT	24,391.77	295,042.27	291,151.57
WA. PAID LEAVE	566.38	6,482.07	4,624.16
ANNUAL LEAVE/NON-UNION	5,286.76	75,116.44	85,303.85
SICK LEAVE/NON-UNION	1,848.82	11,666.09	17,833.68
HOLIDAY/NON-UNION	5,579.60	33,857.96	25,987.70
JURY DUTY/NON-UNION	0.00	0.00	243.20
GROUP INS/NON-UNION	15,091.22	130,864.98	126,454.98

STATEMENT OF INCOME EXPENSE  
Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
TRAVEL & MILEAGE/ADMIN & SUPV	8,435.60	100,377.37	90,170.90
TRAVEL & MILEAGE/DIRECTOR	134.48	7,802.24	2,993.84
TOTAL ADMIN & GENERAL EXPENSES	<u>217,990.17</u>	<u>2,346,796.92</u>	<u>2,300,769.74</u>
ACCOUNTING & LEGAL SERVICES	0.00	2,100.00	12,176.00
LEGAL	0.00	32,493.43	44,465.41
LEGAL/WATER RIGHTS	4,869.13	94,185.76	81,875.00
TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES	<u>4,869.13</u>	<u>128,779.19</u>	<u>138,516.41</u>
INSURANCE/PROPERTY	1,803.97	25,167.89	23,026.05
INSURANCE/INJURY & DAMAGES	27,279.61	246,258.21	201,431.05
INSURANCE/DIRECTORS & OFFICERS	1,759.98	15,839.82	13,157.73
INSURANCE/OTHER	833.33	7,599.97	7,744.97
TOTAL INSURANCE EXPENSES	<u>31,676.89</u>	<u>294,865.89</u>	<u>245,359.80</u>
PHONE/877-3880	137.81	1,237.45	1,198.52
PHONE/973-2441	145.83	1,308.72	1,286.98
CELLULAR PHONES	3,751.97	33,463.33	33,903.92
TOTAL PHONE EXPENSES	<u>4,035.61</u>	<u>36,009.50</u>	<u>36,389.42</u>
A/P DISCOUNTS	(427.53)	(3,520.19)	(3,032.91)
GIS	0.00	2,338.33	1,887.02
MISC. TAXES	119.25	374.20	824.64
UTILITIES/OFFICE	777.61	7,815.16	6,434.25
ROZA-SVID BOJC	0.00	388,977.00	338,166.00
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	0.00	11,035.32	6,422.94
OFFICE EXPENSE	2,194.98	37,675.08	28,082.12
PUBLISHING	1,111.80	3,673.63	2,929.10
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	495.50	44,463.20	39,755.64
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	<u>4,271.61</u>	<u>492,831.73</u>	<u>421,468.80</u>
DEPRECIATION/EQUIPMENT	24,026.46	216,238.14	216,982.80
DEPRECIATION/ECS	59,520.96	535,688.63	535,688.63
DEPRECIATION/WW5 REREG	51,486.13	463,375.17	463,375.16
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	<u>135,033.55</u>	<u>1,215,301.94</u>	<u>1,216,046.59</u>
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENSES	751,389.19	12,134,467.95	11,909,622.02
NET INCOME (LOSS)	<u>(554,566.22)</u>	<u>3,022,698.62</u>	<u>2,883,713.05</u>

**COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET**  
**Roza Irrigation District**  
**For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023**

	CURRENT PERIOD	PRIOR YEAR	DIFFERENCE
CASH IN BANK/CHECKING	208,357.87	210,940.85	(2,582.98)
CASH IN BANK/O & M	17,522,038.31	16,713,022.54	809,015.77
CASH IN BANK/CONST	324,540.69	336,697.35	(12,156.66)
CASH IN BANK/USBR RESERVE	288,000.00	288,000.00	0.00
PETTY CASH	100.00	100.00	0.00
TOTAL OF ALL CASH	<u>18,343,036.87</u>	<u>17,548,760.74</u>	<u>794,276.13</u>
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	97,942.18	158,609.09	(60,666.91)
TOTAL CURRENT RECEIVABLES	<u>97,942.18</u>	<u>158,609.09</u>	<u>(60,666.91)</u>
ASSESSMENT RECEIVABLE/O & M	135,403.29	256,101.17	(120,697.88)
ASSESSMENT RECEIVABLE/CONST	1,543.02	3,398.56	(1,855.54)
ASSESSMENT RECEIVABLE/DELIQUENT INTERES	15,002.37	27,738.00	(12,735.63)
ASSESSMENT RECEIVABLE/MISC BILLS	1,027.05	1,200.41	(173.36)
TOTAL ASSESSMENT RECEIVABLES	<u>152,975.73</u>	<u>288,438.14</u>	<u>(135,462.41)</u>
INVENTORY/GAS & OIL	8,558.97	5,013.10	3,545.87
INVENTORY/VEHICLE SHOP	87,723.24	57,997.31	29,725.93
INVENTORY/SUPPLIES	607,097.99	537,086.35	70,011.64
INVENTORY/EQUIPMENT PARTS	(16,367.58)	39,101.42	(55,469.00)
TOTAL INVENTORY	<u>687,012.62</u>	<u>639,198.18</u>	<u>47,814.44</u>
PREPAID INSURANCE	90,008.42	73,996.84	16,011.58
PREPAID SVID JOINT DRAINS	56,517.90	87,979.16	(31,461.26)
PREPAID COSTS/WARRANTYS	7,215.22	165,709.14	(158,493.92)
TOTAL PREPAIDS	<u>153,741.54</u>	<u>327,685.14</u>	<u>(173,943.60)</u>
TOTAL OF ALL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>19,434,708.94</u>	<u>18,962,691.29</u>	<u>472,017.65</u>
LAND & LAND RIGHTS	467,633.44	467,633.44	0.00
BUILDINGS	90,689.05	90,689.05	0.00
ENCLOSED CONDUIT SYSTEM	37,904,537.08	35,899,536.50	2,005,000.58
PUMP UPGRADES	580,422.09	356,459.35	223,962.74
WW6 REREG	336,280.37	336,280.37	0.00
WW7 REREG	539,933.11	539,933.11	0.00
WW5 REREG	30,891,678.06	30,891,678.06	0.00
CONST & MAINT EQUIPMENT	8,003,332.04	7,635,133.18	368,198.86
MISC EQUIPMENT	1,180,929.19	1,146,915.05	34,014.14
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	115,681.38	103,023.07	12,658.31
COMPUTER SOFTWARE	44,813.41	44,813.41	0.00
TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS	<u>80,155,929.22</u>	<u>77,512,094.59</u>	<u>2,643,834.63</u>
BUILDINGS/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(90,689.05)	(90,689.05)	0.00
ECS/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(11,790,630.37)	(11,076,378.86)	(714,251.51)
WW6 REREG/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(336,280.37)	(336,280.37)	0.00
WW7 REREG/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(381,817.16)	(353,914.35)	(27,902.81)

Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	PRIOR YEAR	DIFFERENCE
WW5 REREG/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(3,192,140.02)	(2,574,306.46)	(617,833.56)
EQUIPMENT/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(4,457,795.04)	(4,119,834.04)	(337,961.00)
MISC EQUIPMENT/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(919,956.69)	(784,851.77)	(135,104.92)
OFFICE EQUIPMENT/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(93,497.21)	(91,386.73)	(2,110.48)
COMPUTER SOFTWARE/ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(36,817.92)	(27,855.24)	(8,962.68)
CAPITAL ASSETS ACCUM DEPRECIATION	<u>(21,299,623.83)</u>	<u>(19,455,496.87)</u>	<u>(1,844,126.96)</u>
USBR CONST OBLIGATION REC.	0.00	52,332.31	(52,332.31)
USBR KACHESS OBLIGATION REC.	748,791.00	0.00	748,791.00
TOTAL CONST RECEIVABLE	<u>748,791.00</u>	<u>52,332.31</u>	<u>696,458.69</u>
NET PENSION ASSET	1,148,795.00	3,196,979.00	(2,048,184.00)
TOTAL NET PENSION ASSET	<u>1,148,795.00</u>	<u>3,196,979.00</u>	<u>(2,048,184.00)</u>
TOTAL OF ALL ASSETS	80,188,600.33	80,268,600.32	(79,999.99)
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/PENSIONS	<u>1,161,227.02</u>	<u>391,672.02</u>	<u>769,555.00</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/PENSIONS	<u>1,161,227.02</u>	<u>391,672.02</u>	<u>769,555.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	81,349,827.35	80,660,272.34	689,555.01
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/EXPENSE	153,537.80	803,008.81	(649,471.01)
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/USBR/CONST	18,002.14	33,365.39	(15,363.25)
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/USBR/KACHESS	603,503.00	0.00	603,503.00
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	<u>775,042.94</u>	<u>836,374.20</u>	<u>(61,331.26)</u>
ACCRUED ANNUAL LEAVE PAYABLE	424,370.68	400,997.70	23,372.98
ACCRUED SICK LEAVE PAYABLE	576,482.78	533,157.57	43,325.21
ACCRUED SALES TAX PAYABLE	0.00	1,690.97	(1,690.97)
ACCRUED TAXES PAYABLE	225.05	237.15	(12.10)
ACCRUED IND INS PAYABLE	27,845.81	39,258.98	(11,413.17)
ACCRUED RET. DEDUC & MATCH	40,501.72	42,635.40	(2,133.68)
MISC PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	6,480.00	4,675.61	1,804.39
ACCR WA PD LEAVE DEDUCT&MATCH	9,021.10	6,654.37	2,366.73
ACC WA CARES FUND	5,830.51	0.00	5,830.51
TOTAL ACCRUED EXPENSES	<u>1,090,757.65</u>	<u>1,029,307.75</u>	<u>61,449.90</u>
DEPOSITS/EXTRA WATER	3,782.10	119,738.54	(115,956.44)
TOTAL PREPAIDS/DEPOSITS	<u>3,782.10</u>	<u>119,738.54</u>	<u>(115,956.44)</u>
CONTRACT PAY/USBR CONST	0.00	52,332.31	(52,332.31)
CONTRACT PAY/USBR/KACHESS	145,288.00	0.00	145,288.00
TOTAL LONG TERM LIABILITIES	<u>145,288.00</u>	<u>52,332.31</u>	<u>92,955.69</u>



COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET  
Roza Irrigation District  
For the Nine PERIODS ENDING September 30, 2023

	CURRENT PERIOD	PRIOR YEAR	DIFFERENCE
NET PENSION LIABILITY	663,236.00	304,735.00	358,501.00
TOTAL NET PENSION LIABILITY	<u>663,236.00</u>	<u>304,735.00</u>	358,501.00
TOTAL OF ALL LIABILITIES	2,678,106.69	2,342,487.80	335,618.89
DEFERRED INFLOWS/PENSIONS	1,210,702.00	3,349,279.00	(2,138,577.00)
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS/PENSIONS	<u>1,210,702.00</u>	<u>3,349,279.00</u>	(2,138,577.00)
RESERVE/USBR - CONST OBLIG	288,000.00	288,000.00	0.00
TOTAL RESERVES	<u>288,000.00</u>	<u>288,000.00</u>	0.00
UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS	74,150,320.04	71,796,792.49	2,353,527.55
NET INCOME (LOSS)	3,022,698.62	2,883,713.05	138,985.57
TOTAL UNRESERVED	<u>77,173,018.66</u>	<u>74,680,505.54</u>	2,492,513.12
TOTAL EQUITY	77,461,018.66	74,968,505.54	2,492,513.12
TOTAL LIABILITY, EQUITY & DEFERRED INFLOWS	81,349,827.35	80,660,272.34	689,555.01

Roza Irrigation District  
 VENDOR CHECK REGISTER REPORT  
 Payables Management

Changes: From: To:  
 Check Number First Last  
 Vendor ID First Last  
 Vendor Name First Last

From: To:  
 Check Date 10/1/2023 10/31/2023  
 Checkbook ID PRE-PAIDS PRE-PAIDS

Sorted By: Check Number

Voided Checks

Check Number	Vendor Check Name	Check Date	Amount
09-2023	U.S. BANK	10/18/2023	\$5,812.00
09-23	DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	10/18/2023	\$1,445.07
10-0423	U.S. BANK	10/10/2023	\$7,030.75
23-31	ROZA PAYROLL PAYABLE	10/13/2023	\$120,106.57
23-32	ROZA PAYROLL PAYABLE # 29676	10/27/2023	\$110,947.73
29-23	U.S. BANK/E.F.T.P.S.	10/13/2023	\$40,765.14
30-23	U.S. BANK/E.F.T.P.S.	10/27/2023	\$40,652.92
69427	SYMETRA LIFE INSURANCE CO.	10/3/2023	\$482.72
69428	THE STARLINE COLLECTION	10/3/2023	\$1,023.28
69429	SITECH NORTHWEST, INC.	10/4/2023	\$91,619.65
69430	CHRIS CULVER	10/4/2023	\$25.00
69431	BRYAN KUKES	10/4/2023	\$25.00
69432	CENTURYLINK	10/4/2023	\$12.21
69433	BRANDCRAFT MEDIA, LLC	10/4/2023	\$199.00
69434	U.S. CELLULAR	10/9/2023	\$78.47
69435	DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	10/9/2023	\$225.05
69436	AT & T MOBILITY - CC	10/9/2023	\$395.01
69437	PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT CO.	10/9/2023	\$1,676.93
69438	NW LABORERS TRUST FUND	10/9/2023	\$55,600.00
69510	NOE GUZMAN/C&C JANITORIAL	10/12/2023	\$385.00
69511	URIBE'S TREE SERVICE, LLC	10/12/2023	\$3,249.00
69512	RETTIG FORGETTE ILLER BOWERS,	10/12/2023	\$4,950.00
69513	BRYAN KUKES	10/12/2023	\$25.00
69514	ROZA EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	10/13/2023	\$88.00
69515	DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT	10/13/2023	\$1,659.90
69516	DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT	10/12/2023	\$53,179.55
69517	C. SPECK MOTORS	10/13/2023	\$132.10
69518	CITIES INSURANCE ASSOCIATION	10/13/2023	\$265.02
69519	SCOTT REVELL	10/19/2023	\$21.72
69520	PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT CO.	10/19/2023	\$190.59
69521	YAKIMA COUNTY G.I.S.	10/19/2023	\$201.74
69522	SUNNYSIDE COMM. HOSP - OCC. HE	10/19/2023	\$171.00
69523	CASCADE NATURAL GAS CO.	10/19/2023	\$113.42
69524	CENTURYLINK	10/19/2023	\$162.29
69525	CENTURYLINK	10/19/2023	\$68.99
69526	ASM AFFIILIATES	10/19/2023	\$1,530.00
69527	U.S. CELLULAR	10/19/2023	\$3,471.67
69528	WASHINGTON STATE WATER RESOURC	10/19/2023	\$4,400.00
69529	CASCADIA LAW GROUP	10/20/2023	\$8,047.23
69530	PAPE MACHINERY	10/20/2023	\$289,326.22
69531	CO-ENERGY	10/20/2023	\$16,918.78
69532	DEPARTMENT OF L & I	10/27/2023	\$27,845.81
69533	EMP SEC DEPT - PAID FAMILY & M	10/27/2023	\$9,021.10
69534	EMP SEC DEPT-WA CARES FUND	10/27/2023	\$5,830.51
69535	J2 CATTLE CO.	10/23/2023	\$14,025.00
69536	ROZA EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	10/27/2023	\$88.00
69537	DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT	10/26/2023	\$1,691.95
69538	LABORER'S LOCAL UNION 348	10/26/2023	\$2,240.00
69539	AFLAC	10/26/2023	\$554.06
69540	NCE GUZMAN/C&C JANITORIAL	10/30/2023	\$385.00
69541	JUAN SOTO	10/30/2023	\$377.28
69542	AXTER COLETANCHE, INC.	10/30/2023	\$29,159.90
69543	EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT	10/30/2023	\$2,643.63
* 69546	BRYAN KUKES	10/30/2023	\$25.00
69547	CRYSTAL SPRINGS	10/30/2023	\$121.44

\* Voided Checks

Check Number	Vendor ID	Vendor Check Name	Check Date	Checkbook ID	Audit Trail Code	Amount
Total Checks:			55	Total Amount of Checks:		\$960,688.40

\* VOIDED CK #'S 69544 + 69545  
due to mis-printed,

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# Item #2

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, District Manager *Scott*  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Presentation of 2024 Assessment Roll

**Background**

The 2024 assessment roll was presented to the Board electronically on November 1, 2023 pursuant to RCW 87.03.250 and a copy is available for public inspection at the Roza office on the front counter.

Notice of the assessment and equalization has been issued pursuant to state law, with the equalization hearing occurring on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Equalization applies to the acreage of the parcels listed on the assessment roll and does not apply to the amount assessed to those parcels.

## NOTICE OF EQUALIZATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the 2023 Assessment Roll of lands comprising the Roza Irrigation District, Yakima and Benton Counties, State of Washington, is now on file and open to inspection at the office of the Secretary of the District, Scott Revell, Sunnyside, Washington, and will remain open to inspection until and during the hearing as herein stated; that the Board of Directors of said Roza Irrigation District will meet to equalize said Assessments at the Roza Irrigation District office, corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Blaine Avenue in Sunnyside, Washington on Tuesday December 5, 2023 at the hour of 9:00 o'clock A.M., and will then consider any objections to said Roll, and will equalize and adopt the same, adjourning from day to day, if necessary, until the same is completed, not exceeding (10) ten days from said December 5, 2023.

Publish: November 16 & 23, 2023

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023

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President – Ric Valicoff

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Vice-President – Jim Willard

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Director – Jason Don

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Director – Tanner Winckler

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Director – Jason Sheehan

# Item #3

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, District Manager  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Division 2 Director Position

**Background**

State law, as excerpted below, provides for the Board to declare a Board position filled when only one qualified candidate files for the office. Tanner Winckler was the only candidate in Division 2.

*RCW 87.03.075 (excerpt)- "...If, after the expiration of the date for filing petitions of nomination, it appears that only one qualified candidate has been nominated thereby for each position to be filled it shall not be necessary to hold an election, and the board of directors shall at their next meeting declare such candidate elected as director..."*

Mr. Winckler's petition was submitted timely and the signatures of ten electors have been validated as required by statute.

**Recommended Motion**

I move to declare Tanner Winckler elected as a director for Division 2 for the 2024-2026 term.



To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, District Manager *Scott*  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Division 4 Director Position

**Background**

State law, as excerpted below, provides for the Board to declare a Board position filled when only one qualified candidate files for the office. Jason Don was the only candidate in Division 4.

*RCW 87.03.075 (excerpt)- "...If, after the expiration of the date for filing petitions of nomination, it appears that only one qualified candidate has been nominated thereby for each position to be filled it shall not be necessary to hold an election, and the board of directors shall at their next meeting declare such candidate elected as director..."*

Mr. Don's petition was submitted timely and the signatures of ten electors have been validated as required by statute.

**Recommended Motion**

I move to declare Jason Don elected as a director for Division 4 for the 2024-2026 term.

# Item #4

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To: Board of Directors

From: Scott Revell, District Manager

Date: November 7, 2023

Re: Stacked Water Rights Position

**Attachment**

1. Stacked water rights letter to Ecology

**Background**

Attached is a detailed letter to Ecology laying out the position of Roza and the Kittitas Reclamation District. Both Districts rely on water rights with May 10, 1905 priority dates and are subject to prorationing during water short years.

Some properties have irrigable land in an irrigation district and also have a water right to a nearby creek. Occasionally a landowner will attempt to sell the creek right and the new owner will attempt to transfer the creek right elsewhere to irrigate additional land and increase consumptive use.

When water rights changes and transfers are proposed they are reviewed by the Water Transfer Work Group, which includes both districts. One of the approval criteria is that transfers cannot negatively affect the total water supply available (TWSA), which is the basis for the prorationing system that was established in the 1945 consent decree.



## Kittitas Reclamation District

P.O. Box 276  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
Phone: (509) 925-6158



125 13th St, Sunnyside, WA 98944  
Phone: (509) 837-5141

November 3, 2023

(Via Email: [hsim461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:hsim461@ecy.wa.gov) and First-Class Mail)

Heather Simmons  
Central Regional Office  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
1250 West Alder Street  
Union Gap, WA 98903

Re: Dual Source Water Rights

Dear Heather:

This letter follows up a September 19, 2023, Teams meeting that representatives of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD), Roza Irrigation District (Roza) and the Yakama Nation had with Ecology staff regarding dual source water rights.<sup>1</sup>

Dual source water rights arise when an authorized place of use has two sources of water from which to raise one crop. Dual source water rights are prevalent in the Upper Yakima Basin, as there are many creeks which flow through the valley across the KRD and other irrigation purveyors' places of use. Specific to the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD), dual source water rights arise when a landowner has land within the KRD which the KRD is obligated to deliver irrigation water to because those acres are designated as irrigable and are allotted water, and, the owner of the place of use also has a state-based water right to a creek or tributary of the Yakima River. Often times, a particular landowner may desire to sell their creek water rights and continue irrigating the authorized place of use with their KRD water.

It is KRD and Roza's position that such water transfers involving dual source water rights have a significant likelihood of negatively impacting the Total Water Supply Available (TWSA) and thus harming KRD and Roza's proratable 1905 water right. We write this

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<sup>1</sup> Dual source water rights have sometimes been referred to in the Yakima Basin as "stacked" water rights.

letter to make it clear to Ecology and to others who may review this letter that KRD and Roza will regularly and routinely object to transfers involving dual source water rights that have a negative impact on TWSA.

Historically, KRD and Roza believed that stakeholders in the basin, including Ecology, United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and other irrigation purveyors recognized that transfers involving dual source water rights had an inherent risk of negatively impacting TWSA. This understanding is one of the reasons that the Water Transfer Working Group, when it developed its “box” criteria for evaluating water right transfers, included no negative impact on TWSA as a criterion.

To begin the discussion of the potential impairment created by the transfers of dual source water rights, it is appropriate to review the history of water use within the Yakima River Basin. Between 1905 and the present, there have been many events that have shaped the Yakima River system and water rights to the Yakima River and its tributaries. These events include the following:

- May 10, 1905, Federal reservation of all unappropriated waters in the basin.
- Consent Decree (Decree) (1945) – A stipulated settlement pertaining to water distribution in the basin. The Decree defined quantities of water on the main stem of the Yakima River and divided the users into proratable and non-proratable classes. The consent decree created the concept of Total Water Supply Available (TWSA).<sup>2</sup>
- Acquavella Adjudication (1977-2021) – General Adjudication proceeding filed, limited to surface water, identifying and quantifying the water rights in the Yakima Basin. A Final Decree was entered on May 9, 2019. The adjudication confirmed the 1945 Consent Decree and the concept of TWSA. The result of the rulings in Acquavella is that the Yakima River and its tributaries are fully appropriated and there is no water available for new consumptive uses.
- Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (YRBWEP) (1979-present) – Feasibility level study authorized by Congress to focus on the need to assure adequate water supplies in the Yakima Basin. The implementation of conservation measures proposed by the YRBWEP reduced out-of-stream irrigation diversions. The savings resulted in more water remaining in the stream and storage.

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<sup>2</sup> The definition of TWSA from the consent decree is “that amount of water available in any year from natural flow of the Yakima River, and its tributaries, from storage in the various Government reservoirs on the Yakima watershed and from other sources, to supply the contract obligations of the United States to deliver water and to supply claimed rights to the use of water on the Yakima River, and its tributaries, heretofore recognized by the United States.”

- Quackenbush Decision (1980) – Required USBR to work on a means to meet the project needs through more efficient or modified means having less of an impact on the fisheries resource. This resulted in the operational procedure known as the “flip-flop”, whereby late season water is released to meet operational needs below the confluence of the Yakima River with the Naches River with water stored in the Naches River system. This results in less water when fish spawn, forcing them to build redds lower in the system or in the middle of the channel, requiring less water to maintain during the winter and increasing fish egg survival.
- Order and Determination Granting Application (1981) – An order initiated by the United States Secretary of Interior on February 17, 1981, for the diversion of surface waters in the Yakima Basin to support YRBWEP. That order has subsequently been extended.
- Development of the System Operations Advisory Committee (SOAC) (1981) – An advisory board to USBR consisting of fishery biologists representing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Yakama Nation, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and irrigation entities represented by the Yakima Basin Joint Board.
- Acquavella Superior Court Order regarding the rights of the Yakama Nation (1990) – the treaty rights of the Yakama Nation were declared as follows:
  - The Yakama Nation has an unquantified non-proratable right with an 1855 priority date and proratable irrigation rights with a 1905 priority date.
  - The Yakama Nation has a right to the minimum flows necessary to maintain anadromous fish life in the river with a “time immemorial” priority date.
- 1994 Ecology Yakama Nation groundwater appeal settlement and its effects on diverters of ground and surface water in drought years
- Yakima Basin Groundwater Study (2011) – The United States Geological Survey (USGS) released the final report confirming that groundwater and surface water are directly connected in the Yakima Basin.

As water managers and stakeholders, we are all aware that the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) manages the fully appropriated surface water supply in the Yakima Basin by calculating the TWSA available. Surface water supply is then matched with all the known demands, and if adequate supplies are not available, the United States Bureau of Reclamation begins to ration proratable water users in the Basin, including KRD, Roza, and the Wapato Irrigation Project, all of which hold 1905 priority dates.

As a result of these events, surface water right holders in the Yakima Basin now fall into one of three categories:

1. Senior pre-Yakima Project water users; with a priority date prior to May 10, 1905; or
2. Proratable Yakima Project water users with a May 10, 1905 priority date. Proratable water users, like KRD and Roza, are water users who agreed to participate in the federal government's Yakima Reclamation Project on May 10, 1905. During water short years, the water supplies of the proratable water users can be rationed (or "pro-rationed") based upon Reclamation's estimate of the total available in the Yakima Basin; or
3. Junior water users with post May 10, 1905 priority dates.

Ecology, in any change or transfer decision<sup>3</sup> under RCW 90.03.380 must decide whether other water right holders, both junior and senior, will be impaired by the proposed change or transfer. Impairment is an adverse impact on the physical availability of water for a beneficial use that is entitled to protection. In Washington, water is subject to the "prior appropriation" and "first in time, first in right" doctrines of water law, which do not permit any impairment, even a *de minimis* impairment, of a senior or junior water right. *Foster v. Dep't of Ecology*, 184 Wn.2d 465, 471, 362 P.3d 959, 961 (2015).

KRD and Roza have spent years and tens of millions of dollars creating efficiencies in their irrigation delivery systems so that they can extend their irrigation season in the years when they are prorated. KRD and Roza intend to continue to spend tens of millions of dollars in the coming years creating additional efficiencies in their irrigation systems so that they can deliver irrigation water later in years when there is prorationing and to address the impacts to the KRD and Roza systems as a result of climate change. Based upon this financial outlay and the harm that KRD and Roza water users suffer and incur when there is prorationing, KRD and Roza intend to closely monitor each change and transfer decision that involves a dual source water right and where necessary challenge those transfers in order to protect every ounce of TWSA. Litigation can be avoided if Ecology and owners of dual source water rights understand the following principals that KRD and Roza will use to make decisions on dual source water rights:

1. All crops (including pasture and turf) have an established consumptive use (CU) which means – regardless of how much water you apply to the crop – the crop only consumes a finite amount of water. The rest of the water applied eventually returns to the system. If an irrigator has two sources of water and they remove one source, the CU for the crop doesn't change.
2. If the removed water source is not consumed again there is no impact to TWSA because there is no increase in consumptive use.

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<sup>3</sup> The same issue applies in the issuance of a new water right whether it be surface water right or a ground water right.

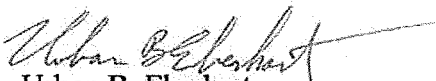



3. If, however, the removed water source is put to a new consumptive use (irrigation of additional lands, expansion of the season of use, new domestic uses, etc.) then there is increased CU and if the removed source has a priority date before 1905 then there is an increase in the non pro-ratable use of water which results in a decrease in the TWSA available to satisfy pro-ratable users like the KRD and Roza. This results in impairment of all pro-ratable users' water rights, including the KRD and Roza.
4. There are two primary ways to avoid impairment. One, do not consume the removed water source; or two, structure the transfer so there is no net increase in CU. This can be accomplished through fallowing of the place of use.
5. Land classified as irrigable by the USBR cannot be permanently fallowed.<sup>4</sup> With land classified as irrigable, the only way to separate the two sources is to not use the removed water for consumptive purposes or to fallow<sup>5</sup> the acreage that is classified as non-irrigable.

KRD delivers this letter to you as notice to Ecology, Reclamation and Basin water users so that individuals know in advance of a proposed change or transfer involving dual source water rights what KRD and Roza's position will be.

If you have any questions or concerns with regard to what we have said in this letter, please contact us so that we may discuss them in greater detail.

Sincerely,

  
Urban B. Eberhart  
Secretary/Manager  
Kittitas Reclamation District

Sincerely,  
  
Scott Revell  
Secretary/Manager  
Roza Irrigation District

cc: Chris Kossik, Ecology  
Danielle Squeochs, Yakama Nation  
Chad Stuart, USBR  
Tom Tebb, Ecology

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<sup>4</sup> KRD and Roza have contractual obligation to deliver water to any land classified as irrigable that is in their respective service areas. This contractual obligation dates to the late 1940's. KRD and Roza will deliver water to the irrigable land when requested to do so.

<sup>5</sup> Fallow means to apply no irrigation water to the place of use and to take steps to ensure no vegetation with a consumptive use, as defined in the Washington Irrigation Guide (WIG), grows in the fallowed place of use.

# Item #6

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, District Manager  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Draft 2024 O&M Budget Planning

### **Overview**

Significantly increased expenses for equipment, insurance, labor and aquatic chemicals are expected and are built into the 2024 budget. Notably decreased USBR O&M expenses offset most of the increases in the short term (1 to 2 years). Net expense changes are roughly +\$133,000.

The draft budget is based on the O&M assessment of \$195.90 which is a \$2/acre increase and provides for:

- \$6.94/ac for Water Supply Development (\$500,000), which is no increase;
- \$17.94/ac for Capital Rehabilitation of aging infrastructure (\$1,300,955), which is a \$1/acre increase-see attachments 1, 2 & 3

Assessment revenue will increase by \$2/acre which is an increase of \$145,034.

Pages 2 & 3 are a summary of the changes. A list of the income and expense line items are explained in more detail on pages 4 to 17. The Assessments-System Construction Repayment line item as has been eliminated with the USBR loan payout completion in December 2023.

Pages 18 & 19 are a list of issues on the horizon in 2025 and beyond, as well as items that are not included in the budget.

Placeholder assumptions have been made for insurance premium and aquatic herbicide price increases, because quotes for both are still pending.

**Projected changes in non-assessment income in 2024 (w/out grants)**

Item	Projected change	Line Item	Notes
Interest	+ \$ 400,000	Interest	Conservative-may be more
Misc.	+ \$ 51,000	Misc.	Increases with the assessment/ac. & +\$50K for surplus 315
<b>Total</b>	<b>+ \$ 451,000</b>		Non-assessment income only

**2024 Expense Decreases**

Item	Change	Notes
USBR O&M	-\$603,000	Projection from USBR due to reduced O&M work (-\$275K) & 2023 credits applied in 2024 (-\$327K)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$603,000</b>	<b>2024 projected expense decreases</b>

## 2024 Expense Increases

Item	Change	Notes
Equipment	+\$ 290,000	Deere 131 excavator
Vehicles	+\$ 88,200	5 pickups (+1 purchased in 2023) on the replacement schedule
Chemicals	+\$ 40,000	Main Canal (90%) and lateral canals (10%) to control weeds. \$40K is a placeholder because the premium costs are not yet known. (+\$38K in 2023)
Main Canal	+\$ 110,000	One additional 5-month temp worker, +\$15K tree removal & +\$20K concrete panels repairs & maint. position #42
Pumps	+\$ 15,000	Power pole cross arm repairs/replacements by USBR
Pressure Proj	+\$ 100,000	Materials cost increases
Drains	+\$ 11,000	Drainage Improvement District #11 increase over 2023
Union wages	+\$ 95,000	Admin-3.25% contract union wage increases effective 1/1/24
Wages/ Benefits	+\$ 169,000	Main Canal & admin line items. Wage increases for non-union employees effective 4/4/24 & health care premium increases Health increases will add \$13K/yr. The Policy Director position will add \$127K. This amount includes health benefits for #42.
Admin	+\$ 800	Additional ARC GIS license (recurring)
Admin	+\$ 10,000	Knuckle boom crane training (boom truck) not annual-recurring every few years. Larger groups have a cost efficiency. \$2K/ea
Insurance	+\$100,000	Liability premium increase will be significant, \$100K is a placeholder because the premium costs are not yet known. (+\$89K in 2023)
RSBOJC	+\$ 5,600	2024 budget has been drafted and reviewed in Sept.
Joint Drains	+\$ 8,500	2024 budget has been drafted and approved
Equip./bldgs.	+\$ 41,800	Digital equipment & pickup repair manual subscriptions & +\$35K for repair costs.
Water management	+\$ 25,000	Ditchrider tablet replacements & cell service for real time updates (\$5K is recurring for data packs during irrig. season)
Phones	+\$ 4,000	Service for additional devices
Misc.	+\$ 1,000	YBJB dues increase
Capital	+\$ 72,500	Additional capital improvements per the approved plan
<b>Total</b>	<b>+\$ 1,187,400</b>	2024 projected expense changes

1. **Assessments O & M-** Assessment income includes carryover from the prior year. There are 72,517.01 assessed acres in 2024. The assessment of \$195.90/ac. in 2024 includes:
  - \$17.94/ac for capital rehabilitation, and
  - \$6.94/ac for Water Supply Development.

Assessment income increases by \$72,517 with each \$1/acre increase. Assessment income does not include roughly \$95,800 in income from the U.S. Department of Defense for water delivery to the Yakima Training Center (See Miscellaneous income section below).

Note that budgets prior to 2022 used 72,000 acres for budgeting purposes.

2. **USBR-** Payments by USBR to Roza for reimbursable contract work on non-Roza USBR facilities such as the Wapato or Chandler canals. Assumed to be \$0 in 2023.
3. **Interest-** Interest from bank accounts and investments. Includes interest paid on delinquent accounts. Interest income is assumed to be \$800,000 in 2024 due to significantly increased return rates, which is an increase of \$400,000.

Staff's approach is to budget interest conservatively and use additional reserves if necessary (with Board approval) so as to avoid overly optimistic income forecasts and be short on revenue if interest rates decline and cause offsetting cuts or use of reserves.

2023 Interest is projected at \$800,000+. Interest in 2022 was \$286,000.

4. **Rentals-** \$5,000 in income from rental of the two occupied ditch rider houses at Pump 13 and Wasteway #3.
5. **Miscellaneous-** All other revenue not captured elsewhere. Including:
  - Repair reimbursements for damage to Roza facilities by landowners (estimated at \$75,000),
  - Payments by the U.S. Army for irrigation service to 489 acres on the Yakima Training Center (\$95,800 +/- and a net increase of \$1,000)
  - Terrace Heights Irrigation District O&M payment income (\$93,000), which could increase with THID specific cost tracking.
  - Surplus equipment/vehicles proceeds of \$85,000.
  - Flowmeters installed as part of the pressure projects (estimated at \$30,000+/-) this amount varies annually.
  - Late fees, which are minimal.

Miscellaneous income is projected to total \$380,900, which is an increase of \$51,000 in 2024 due to the U.S. Army payment increasing by a nearly equivalent amount and the sale of the surplus 315 excavator.

The surplus trip hammer was planned for auction previously but did not occur, and will occur in 2024.

6. **Tier II Water**-Income from the sale of Tier II water. The budget will assume the first \$500,000 of revenue from Tier II water in 2024 will be directed to the Water Supply Development fund (see also Expense section #20 on page 17 below) unless otherwise directed by the Board.

Tier II water income in excess of \$500,000 goes to the undesignated operating reserves unless otherwise directed by the Board.

2023 Tier II income was \$27,200 (net+/- w/ refunds) as of the end of October.

7. **Other Unbudgeted**-Grant income.

- The state grant funds for Main Canal sealing are reimbursable and will be received in mid-2024 in the amount of just over \$600,000. See page 6 for additional information on the sealing grants.
- BPA efficiency incentive grant funds in the amount of approximately \$40,000 will be received in 2024 due to the Phase 1 Pump 14 ECS project.

8. **Reserves**-The 2024 budget is built using money from the reserves, as follows:

- \$12,000 from the Drought Fund to pay for replacing emergency floats at pump stations.

Note that the reserves were enhanced in 2021 by planned underspending on capital projects by \$264,000 and due to there not being an ECS project in 2021-22 and in anticipation of the 2023 & 2024 shortfall in the capital program. See also Section #21 below.

The Drought Fund balance was \$4,049,214 as of the end of October 2023. Repairs to the Wasteway 5 Re-Regulation Reservoir will be approximately \$330,000 and are being funded from the Drought Fund.

No O&M assessment dollars have been budgeted to build operating reserves or the drought fund in 2024, although reserves build when line items are underspent.

### **Expense Line Items**

1. **Main Canal**-Mowing, embankment repairs, check structures, lining, lining drain maintenance, terrestrial and aquatic weed control, concrete sealing, repair and replacement, three re-regulation reservoirs, and O&M along two sides of 95 miles of Main canal, labor, equipment/vehicles, materials, mileage (but not fuel). Wasteway operation and maintenance labor and equipment, including:

- All chemical purchase costs (aquatic and terrestrial) are projected at \$548,000, of which:
  - ✓ Cascade
  - ✓ Acrolein
  - ✓ Teton
  - ✓ Liquid copper
  - ✓ Copper sulfate
  - ✓ Re-reg reservoir treatments
  - ✓ Terrestrial chemicals
  - ✓ Red & blue dye approximately
  - ✓ Ancillary equipment and supplies

Total chemical purchases are projected to increase in an amount not yet know. Staff has used a \$40,000 increase in 2024 as a placeholder for budgeting purposes.

Each season has a different amount of carryover chemicals unused from the prior year. Note that terrestrial chemicals and re-regulation reservoir treatment chemicals are estimated based on 2023 costs because the new prices are not yet known.

The 2024 costs are estimates based on new pricing with early purchase discounts through the Northwest Irrigation Operators purchasing pool to obtain better pricing through bulk discounts.

These are the chemical purchase costs only, and include dye, but do not include equipment, labor, fuel and lab analysis of samples. Ancillary equipment includes repairs to the chemical pumps, trailers and miscellaneous chemical application equipment.



- Roughly 90% of aquatic and terrestrial chemical costs are assigned to the Main Canal. Chemicals used in the re-regulation reservoirs are included in the Main Canal line item.

Approximately 9% of the herbicide expenses are for terrestrial weed control.

- Nine 5-month temporary workers in 2024 as follows:

Tasks	#	Notes
ECS (lateral canal piping)	3	Same as 2019-2021
Canal starts up	3	Same as 2021 + 1 over 2022
Weed pulling/water truck	1	Same as 2019-2022
Grouting	1	1 less than 2021
Warehouse	1	Same as 2019-2022

This is an increase of one temporary worker compared to 2023. See the table on page 19.

Not all temporary workers are listed in the Main Canal line item. Each five-month temporary employee costs the District a total of around \$20,500 in wages and payroll taxes, but not including unemployment if the employee files after leaving the District.

- The Main Canal line item also includes the following items
  - ✓ Canal geo-liner purchase-one roll (\$7K/yr.) for lateral leaks, undershot exit headwalls and repair of existing liner. Liner is typically purchased in multi-roll orders every few years to save on freight costs.
  - ✓ Grouting materials expenses (\$34K/yr.) The amount can vary widely based on grout machine down time and the size of the voids being filled but peaks at approximately \$34K/yr. +/-
  - ✓ Concrete panel repairs (\$35K/yr.) which is an increase of \$20K.
  - ✓ \$25K/yr. for tree trimming/removal using contractors along the canals. Which is an increase of \$15K
  - ✓ \$75K/yr. is included to purchase crushed rock for canal O&M roads & miscellaneous use (e.g., flowmeter pads, etc.).
- \$75,000 for fuel was added to the Main Canal line item in 2022, that allocation was moved to the Equipment-Building line item plus an additional \$75,000 in 2023 and is unchanged in 2024.

- The maintenance crew will consist of 42 full time positions. See the table on page 19.
2. **Lateral Canals**- Includes: mowing, embankment repairs, terrestrial and aquatic weed control, labor, equipment/vehicles, and materials for 37.5 miles of open ditches and 352.2 miles of piped laterals.

Roughly 10% of chemical costs are assigned to the lateral canals, which equates to about \$55,000 in 2024.

3. **Drains**- The network of drains is nearly as extensive as the network of canals. This line item includes:

- Joint Drains (\$306,238). There are 30 joint drains and three wasteways whose O&M costs are shared with SVID. Joint Drains costs are projected to increase \$8,500 2024. Joint Drains are administered by SVID (and charges 15% for overhead), and Roza is billed one time per year in January. SVID has a drain crew of nine people.

Joint Drains have a separate budget which lists projected expenses for each drain, and was approved by the Board in September 2023.

- Drainage Improvement District (DID) #11 is the lower Moxee A drain and five smaller tributary drains and had been budgeted at \$62,000 in 2023. DID #11 expenses can vary widely.

DID #11 is no longer operated by Yakima County, but instead by the District's own staff and Roza is billed twice a year. DID #11 expenses have increased markedly in recent years and staff has been securitizing these expenses since December and will report back to the Board on them separately.

Roza expended \$6K to \$10K in 2023 labor and equipment to perform maintenance work in DID #11 drains and can do so again in 2024.

The Roza Board accepted the DID #11 2024 budget proposal in August, which included a Roza portion of \$81,254. Assuming \$8,000 in credits for work done by Roza in 2023, the net fiscal impact to Roza in 2024 will be \$11,254 more than the 2023 budgeted amount.

Roza is continuing to propose undertaking more of the DID #11 work to reduce costs.

- Roza labor, equipment and fuel expenses related to operating and maintaining Roza drains. Expenses to maintain Roza drains can vary widely and increased drain expenses are typically offset with reduced Main Canal or lateral canal maintenance expense reductions, and are projected at \$15,000.

The various types of Roza drains includes:

- ✓ Lining drains (through the Main Canal floor in concrete lined sections);
- ✓ Undershot drains (draining land uphill of the Main Canal under the canal);
- ✓ Toe drains (drain to collect seepage at the toe of the canal slope);
- ✓ Overshot drains (into the Main Canal from upland areas); and
- ✓ Pickup drains (on-farm runoff conveyed via a swale following the lay of the land to a larger drain).

The total net drain expenses, for all types of drains is expected to increase by at least \$19,754 due to DID #11 & Joint Drain expenses.

4. **Pumps**-Maintenance, operation, repair and replacement of Roza's fifty-seven 1940s era pumps at the eighteen pumping plants, and includes intake screen expenses as well as wages and benefits for the District's two Pump Mechanics, mileage (but not fuel), tools and parts. Non-capital expenses in this line item fluctuate but have ranged from \$360,000 to \$380,000 over the past two years.

This line item includes:

- \$75,000 for pump motor reconditioning and rewinds. This amount assumes \$25,000 for five pump reconditions and \$50,000 for two rewinds (at \$25K per unit +/- typically). These expenses can vary by season, and are time sensitive to get the work done before the irrigation season begins.
- An increase of \$10,000 to account for increased pump repair costs, particularly machine shop costs when repairs occur.
- A reduction of \$10,000 to test roughly half of the 57 pump motors. Testing occurs roughly every five years over a two-year period. 2023 was year 2

of the most recent 2-year testing cycle. Testing was previously done in 2014 & 2015. This amount can be eliminated in 2024.

- An increase of \$15,000 for power pole cross arm repair and replacement by USBR. The power poles support the wires which supply power to the 18 pumping stations which provide water to 27,000 acres of land served by the pump lateral canals.

5. **Safety-Drug testing-** Safety training costs, canal safety education, and drug tests. Staff wages during safety training and personal protective equipment.
6. **Pressure Projects-**Piping lateral canal Pump 14-phase 2 (to be completed in 2024) \$2,500,000. Includes the cost of pipe, labor, equipment and fuel. The pressure project crosses the fiscal year because the pressure project begins in September and ends in March. The next ECS project (Pump 3 Low) will begin in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2024.

Includes pressure project related expenses such as:

- Equipment rental (\$60,000 +/-)
- Road rock (\$153,000 for Pump 14)
- Three temporary employees (61,500) for the 2023-24 enclosed conduit system (ECS) project come from this line item.

The road rock expense for both phases of the Pump 14 ECS project is estimated and was incurred in 2016 as part of a large multi-project rock purchase. Road rock for ECS projects varies from \$80,000 to \$220,000 based on the size of the project.

This amount has not changed since 2014, and 2.4M in 2014 equals \$3.15M in 2023. Staff is proposing to increase this line item by \$100,000 to begin accounting for material cost increases, which over the course of the remaining 14 years of the program will result in \$1.4M.

7. **Reimbursables-** Includes:
  - ✓ Contract work for USBR by Roza crews on non-Roza facilities,
  - ✓ Repairs for damage done by land owners,
  - ✓ Cooperative piping (Roza installed land owner purchased pipe)
  - ✓ Flow meter replacement/relocations, etc. (E.g., 6005 jobs).

The 2024 budget assumes no USBR related expenses. Reimbursables can vary widely, and are projected at \$75,000.

8. **Equipment-Buildings-** Equipment & vehicle repair (parts and labor), fuel, facilities and grounds maintenance, and operation for all Roza facilities, shop expenses (parts and labor), miscellaneous tools and equipment and equipment operating expenses. Included are:
- \$60,000 is included for major equipment & vehicle repairs and building repairs, which is a \$35,000 increase.
  - \$15,000 has been included for small tools (no change).
  - \$6,800 in new subscription repair manual costs for equipment and vehicles.

The District typically incurs \$50,000 to \$60,000 in tire purchases, tire repairs and wheel alignments annually which are included in this line item.

The 2024 budget does not include funds to repair the Warehouse roof (\$35,000 to \$50,000+/-).

9. **Water Management** –Wages and benefits for thirteen Ditchriders and four relief riders to cover vacations/sick days during the water season and vehicles and related expenses. 2024 wage increases are captured in the Administration line item. Relief Ditchriders come from the maintenance crew when a Ditchrider is ill or on leave, or at training.

This line item includes Ditchrider overtime for weekends and holidays which totals approximately \$55,000, which is approximately a \$19,000 savings over prior years beginning in 2023 due to scheduling efficiencies (2 employees on weekends and holidays instead of 3).

10. **USBR O&M and Power-**Roza has contracts with USBR for operations and maintenance of the five reservoirs, and for delivery of electric power for Roza's eighteen pumping plants.

Both the O&M and power costs are billed by USBR to Roza in two installments each year (June and December). The first 2024 installments will be paid in December 2023.

Estimates from USBR

	2018	2019 initial est. from USBR	2020 budget w/ 2019 O&M credits	2021 initial estimate from USBR	2022	2023	2024
Power	\$886,691	\$886,691	\$886,691	\$886,691	\$1,126,000	\$1,113,350	\$1,113,350
O&M	\$980,000	\$1,027,000	\$727,044	\$1,067,000	\$ 991,000	\$1,121,000	\$ 518,000
Total	\$1,866,691	\$1,913,691	\$1,613,735	\$1,953,691	\$2,117,000	\$2,234,350	\$1,631,350

**USBR Power**

This is the cost of power to pump irrigation water to the lateral canals which irrigate 27,000 acres above the Main Canal which are served by the 18 pump stations and to pump water into the WW5 re-regulation reservoir.

- The 2024 power estimate of \$1,126,000 was given to Roza in September 2023, and represents no change.
- 2024 power expenses are paid 50% in December 2023 and 50% in June 2024. When there are credits, they come off the June (2<sup>nd</sup>) payment.

**USBR O&M**

- Preliminary estimates from USBR in September were that O&M charges would decrease by \$603,000 in 2024, due to unfilled vacancies at USBR and project work not occurring and \$327,000 in projected credits from 2023 which will reduce the 2024 bill.
- 50% of 2024 O&M expenses (\$422,500) will be prepaid in December 2023. 50% is paid in June, and when there are credits, they come off the June (2<sup>nd</sup>) payment.
- The breakdown for USBR O&M costs are:
  - ✓ \$523,000 for Roza's proportionate share of USBR's Yakima Project storage system, which is a decrease of \$279,000.
  - ✓ \$322,000 for Roza's proportionate share of O&M for Roza dam, the first 11 miles of the Main Canal (which are the "reserved works") and wasteway O&M, which is up \$3,000.

- The irrigation districts pay 50% of the USBR's Yakima Project O&M costs and Roza's portion is based on its percentage of the total water diversions.

For example, if Roza accounts for 22% of the water diverted in the Yakima Project, Roza is charged 22% of the 50% of O&M costs that the irrigation districts pay.

The cost decreases may last for a few years, but are temporary because they are the result of an abnormally large number of unfilled positions in the Yakima Field Office. At some point, those jobs will be filled and maintenance work will increase and Roza's costs will increase commensurately. The credits are equal to over \$8/acre in 2023.

**USBR-Construction-** This line item has been eliminated due to payoff of the loan!

#### **11. Administration-General Expense-**

- Non-union wages, salaries and benefits (13 positions) not captured in the line items above. The budget includes a 4.5% COLA for non-union employees in 2024 effective on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

The staff engineer position remains unfilled which will avoid nearly \$100,000 in salary and benefit expenses.

- Health insurance and fringe benefits for all Roza employees, including the two new positions which are projected to increase by \$38,000;
- Board expenses (meeting fees, training and travel);
- Staff travel and training;
- Expenses related to State audits;

This line item also again includes \$5,000 for scheduled computer upgrades.

**12. Legal-** The District uses two law firms. Brian Iller is the District's general counsel and Cascadia handles environmental issues.

Outside counsel is hired on occasion when specialty expertise is required, and in some cases is paid from separate line items. Expenses can vary widely based on the complexity of the issues encountered during the year.

Expenses have ranged from \$50,000 to \$80,000 in recent years, not including litigation defense and water supply development.

13. **Insurance-** Liability insurance for the District's properties and operations. Total expenses for insurance in 2024 are projected to increase significantly based on current coverage levels, which includes the broker fee to HUB, International which remains unchanged at \$10,000. Premium increases are not yet known and have been estimated at \$100,000 for budgeting purposes. Both are paid in December of the year prior and are expensed monthly.

The District's policy includes \$10M in coverage plus \$10M in additional coverage called "excess coverage" (e.g. in excess of the baseline). The premium for the "excess" coverage has been increasing significantly. Insurance premiums continue to increase, particularly for the last \$5M in liability coverage that is in excess of the \$10M base coverage

The additional \$10M of excess insurance coverage had gone from roughly \$7,500 ten years ago to over \$62,000 in 2023 due in part to Coronavirus related risks and partially due to the ever-increasing litigiousness environment. Insurance premiums are being driven upward by the number of claims reaching the excess coverage layer, large judgments awarded by juries, higher settlements as a result, and defense of COVID claims.

The District's deductible is \$10,000 and the budget does not include funds for paying deductibles. Two full deductibles were paid in 2019 and none in 2020-2022. One in 2023 (for a pickup fire). Claim payouts typically range between \$6,000 to \$12,000 per year and are not budgeted.

The District has examined increasing the deductible to \$25,000, \$50,000, \$100,000 in order to reduce premiums. The premium reductions were not significant and did not justify the higher deductibles, although that may change in the years ahead.

The District is in the Cities Insurance of Washington Pool, which allows water districts and sewer districts to join. School districts are in a separate pool for risk rating, because they have different risk profiles.

The insurance policy runs from December 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> each year. The District's insurance broker shops the coverage package with other carriers annually.



Roza's insurance follows the districts vehicles & equipment no matter who is operating them. Insurance expenses can vary during the year because when new vehicles and equipment are added to the fleet the insurance for them is added to the policy and when old ones are sold the district gets a small credit.

14. **Phones**- \$49,000 in cell phone & tablet charges in 2024, plus \$2,700 for landlines and Wi-Fi for the Upper End and Lower End offices are included in this line item. This line item increases by \$4,000.

- Landlines for the Roza headquarters in Sunnyside are budgeted through RSBOJC due to the shared computer/phone system.
- Cellular SCADA data transmission is budgeted in the Main Canal line item.

15. **RSBOJC**- RSBOJC expenses (water quality, safety coordinator, shared phones/network expenses). Total expenses are projected to increase by \$5,646 in 2024. Roza's share will increase by roughly \$10,323 in 2024, due to the reduced use of reserves which were drawn down over the past few years.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Roza	\$256,934	\$270,436	\$399,683	\$338,166	\$388,977	\$399,300
SVID	\$256,934	\$270,436	\$399,683	\$338,166	\$388,977	\$399,300
<u>RSBOJC</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$85,000</u>
<u>Reserves</u>						
Total Budget	\$913,868	\$940,872	\$849,366	\$826,332	\$877,954	\$883,600

RSBOJC is administered by SVID and annual expenses are paid in January and are expensed monthly. RSBOJC reserves are projected to be \$162,466 at the end of 2024.

16. **Miscellaneous**-Dues and subscriptions, office building utilities, computers, office equipment and supplies, publishing, miscellaneous taxes and bad debt.

Major association dues are unchanged in 2024 (unless noted). All dues are paid in the first quarter of the year.

- \$43,000 Yakima Basin Joint Board (+\$1,000)
- \$39,900 Yakima River Basin Irrigation Legal Coalition

- \$28,900 Washington State Water Resources Association (\$6,900 of which is the legislative portion which includes NWRA dues and the association's lobbyist in Olympia)
- \$8,700 Family Farm Alliance (\$0.12/acre)
- \$100 Northwest Irrigation Operators dues, which includes the herbicide purchasing pool

This line items increases \$1,000 in 2024 over 2023.

This line item had been combined with RSBOJC expenses prior to 2015.

**17. Equipment Purchase-** \$290,000 is budgeted in 2024 compared to \$0 in 2022 & 2023. The District had been budgeting roughly \$300,000 for equipment replacement in recent years.

Note that separate approvals by the Board outside of the budget have funded other equipment purchases.

**18. Vehicle Purchase-** The following are scheduled for purchase in 2024: 4 ditchrider trucks, and 1 pump mechanic truck at a total cost of \$299,000.

\$18,000 from the 2023 O&M budget was used toward the 2024 pump shop truck replacement, which increased significantly in price from the initial estimates presented to the Board in August.

2023	\$155,000
2022	\$0
2021	\$150,000
2020	\$230,000
2019	\$230,000

\$230,000 which had been budgeted annually for the past several years, which equals \$290,000 in 2023.

Vehicles are typically, but not always, purchased through the state contract buying pools that that the District has access to. The pool is accessible by all public entities and in some cases, there is reciprocity with neighboring states. See also the 2025 and beyond section.

19. **Water Supply Development-** \$1,000,000 is budgeted for permitting, design and related expenses as well as water right/supply acquisitions or upstream capital improvements outside of the district which could result in additional water being available during future droughts.

Funded with \$500,000 from assessments and \$500,000 from Tier II revenue, provided that Tier II revenue is received in 2024. Prior budgets had \$500,000 in Tier II revenue, except for 2021 in which \$300,000 was budgeted.

The Water Supply Development fund balance stood at \$4,049,138 as of November 2023.

Year	Assessed portion \$6.94/ac.	Tier II portion	Total Income	Notes
2017	\$500,000	\$450,560	\$ 950,560	Net tier II revenue was less than \$500K
2018	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	
2019	\$500,000	\$ 53,920	\$ 553,920	Less than full water supply
2020	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	
2021	\$500,000	\$300,000	\$ 800,000	\$200K budgeted from Tier II to balance budget
2022	\$500,000	\$483,000	\$ 983,000	Some Tier II 2022 revenues were reprogrammed for winter work projects and equipment
2023	\$500,000	\$27,360	\$ 527,360	Less than full water supply
2024	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Presumes full water supply
Totals	\$4,000,000	\$2,814,840	\$6,814,840	Total WSD fund income through 2024

20. **Capital Rehabilitation-** \$1,313,000 for several projects. The project-by-project spending plan for these funds in 2024 was approved by the Board on 9/6/22.

This line item increases by \$72,500 in 2024 with a \$1/ac increase for capital projects. \$17.94 per acre of the assessment funds these projects. Note also the use of \$12,000 in drought funds.

The capital projects have been removed from the individual line items (e.g. Main Canal, Pumps, etc.).

## Looking ahead to 2025 and Beyond

- The USBR O&M cost decreases may last for a few years, but are temporary because they are the result of an abnormally large number of unfilled positions in the Yakima Field Office. At some point, those jobs will be filled and maintenance work will increase and Roza's costs will increase commensurately.

Combined with much highest interest income (\$5/ac +/-) expenses increases are mostly offset.

- USBR power costs will be stable through 2026.
- The equipment budget will need to be fully funded (\$300K+) and needs to begin increasing to keep up with inflation. The updated plan should assume a reasonable escalation rate for future budgets. \$300,000 in 2017 = \$380,000 in 2023.

Looming equipment replacements: over the next several years include:

- ✓ Sterling dump truck (2025)
  - ✓ 315 Excavator (2026)
  - ✓ Grader
  - ✓ 1952 small grader
  - ✓ Forklift
  - ✓ Vac truck (to replace the jet truck)
  - ✓ Boom truck
- Union labor costs will increase at a not yet known rate in 2025-27 due to the labor agreement expiring in December 2023.
  - Liability insurance is expected to increase significantly again in 2025.
  - 3 pickups and the suburban are scheduled for replacement in 2025 (\$215K+/-).
  - Aquatic weed control chemicals will increase. If the first two Sonde dye detectors prove to be a good investment up to three more will be requested at \$10K/ea.
  - Pump station switchgear, which can run over \$1M for a larger pump station may be necessary before the pump station is replaced, although doing so will reduce the eventual pump station replacement cost proportionately.
  - Power pole cross arms are in need of repair and replacement and the District needs to be budgeting to replace several annually at a cost of \$15,000 +/-.

- Replacement of the pump station main tubes from the pump to the head weirs at all 18 pump stations. Costs are not yet known. The tubes need to be examined to begin prioritizing replacement.
- Two-year pump testing cycle will begin again in 2027. The cost during the 2022/2023 cycle was approximately \$10,000 total.
- The District's will need to budget more for rock purchases when the stockpile at Rothrock Road is exhausted. Roughly 50% of the crushed rock pile will remain at the start of the 2024 irrigation season.
- DID #11 expenses should trend downward in 2025.
- The warehouse roof needs to be replaced.

### **Items Not Included in the O&M Budget**

- Winter work program expenses. The capital plan had been used for several years to fund a variety of projects. Most of those funds are now programmed several years out and are transitioning significantly toward pump station replacement.

Winter projects can often involve \$250K to \$750K in hard costs, typically construction materials, specialty contractors & additional fuel/equipment rental.

Tier II funds and USBR O&M/Power credits have funded much of this work in the past two years.

- Large leave payouts for retiring employees. Two longtime employees will also likely retire 2024. They have leave accumulations of approximately \$35,000 to \$75,000 which required to be paid out and are not included in the 2024 budget.
- Deductibles and claim payouts. The District's deductible is \$10,000 and the budget does not include funds for paying deductibles. Two full deductibles were paid in 2019 and none in 2020-2022. One in 2023 (for a pickup fire).

Claim payouts typically range between \$6,000 to \$12,000 per year and are not budgeted. Claims in 2023 have been just over \$3,000.

- District Manager wage increases.
- Acquisition of a future HQ site
- 43<sup>rd</sup> maintenance crew position (recurring)

Year	Full time Crew size	Temps	Total temp mos.	Union positions only (not supervisors)
2014	39	0	0	Often 1 to 3 workers were out or were on light duty for extended periods at any given time.
2015	39	0	0	“ “
2016	39	3	9	Three-month temps for ECS added using Tier II funds
2017	43	3	9	1 Troubleshooter, 1 Equipment operator and 2 relief ditchriders/class III maintenance positions added. The crew went down to 41 w/ 2 promotions mid-2017. New Maintenance Superintendent & Asst.  Three-month temps for ECS & planned Nov. Friday OT
2018	41	7	21	Three-month temps (4 in O&M & 3 ECS)
2019	43	10	50	2 crew added (to backfill the spots created by the promotions to supervisory jobs in 2017) plus 3 five-month temps were added for a total of 10 temps  The rules changed in 2018 due to a Supreme Court ruling affecting union membership and temps could work 5 months & w/out joining union or the state retirement system. Total budgeted temp months increased from 21 to 50
2020	43	10	50	Five-month temps (COVID absences diminished crew )
2021	41	9	45	2 crew positions eliminated to balance budget. five-month temps
2022	41	7	35	Five-month temps (2 temps cut in Dec.)
2023	41	8	40	Five-month temps
2024	42	9	45	Five-month temps

Crew size	Overall effect* (w/ 7 to 10 temps)
38-40	Little to no progress on backlogged work and the backlog grows at times
40-41	Some progress at times on backlogged work (usually winter & before/after aquatic treatments occur during irrigation season)
42-43	Very good progress on backlogged work all year

\*These are generalizations, and can be affected by the number of workers out due to illness, injury & delays in filling vacancies.

# Item #7

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, District Manager *Scott*  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Upcoming Travel by the Board of Directors

**Background**

The Bylaws require that the Board authorize travel by Directors. The 2023 WSWRA annual conference will be held in Spokane on November 29 to December 1.

**Recommended Motion**

I move to approve travel to the WSWRA annual conference (list applicable Board members).



# Item #8

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Dave Rollinger, Watermaster *DR*  
Date: November 7, 2023  
Re: Recent Past and Future Maintenance Work

### **Summary for October**

October has consisted of scheduled maintenance and dewatering and repairing the water distribution system.

### **Water Delivery**

- Water diversions ceased on Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 06:30 reducing water flows 150 CFS the first hour and 50 CFS per hour until the radial gates were completely shut at 11:30.
- Ditchriders have closed their individual beats and are doing repair work until complete.
- Staff drained the WW-5 re-regulation reservoir so that the liner and reservoir gate could be inspected.

### **Staffing**

- Chris Culver one of our Heavy Equipment operators resigned to go to work for Ingersoll Rand. Chris had worked for Roza since 2004.
- We hired Chris Kenny full time on October 20<sup>th</sup> and his first day will be Jan 2, 2024. Chris has farmed with his dad for many years.
- We hired Ryan Slack as a 5 month temporary employee on October 24, 2023. Ryan worked for Yakima Chief for the last couple years.

### **Training**

- Tim King our Safety Director coordinated a trenching, shoring and competent person class presented by Trenching Shoring Services Inc.

### **Distribution System Maintenance**

- The mowing crew finished the third pass mowing all open laterals and drain ditches for the year, the manpower will be used on the P14 ECS project.

- Crews have blown out gravel pack air lines to help prevent trapped water from freezing and breaking the lines.
- Washington wildlife control was hired to remove beavers from the Moxee A Drain that were plugging farmers culverts, they were able to remove a total of 7 beavers in the second phase.
- Cleaning the Moxee A drain with the rented John Deere 210 long stick excavator is done for the year, crews were able to make substantial progress in the drain that hasn't been cleaned in many years.

#### **P14 ECS**

- Crews began staging equipment, removing gates and weir blades and pumping out structures in preparation of structure removal and pushing the lateral closed with the D6 Cats on the Pump 14 ECS project.
- Crews have laid 3,000' +/- of pipe and have finished 5 of the 6 scheduled road crossings.

#### **Weed Control**

- Spray crews started spraying Glyphosate to help control canary grass that has started overtaking and hold back water in open laterals.

#### **Equipment**

- After very positive demonstration, a diamond disc mulcher was purchased for the our 299D skid steer from Pape Machinery.
- Roza mechanics replaced the clutch in #65 our 1999 Freightliner dump truck.

#### **Projected for November**

- Continue working on the P14 ECS project.
- Install 300' of Huesker liner Terrace Heights Pump lateral.
- Remove and replace Main Canal and Wasteway panels.
- Repair fencing at siphons 4, 8 and 9.
- Install 59.5 gravel pack.
- Clean and prep the Main Canal for the contractor to apply 2.5 miles of Aquaelastic.
- Replace 5 inline valves.
- Cut trees and brush on the Main Canal embankment.

# Item #9

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To: Board of Directors

From: Scott Revell, District Manager *Scott*

Date: November 7, 2023

Re: District Manager's Monthly Update

### **Attachment**

1. Letter from Plauche and Carr in appreciation of the Riparian Roundtable tour.
2. ERF Winter 2023-24 Weather Forecast (12 pages).

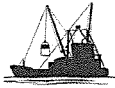
### **Miscellaneous Items**

1. A contract HLA Engineering and Land Surveying has been executed for surveying work. A request for qualifications was issued and HLA was determined to be the most qualified. Roza can do reimbursable surveying work for USBR under this contract. Roza has a separate contract with USBR for reimbursable O&M work at reservoirs and on fish facilities.
2. Tier II income for the 2023 season was \$27,266.
3. Yakima County may begin testing water quality in the Moxee A drain as a requirement of the Clean Water Act stormwater permit that the County obtains from the State Department of Ecology. Staff is tracking the issue closely.
4. The Northwest Irrigation Operators Conference will be the week of February 27<sup>th</sup> in Boise.
5. Family Farm Alliance will be February 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> in Reno.

### **October Meetings Report**

- ✓ System Operations Advisory Committee (October 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- ✓ Riparian Roundtable tour (October 9<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Work Group, Executive Committee, and Implementation Committee workshop (October 11<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ Yakama Nation Sculpture dedication in Roslyn (October 12<sup>th</sup>)

- ✓ Cle Elum Pool Raise Technical Team (October 18<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ WSWRA (October 18<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ Joint KRD/Roza Board meeting (October 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- ✓ KRD/Roza 2024 drought preparations meeting with Ecology (October 25<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ Yakima Basin Joint Board (October 27<sup>th</sup>)



PLAUCHÉ  
& CARR LLP

Pacific Northwest Office  
1218 3rd Ave, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98101  
206.588.4188

Gulf Coast Office  
1110 River Rd S, Suite 200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
225.256.4026

October 26, 2023

Scott Revell, District Manager  
Roza Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 810  
Sunnyside, WA 98944  
*via email: srevell@roza.org*

Dear Scott:

We hope this letter finds you well. We wanted to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to you, the Roza Irrigation District, and the Yakima Basin Joint Board for hosting and providing transportation for the Riparian Roundtable site visits on October 9. Your work and the support of the Roza Irrigation District and Joint Board were critical to making the site visits a success.

The Riparian Roundtable group found tremendous value in the tour. In our meeting the following day, the group shared that getting out on the ground and learning about the Roza Irrigation District's work and partnership with others in the Yakima Basin on riparian and water issues was inspiring and highly informative to the Roundtable's discussions towards policy and spending recommendations to protect and restore riparian habitat for salmon and steelhead recovery.

Once again, thank you for your outstanding support. We hope you will pass on our thanks to others at the Roza Irrigation District and Yakima Basin Joint Board who contributed to the day.

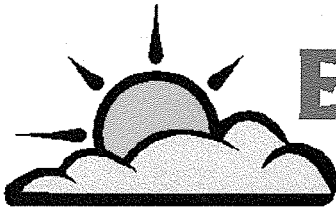
Sincerely,

Samuel W. "Billy" Plauché

Amanda M. Carr

Peter H. Dykstra

Diani Taylor E.



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Extended Range Weather Forecasting  
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430 North Lotus Isle Drive \* Portland, Oregon 97217 \* Phone (503) 286-4062 \* Fax: (503) 285-3633 \* E-Mail: [Customer\\_Service@erfweather.com](mailto:Customer_Service@erfweather.com)  
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<b>Transmit date:</b> Friday Oct 27, 2023	<b>Send To:</b> SRevell@Roza.org	<b>Company:</b> ROZA-IRRIGATION-PROSSER	<b>Route To:</b> Scott Revell
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FALL-WINTER, 2023 SEASONAL FORECAST  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND SOUTHERN B.C.  
01 NOVEMBER TO 30 APRIL, 2024

\*\*\* Wet & active Fall-winter and Early Spring! El Nino! \*\*\*  
\*\*\* Potential for Low level snows EARLY, THEN MILD \*\*\*  
\*\*\* Super El Nino winter, wet & Active. Flooding? \*\*\*

FYI: Covid came knocking at our door, like a knothed, I let it in. Soooo, we have been dealing with this the last 2 weeks. I have been okay just a bit tired, but it has impacted others more so. Dang, anyway, I hope all of you are good, we are getting better. Take care. Phil

BTW: I did make adjustments to account for El Nino for Southern BC and No. Wa./No. Idaho. However, given that this is a super event, I was a bit more robust with moisture than I would be if it were a weaker event. Phil

A modest repeat from last year with snow for late October and Early November but mainly for those East of the Cascades over to the Rockies. Salt Lake could see a decent dusting and Missoula, even SE Idaho around Idaho Falls and Pocatello down to Salt Lake and Wasatch Front. Then chilly air to follow for a few days. But November and December seem to be milder and wet to follow. I do not see much of an impact over NorCal at this point, November looks rather calm early. This plays directly into my thoughts about triggers, the triggers are North over the PacNW so they are wet. But no triggers yet for California, so you folks are dry for now, but NorCal could be wet 2nd half. It does take time for El Nino to kick in and for the "Triggers" to head South! Even for a Super El Nino.

Ag folks will need to protect tender plants, etc. But for some, this is part of the hardening process. Nothing serious yet.....

PLEASE NOTE:

This is my winter seasonal forecast for the coming Fall-winter Season, 2024. These are rather arduous to write, and verify, due to the complexity of weather patterns around the globe. I have been doing these forecasts for 50(!) years now, and seem to do okay with them, but beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder, so use them accordingly. I certainly enjoy the challenge of doing them, but I also enjoy following the development of weather patterns around the region and country and globe. I would not bet the farm on these but certainly use them for advisory/planning purposes!

Keep in mind that these are my views of the weather pattern, locally and globally. I do look at other items of interest; climate cycles, earth cycles, solar cycles and sea surface temperatures. However, I have found that simply following the overall global weather pattern is a worthy endeavor too. I do not look at other forecasts prior to writing mine as I do not wish to cloud my thought processes, so this is my forecast entirely, for better or worse, right or wrong! Enjoy.....!

I look at the overall 6 month period, then break it down month by month and try to catch the longer term trends. It is difficult to catch the small scale events, but at times, it is easy to suggest that we will see a greater threat of valley/Basin snows, or a lesser threat. You can't always catch some of the small features which can cause us massive trouble. Those events are covered in the daily forecasts. Anyway, there is value in looking long term, there are many of you who understand my efforts and use these forecasts to help make longer term decisions.



Thanks!

Keep in mind that it is rare that we have one dominate weather pattern for the entire 6 month period, it usually varies, sometimes markedly, so it is tough to use one word to describe the entire period. But if I did, right now I would call it "Active-Variable"! Two words. Intense at times too. Many words....But this holds again this year, so be ready. I am concerned about the placement of the Central pac Ridge and how much it amplifies off the coast and over the North Pac. If it Arcs North, then we have to be very serious about Arctic air sooner rather than later. We have had numerous February events, but we are vulnerable to Fall events too! Please, be ready.....! If it stays flat, then the west would be in for some impressive rainfall, even BC! And certainly for California.

#### SPRING AND SUMMER REVIEW:

The Spring rainfall dropped off quickly again and left us with a long mainly dry summer. Of course, we did see plenty of thunder action East of the mtns over to the Rockies that did impact many and did help to minimize the fire danger for many of us. But certainly not for all. I think it was a quiet fire season for many areas compared to what we have seen. I think it was helped by the Mtn snowpack and the Summer showers. We did have hot weather over the SW and for some of us in the west too with more 80 degree days than normal. Even some record heat in August. But oddly, the heat did not impact those in the Central Valleys of California that did not have as much heat units than normal. Thus, some crops like cherries were very late, and that caused them to bump up against the crop from the PacNW. That was an odd impact for all of us, really messed with the market place. Same too with hay folks. Plus, Hilary really messed with California too with more heavy rainfall in areas that do not see rain at all, only heat. This was a weather pattern shift, not Climate Change! The Media just can't get it right, ever!

But I think many of us enjoyed the summer and early Fall, but we did get into some decent late September rainfall, and we have had some impressive surges in October too, just not enough. But we have had decent rain over the mtns the last 5 weeks, June Lake is around 13" for the month which is not too bad. That should help Soil moisture and stream flows.

I am very sensitive to the needs of a mild and wet Fall that will help to recharge soil moisture in the Mtns before the cold and snow start. So any rain in the coming weeks that is associated with higher snow levels would be a good thing. But given what is over us now, I hope we are not too cold, and it lingers. It would be nice to see it moderate, then get colder in December thru April. Let it rain, then let it snow, snow and snow.....

#### FORECAST DISCUSSION FALL/WINTER 2024.

I have said this many times during the lead up to El Nino, or La Nina, events, they are complicated! And no two events are alike due to the interaction of the weather pattern. This is totally lost by the media and those who do not understand how this works. That being said, what lays ahead for us can be rather straight forward, or convoluted. Keep in mind that the stronger the El Nino, or La Nina, the greater the likelihood that we are wet over the west, not just the SW and Great Basin, but back over the PacNW and even into BC. The weaker the event, then the greater we are close to normal, or even below for BC. so if the computer models suggest a "Super El Nino", then we would be very wet over the west and not just the SW. And, BC would trend closer to normal. But much depends on the North Pac weather pattern and how it interacts with the warmer West Coast waters, and how far South those upper lows, or any systems, move SE into Oregon, or California. Or not at all!(La Nada?) The models show this Super El Nino to match that of 1982/83, that was the strongest of record. So if we are close to that we have to see impressive western Regional rainfall. I am using that event as my benchmark, but not fully. However, it was wet for us(PacNW) too.

We have seen these events go Bust in the night and leave us with Duds and nothing. But when you look back over the last 50+ years and focus on the strong events, greater than +5, you see above normal rainfall over the PacNW and Rockies and even into BC. Plus we have had good snowpack

numbers too. Heck even weak events have given us good snow numbers and decent normal rainfall. California does well, but some of these have been duds in the last 15 years. So it does happen.

So I think our Fall pattern will be wet with normal to above numbers the next 30-60 days, thru Christmas. I think we will see some decent mtn rainfall up to 3-6,000 ft. but snow above. We need decent mtn soil moisture before the snow levels drop for the winter and the ground gets covered in snow down to 3,000 ft. Good soaking rain early, then let it snow and snow! Models showing some movement 2nd half of November, so we could get into this quickly. But looks to be a wet Fall!

The Fall, on paper, looks robust and active, even into BC. But as we go into the January thru April period, all too often the jet does drop South and the Sweet spots sets up over Oregon or California. We will still have plenty of rain in Washington and BC just not as much as areas south. Of course, at this point, it would be nice if the pattern stayed a bit farther North with the Sweet Spot over Northern Oregon and normal rainfall as far North as BC. But the normal sequence of events says the Jet drops South and is less active North. But this is a long season, so we will have our twists and turns.

In the stronger events, we see systems develop over the Dateline, push into the Gulf and then drive SE into Oregon or California. We do get wrap around moisture into Washington and BC, but as you know, that can be less impressive than directly under the Jet. During El Nino events we see the Jet more fragmented and following the meandering upper lows, hence the reduction in rainfall North. So we have to be careful. Anyway, I still see plenty of winter events, even valley snows, even for NorCal and surrounding lower hills!

We have to watch for cold air that streams out of BC and reaches the Sound, western Oregon and even down into NorCal. We have seen impressive winter events during these El Nino's. The stronger events usually keep us mainly wet but not always mild. The 1982/83 event was very mild but dumped heavy snow on regional Mtns, even over to the Rockies. So much so that the melt in the Spring flooded Salt Lake City and helped to fill Lakes Powell and Mead brim full, 56 million Acre feet of water. The last great massive event, and a Super El Nino. Frankly it would be good to see this again, but some would not be happy, and would be flooded. so the coming season will be complicated and variable. I see decent Fall rainfall, and good rain/snow mixes in the winter. I can also see plenty of late winter and Spring Rain. The key is the Super El Nino and does it match the Hype and models. And will the North Pac pattern send systems SE into the west and interact with those waters. I am basing my forecasts on that. Not sure that this event matches that of 1982/83 but if it is close, we should be good. Perhaps too good. I already have California Valley growers moving equipment to higher ground, Lake Tulare is likely to grow, and not sure if the Sacramento Dike system is capable of holding the Sac River in Check! It will be quite a race to see if it does.

#### FINAL COMMENTS:

The overall weather pattern will likely meander over the next 6 months, that is why I did not offer an orderly procession of events. However, if it does move about, I think that is good as it will help most of us. I know that many of us will be okay, but there will be some areas that do not get enough Rain or mtn snows. WE just have to watch the pattern and hope it spreads out nicely. The sweet spot is fickle!

#### POSITION OF THE SUB-TROPICAL HIGH:

Dang, I have talked of this for the last 40+ years but it is such a real feature that it is worth it. If the ridge over the Central pac arcs North along the Dateline, we can see arctic air here in 45 days. We noted this back in December of 1978 and again in 1979, and in the early 1990's! It can happen really any time of the year but when it is a fall or winter event, we get that bitter cold blast that can freeze us up in a matter of days, think January 1989, early February too. That was bitter because we had been so mild through January that plants were coming out of dormancy, if they even go there! so this is a real feature to watch.

If it remains along the coast, we tend to be drier and milder but also have bouts of Freezing rain due to cold air coming down the Gorge or Fraser Valley. If the ridge is directly over us, we are drier than normal and rather mild, think 1976/1977!

Right now, the models show ridge over the Central Pac but are keeping it rather flat, at least at the moment. But that would allow the cold air to creep into southern BC and that is way too close to the Basin and Gorge. Fraser Valley too. So those in Washington, Idaho and Montana, you would need to be ready. This is already spreading over us, but this appears to be a short term issue and we should moderate next week and during November and December. Mean ridge seems to be over the Central Pac.

The longer term models hold the ridge over the Central Pac and that allow systems to develop and drop down over the PacNW and even reach South into NorCal. But during November, I see multiple events arrive over us with impressive rainfall and mtn snow that would be very helpful. Plus that is likely to linger into December. Then I see it move farther west, allowing strong systems to drop farther SE into Oregon and NorCal. This is a key feature to watch. If we see no movement South, then Oregon and Washington would benefit greatly. But the farther South they go, so goes the benefit. Dang, I am really seeing similar alignment to that of 1982/83 which would be impressive if correct. this could buy us time on the Colorado by helping to fill lakes Mean/Powell, and to help the PacNW and upper Columbia too.

This ridge position is so critical for everything we see in the Fall and Winter. If it arcs North, yikes....And watch out, the old Katie Bar the Door! If flat, that would be much better, which is how it is leaning now.

MID-PACIFIC RIDGE.....

This comes into play if the ridge stays flat over the North Pac and is the normal position with the La Nina pattern. It can arc North at times but most of the time is remain flat.

The systems that form over Kamchatka/Eastern Siberia, then ride the Jet over the Central Pac Ridge, over the Gulf and then drop SE into BC, PacNW or Norcal. This flatter regime does keep NorCal drier but not dry. The amplified pattern is better for regional rainfall and snows, the flatter pattern is much wetter for the PacNW and BC. this difference can be small, only 100-200 miles North to South.

EL NINO: SUPER EL NINO 2024

I will stay with this El Nino Discussion as it really discusses the key elements of what will develop over the next 6-9 months. Plan for many twists and turns but certainly be ready. I am....I have used this discussion several times the last 6 weeks. Sorry but it is good.

SUPER EL NINO:

Still hearing lots of noise about the strength of this El Nino and how it will impact the west. Normally, the stronger the event the greater the west is very wet. Keep in mind that this is spread out over 6 to 9 months, so some of us get wet early and others later. Plus, BC can be less wet than the rest of us, but that is not always the case. Lots of what "iff'n" and how the jet aligns itself over us. The jet does get fragmented with these El Nino events vs. consolidated with the La Nina events. But even with the Fragmented El Nino, if you get lots of action pouring out of the North Pac, we remain quite wet. Plus, we can(and do) see lots of snow during these El Nino's but it does vary event to event, and location to location. Sometimes the heavy rainfall is over California, sometimes you are as dry as a bone. Conversely, sometimes the pacNW is very wet and sometimes not. If you look at El Nino events over the last 100 years, normally it is drier over BC and Montana and wetter over Oregon, California and the Desert SW.

Not sure many of you are old enough to remember the Amazing El Nino of 1982/83 that was very wet for all of us, even filled Lake Mead/Powell to the Brim, and even resulted in fears that the water would over-Top

Boulder Dam and Glen Canyon, there was so much water available. This event even flooded Palm Springs and much of California, and even parts of the PacNW. So these Super El Nino's can be very wet for all of us. That 1982/83 event was the strongest El Nino of record, so that is a benchmark event. It also flooded Salt Lake City and the Great Salt Lake rose markedly with flooding too.

I believe that the waters from that Event lasted 40 years in Lake Mead and Powell. So if we have another robust event for the SW, it would really help those Lakes and the Colorado overall. Plus, it would help Oregon, Idaho and likely Washington. The wild card in all of this would be BC and Montana. But if the Jet stays to the North for the next 60 days before dropping South, then BC/Montana could get off to a good start for water and snowpack before going into their winter Dolldrums.

As I have mentioned many times before, over a 6-9 month period we will see many twists and turns with the weather pattern. For some of us Atmospheric Scientist this is fun to watch and to see the interaction with landforms and people. For 1st responders, this might not be great as we would see quite a combination of events, some not so nice. Sorry.

#### NORTH PACIFIC:

The North pac is very active and will spread systems inland with stronger events this month. The cold air spilling out of Siberia and Alaska is already moving East and as it does it picks up moisture. So the trends are suggesting active weather as we move into November, and likely December. The North Pac does seem to be consolidated with a strong Jet. I am not seeing early Fragmentation of the Jet and upper lows peeling away from the Parent low over the North Pac, YET! This would imply that the early Fall rains would help BC and Montana and No. Washington. It would be great to see this linger deep into winter, but I am afraid that the Jet will drop South as it normally does, thus reducing the rainfall over BC/Montana and increasing over Oregon, California and the SW. I am sure that BC and Montana will get plenty of rain and snow, but the jet does drop South in the winter, so we shall see.

If the pattern does remain wavy that would help all of us with a nice distribution of moisture North to South, and then back to the North. During the event in 1982/83, the Jet never moved all Fall, winter and early Spring, it pounded us with heavy rainfall and spun up impressive lows that dumped on all of us. Even into the Great Basin and Rockies, Palm Springs with rain and snow melt, and certainly Utah and Arizona, and Colorado for sure.

One of the keys for me is the North Central Pacific ridge North of Hawaii which is the driving force behind our heavy rainfall and relative Mild El Nino modes. Depending on how it sets up, North to South, it would allow systems to move into the pacNW, or drop them South into California. Or Both. During the weaker El Nino events this movement can be fickle and frustrating. But during the stronger events, it can be much more ominous and active and targeted. Again, new GFS is showing almost an identical high North of Hawai'i as it was in 1982/83.

So that is a quick look ahead. We still have plenty of nice weather ahead of us but I can see the end of the warm weather and peering down the road with the rain and cool stuff not far away or behind.

#### SNOW AND ICE POTENTIAL FOR COMING SEASON:

"YES"! Perhaps sooner than some of you think! This seems to get going in later for NorCal and mainly impacts the surrounding hills around Redding and the foothills. Not sure that I see much snow or ice for the Sac. or SJ Valley areas, but chilly surges are likely. Snow for the pacNW and Columbia Basin is likely, and could wiggle into the Sound or Western Oregon too. So Yes!

#### ARCTIC AIRMASS POTENTIAL:

"Yes"! Perhaps sooner than some of you think! The key here is the Central Pacific Ridge and how far North it Arcs. If it moves North to Nome, then they are 55 deg. and all of that cold air gets shifted East into the Gulf

and BC, then due South into the PacNW. 1989 comes to mind. Very mild in January, then bitter cold early February. It can happen so dang fast, but the key is that Central Pac Ridge and does it Arc North. this could impact NorCal but might be a stretch.....But not for the PacNW. It would be odd to see it with a strong El Nino, but never say never.

#### FLOOD POTENTIAL:

Yes, no question! Active Rain year, heavy snow pack and then a warm up and flooding. Or the jet stalls over Redding, Reno, Sacramento or even Fresno you can flood quickly anywhere! So, yes! And given burn scar areas and potential for heavy rainfall, I think widespread flooding is quite a threat! Even into the PacNW, Columbia Basin over to Idaho. Once one of those slow moving Cold/Stationary fronts stall, they can dump heavy rainfall. I saw one of those over Douglas County in Oregon in the 1980's unload 10-15" of rain on a small valley, it flooded so fast that folks could not evacuate fast enough. The results were not good.

#### WIND EVENT POTENTIAL:

Yes, and again, these can pop up anywhere around the west and even over to Montana and Idaho. So, yes! Perhaps sooner than you think, in the next 2-3 weeks, and certainly in Dec.-April.....!

#### SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS:

Yes! We can have these anytime of the year. If we see those upper lows wander around the west and we get the wrap around moisture, then we can spin up locally severe cells from Yuma to Nelson B.C. and over to Denver.

Cold air aloft can really trigger these events, so we need to be very careful with the Lightning type events. Plus, if conditions are correct, getting cold core funnel clouds is quite likely. We have to watch cold air aloft and the position of the jet and shear zones aloft. But we have seen these on the Coast, Central valley, Great Basin, even Salt Lake, and over SoCal too. These are much more likely than we have thought, and given the history of them, I remember them while I was working on KOIN-TV back in the late 70's through early 90's! We have a better reporting network now and Cell Cams and video!

#### DATA BASE:

I use the 30 year averages to base my forecasts upon, some of you use 10 year averages which seem to be warmer, but I use the 30 years because that is the standard right now. All of my forecasts will be based on that and will be given in Departures from Normal, I am still using the 1961-90 data base! But I also have some new averages that go back to 1938 thru 2021. I might start to incorporate those into my long range forecasts. I like the longer period of record, the longer the better!

#### STREAM FLOW PROJECTIONS FOR COMING SEASON, SPRING RUNOFF 2024:

Columbia System: 092 to 102%, November through March! Fall - Winter  
098 to 111%, April through July! Spring - Summer.  
Snake should do well too!

I might be a bit low on the Columbia due to less rainfall in BC, but the Snake should be okay and might compensate.

California: 109 to 121%, November through March, Fall and winter.  
118 to 140%, April through July, Spring and Summer.

California is already primed, so any heavy rainfall the next 90 days only gets it moving again, and if we stay wet into April Or May, it only gets worse. I think Oregon and the snake does well this year. BC and Washington will be the wildcard and will need some help from the weather pattern, and those triggering events.....

The California estimates might be low, we could see areas that are in the 140-185% range which I know is crazy but rain, snow and already saturated soils could be a problem!

THE OUTLOOK FOR NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL, 2024:

NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL, 2024 FORECASTS: Departures from normal.

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.7 TO -1.4	LOW: +2.8 TO -1.3	PREC: 105 TO 133%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.8 TO -1.2	LOW: +2.9 TO -0.9	PREC: 092 TO 106%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +3.2 TO -1.2	LOW: +2.9 TO -1.3	PREC: 112 TO 129%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +3.3 TO -1.1	LOW: +2.6 TO -1.2	PREC: 115 TO 133%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.6 TO -1.5	LOW: +2.5 TO -1.1	PREC: 107 TO 131%

MONTH BY MONTH PATTERN AND RESULTS:

THE SPECIFIC MONTH BY MONTH 6 MONTH FORECAST FOR WASHINGTON FROM NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL 2024, IS AS FOLLOWS: ( Departures from normal).

NOVEMBER 2023 FORECAST DISCUSSION:

This is starting to line up rather well. We will see a modest dry and cool period to end October, but see a big jump in November as the a pattern aligns and we see some of those Triggers. It was looking wetter the 2nd half but now it looks to take off by the 3rd and beyond. Models showing events reach the entire PacNW and BC but also down to NorCal and southern Oregon into Idaho. If this is correct, it will be a robust month for rainfall and mtn snows. I will indicate a mild and wet month, but snow levels could stay in the 3,000 to 5,500 range and that would mean heavy mtn snows too. This should help many users, but not travelers.

The bulk of the cold air stays over the North Pac and that would tend to keep the snow levels high enough to help but allow lower areas to see more rain for now. But it all helps.

NOVEMBER 2023 FORECASTS & NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -0.5	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.9	PREC: 119 TO 141%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +3.1 TO -0.7	LOW: +2.9 TO -0.6	PREC: 106 TO 126%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -0.6	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.6	PREC: 115 TO 130%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +3.0 TO -0.5	LOW: +3.1 TO -0.5	PREC: 117 TO 132%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.5 TO -1.1	LOW: +2.7 TO -1.2	PREC: 121 TO 142%

Wet and Active month for Washington over to Northern Idaho-Montana, Southern BC will be in good shape too.

NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 52.7	LOW: 41.3	PREC: 10.19"
OLM-HIGH: 50.0	LOW: 35.0	PREC: 8.05
EPH-HIGH: 45.0	LOW: 30.6	PREC: 1.03"
PDT-HIGH: 48.9	LOW: 34.1	PREC: 1.58
GEG-HIGH: 41.1	LOW: 28.8	PREC: 2.15"

HDD: 30 year averages:

	NORM:	V.	FCST:
HQM-	537		557
OLM-	675		675
EPH-	816		806
PDT-	705		688
GEG-	897		868

DECEMBER 2023 FORECAST DISCUSSION:

How the ridge over the Central Pac goes, so goes the weather over the west. If it remains close to the position North of Hawai'i then we will stay mild and rather wet or see a nice mix of active weather. The cold air feeding SE from Siberia and Bering would help to place active storms over the North pac that wiggle to the west coast and head inland. The path could be into PacNW or SE into NorCal. I think they stay North for now, but have an impact on Northern California too. So I have some positive feelings for us with a good blend over the PacNW, even BC, and even down to the klamath Basin and NorCal. BC might start to struggle but Southern BC/Upper Columbia will be okay for now. I am not ready to throw

in the towel yet. The flat pattern would be really helpful.

It might be too early to force the jet fully South, so I am hopeful that we stay wet from Kelowna to Langell Valley/Tulelake! I will go with normal to above rainfall for most of us, but lighter for Central BC valleys but keep Southern BC positive & wet. Snow levels will stay 3,000 to 6,000 ft. but those elevations are low enough to get dumped on, both rain and higher elevation snows!

#### DECEMBER 2023 FORECASTS AND NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -0.8	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.7	PREC: 113 TO 126%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.7 TO -1.1	LOW: +2.9 TO -0.4	PREC: 094 TO 104%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -0.1	LOW: +2.7 TO -0.4	PREC: 108 TO 123%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +3.0 TO -0.9	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.5	PREC: 110 TO 129%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.8 TO -0.9	LOW: +3.1 TO -0.6	PREC: 112 TO 131%

I still see decent rainfall for Washington, BC and No. Id/Mt. but it might start to taper off a bit over Southern BC, Washington should be good.

#### NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 47.2	LOW: 37.4	PREC: 10.45"
OLM-HIGH: 44.2	LOW: 32.1	PREC: 8.12"
EPH-HIGH: 33.8	LOW: 22.1	PREC: 1.22"
PDT-HIGH: 40.5	LOW: 27.9	PREC: 1.63"
GEG-HIGH: 33.8	LOW: 21.7	PREC: 2.42"

#### HDD:    NORM    V.    FCST:

HQM-	704	710
OLM-	831	818
EPH-	1147	1123
PDT-	952	927
GEG-	1153	1111

#### JANUARY 2024 FORECAST DISCUSSION:

No question, at this point, we should start to see the Trigger weather events drop South into NorCal or down to Central Valleys. We need to see the Jet and Pattern drop South to open the door to systems that interact with the warmer waters. We noted this last year and need for it to happen again this year. No Triggers, No Event! So for the west, I will drop active weather farther south and that should certainly help. The intensity would be helpful. but if the ridge North of Hawai'i stalls, then the jet would not drop too far South, but close enough!

In the great 1982/83 event, the central Pac Ridge froze in place, and kept a steady stream of events/systems streaming directly in to the PacNW and NorCal under a very strong jet. This is odd as the Jet get fragmented during El Nino events. But in this case, it was such a strong event that the Jet remained very focused and brought us impressive rainfall and mtn snows. Not sure I can go that far for this year, but I will say if the pattern stalls as I see it now(Oct.), we would see strong systems move over the top and Drop SE into the PacNW and NorCal, and could go farther South. This would really help many of us with mtn and Valley/basin rainfall and Mtn snows too. Plus it would reach East of the mtns and help The Basin with soil moisture help too. So mild and wet would be a good thing in January. But mtn snows would be good too and likely, if the Jet drops South.

I have to assume that the Jet will start to drop South and will impact BC. Plus I can see cooler air aloft that lower snow levels. This will have an impact on resorts and passes. January could be a good month for all of us in terms of rainfall and mtn snows. No question, the jet could dip south more often and help California but Oregon should be good too. Washington and BC might tail off a bit. snow levels 2,500 to 5,500 ft. would be enough to really help Cascades & Siskiyou's' but also over to Idaho and Montana. Washington and BC will have plenty of help.....

JANUARY 2024 FORECASTS & NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.6 TO -0.8	LOW: +2.9 TO -0.6	PREC: 100 TO 115%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -1.1	LOW: +3.1 TO -0.8	PREC: 090 TO 105%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +3.1 TO -0.9	LOW: +3.2 TO -0.7	PREC: 095 TO 108%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +3.2 TO -0.9	LOW: +3.2 TO -0.7	PREC: 097 TO 109%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.7 TO -0.7	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.9	PREC: 098 TO 109%

NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 47.3	LOW: 37.2	PREC: 9.72
OLM-HIGH: 44.4	LOW: 31.6	PREC: 8.01"
EPH-HIGH: 33.4	LOW: 20.8	PREC: .80"
PDT-HIGH: 39.7	LOW: 27.2	PREC: 1.51
GEG-HIGH: 33.2	LOW: 19.8	PREC: 1.98"

HDD:      NORM    V.      FCST:

HQM-	704	720
OLM-	837	868
EPH-	1175	1151
PDT-	977	945
GEG-	1175	1160

FEBRUARY 2024 FORECAST DISCUSSION:

The next 3 months will be very meaningful if the Super El Nino comes into play and the Central Pac ridge is variable or stationary, and we see those large scale upper lows meander to the Coast. Or if the Jet remains consolidated over the west. I will stay with a more progressive pattern that does bring systems to the coast and allows us to stay quite wet. The path is critical for BC and Washington, but I still see plenty of moisture expanding to the North and East no matter. It might not be robustly wet for BC and Washington, or Montana, but I have my doubts that it will be dry either.

In these active years, strong El Nino, we have seen plenty of lows move to the Coast and than inland. These can impact those over the west coast but can also reach over to Idaho and Utah and even up in to Montana. the main Path is into the Great Basin, but it does vary! snow levels remain quite low and active/variable, so we will see if we can generate a good mix of snowpack and SWE(snow water equivilent)

FEBRUARY 2024 FORECASTS AND NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.6 TO -0.9	LOW: +2.7 TO -1.0	PREC: 095 TO 109%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.5 TO -1.2	LOW: +2.9 TO -1.2	PREC: 088 TO 102%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -0.9	LOW: +2.7 TO -0.9	PREC: 095 TO 111%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +2.8 TO -0.8	LOW: +2.8 TO -0.9	PREC: 097 TO 112%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.5 TO -1.1	LOW: +2.0 TO -1.2	PREC: 100 TO 124%

NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 50.3	LOW: 38.3	PREC: 8.24"
OLM-HIGH: 49.5	LOW: 32.7	PREC: 5.71 "
EPH-HIGH: 41.9	LOW: 26.9	PREC: .70"
PDT-HIGH: 46.9	LOW: 31.6	PREC: 1.14"
GEG-HIGH: 40.6	LOW: 25.9	PREC: 1.49"

HDD-      NORM    V.      FCST:

HQM-	580	570
OLM-	669	670
EPH-	860	872
PDT-	722	712
GEG-	888	891

MARCH 2024 FORECAST DISCUSSIONS:



The next 2 months were the Money Balls in the 1982/83 event, as we noted these massive upper lows tracking into California and then unloading on all of us with impressive tropical Moisture. Can we see a repeat?

Even in non-el Nino years we see large scale upper lows traverse the region. These are slow moving features but can impact much of the west. Now if the Jet is focused at the West coast, then these lows will translate inland very quickly and leave us with very active and very wet conditions. I am not sure that we will see something as active as what we noted back in 1983, but again, if this is truly a Super Event, leaning toward the wet side is not a stretch. The passage of systems is likely to be fast, or faster, but it only takes a few of these to make a difference over the west, and pacNW. These lows also keep snow levels low enough to keep snow in the Mtns but also build the pack.

The last 20 years we have seen more late Season snow and Ice events that I can remember until you go back into the 40's and 50's, so we shall see how this plays out, El Nino or not! Snow levels will remain low and positive. Not coming out of this too quickly, at least that is what the ocean models say. Now the global models need to match this and keep events dropping South.

#### MARCH 2024 FORECASTS AND NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.5 TO -1.5	LOW: +2.7 TO -1.5	PREC: 107 TO 131%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.6 TO -1.2	LOW: +2.8 TO -1.4	PREC: 100 TO 124%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.7 TO -1.2	LOW: +2.9 TO -1.2	PREC: 102 TO 124%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +2.8 TO -1.4	LOW: +2.9 TO -1.2	PREC: 112 TO 131%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.5 TO -1.1	LOW: +2.1 TO -0.8	PREC: 105 TO 132%

#### NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 53.1	LOW: 39.2	PREC: 7.29"
OLM-HIGH: 53.9	LOW: 33.6	PREC: 4.95"
EPH-HIGH: 53.1	LOW: 32.7	PREC: .66"
PDT-HIGH: 54.2	LOW: 35.4	PREC: 1.16"
GEG-HIGH: 47.7	LOW: 29.6	PREC: 1.49"

#### HDD- NORM. V. FCST:

HQM-	583	575
OLM-	657	647
EPH-	682	681
PDT-	626	625
GEG-	815	812

#### APRIL 2024 FORECAST DISCUSSION:

The models say that this Super El Nino is to last thru Spring of 2024 which is a long run. The signal for the PacNW is not good in the Spring or Summer, but since we are coming out of an event, no reason to believe that the weather pattern would not remain in a wet and active mode no matter. so I will stay with the active mode and open up the path to include more surges into BC and points North. Many of us fear that this will shut down too quickly and we melt off what "little" snow that we have. But some of you forget that Spring rainfall can make up for lost snowpack if it remains wet. Of course, we melt and go dry, that would not be good! But I will keep us wet enough to have a positive impact. During these stronger Events, they have carried into the Spring months before drying out in June. and that has saved many drainages in the past.

The jet and pattern lifts North in April and seems to shut down over the SW. I will be curious to see if that happens this year given the intensity we are seeing with the ocean models. Plus, in previous events we have seen California stay wet into the Spring, PacNW too. So split flows can help us all in the late Spring, North to South. I will keep the SW wet into May. Even if it is only a few events, wet is wet. And if it stays wet over the SW, or NW, that would tend to lead to flood issues. In 1982/83 this proved to be huge!

APRIL 2024 FORECASTS AND NORMALS:

WESTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.8 TO -1.4	LOW: +2.5 TO -1.5	PREC: 109 TO 131%
SW 'ERN BC.-HIGH: +2.8 TO -1.6	LOW: +2.4 TO -1.6	PREC: 105 TO 124%
EASTERN WA.-HIGH: +2.9 TO -1.6	LOW: +2.8 TO -1.4	PREC: 107 TO 123%
LOWER BASIN-HIGH: +2.8 TO -1.4	LOW: +2.8 TO -1.2	PREC: 109 TO 125%
COASTAL WA.-HIGH: +2.7 TO -1.3	LOW: +2.5 TO -1.1	PREC: 112 TO 134%

NORMALS:

HQM-HIGH: 56.5	LOW: 41.7	PREC: 4.52"
OLM-HIGH: 58.8	LOW: 36.2	PREC: 3.29"
EPH-HIGH: 62.8	LOW: 39.1	PREC: .46"
PDT-HIGH: 61.3	LOW: 39.4	PREC: 1.04"
GEG-HIGH: 57.0	LOW: 34.7	PREC: 1.18"

HDD- NORM V. FCST:

HQM-	477	466
OLM-	525	522
EPH-	420	416
PDT-	441	442
GEG-	573	561

FINAL COMMENTS:

Okay, The El Nino Signal for the PacNW is not good and is superimposed on the weather pattern. Keep in mind that we are cold in the winter, so even if we are 2,3 or 4 degrees warmer than normal, for most of us that is still cold. The rainfall potential is good for us the stronger the El Nino, but it comes down to the weather pattern over the North pac. If it remains strong, the prospects of us staying wet is very good, even great! I am even upbeat for BC, very upbeat from Snoqualmie Pass South into NorCal and over to Idaho and Wyoming. Montana and BC look good but are always wildcards.

Of course, I ask myself have I gone too wet? too Dry? Too active or not active enough? Lots of questions to deal with and a fickle weather pattern that has to become more steadfast. But the above is what it is, so we shall see how this all comes into play. Lots of excitement and what-iff'n but no clear cut path yet. I do like the way the North Pac is starting to roll, if it holds, then we are likely to be good.

A couple of things to look at in the next 6 months. The forecasts are for departures from Normal, both Temps and precip. Keep in mind it is cold here in the winter with some locations barely above 30 for average highs, so even if they are +4 or +5, they are still mid-30's and that is cold enough for snow. Even western Valleys are in the 40's so even with some milder air, it is not "summer". Some of the graphics that I have seen are very misleading. Some holds for Precip showing how dry it will be, but even those graphics show that we will have precip even if it is drier than normal. And many areas of the west are in the indeterminate area that shows equal chances. And, finally, This is shown to be a prolonged Super El Nino and could last through Spring of 2024. That means it would stay wet over the west for longer before we shut down. That happened in all of the Super events, they were crazy robust. And because of the weather pattern over the North Pac, not that warm waters to the South!

So please do not lump the stronger events in with the weaker events, these Super el Nino's can be very impressive. Just go back and look at Glen Canyon Dam and Lake powell Summer of 1983, impressive! Or images of Salt Lake City! It was not a drought!

New models continue to show active Fall weather next week and beyond. If correct, it would help Soil moisture over the regional Mtns and would also impact the Basin and Nevada/Utah too. We will start off cold but moderate too as we drift deeper into November and December.

I have purposefully not offered a transitional path from November to April as far as the weather pattern goes as I see so many variations and

modes that it would be confusing. So I stayed more with the results of whatever the pattern dictates. If I use the Strong events as guidance, then we could see some impressive month to month trends, but if this event is weaker, then the month to month trends can be all over the place.

But for those of you that are 1st responders, you just need to be ready. And for all of us, NEVER SAY NEVER, ever! Just look to the Sierra's this past year for that answer! Greatest snowpack in their recorded history after the Media telling everyone that they were going to be bone dry again. 400%+ snowpack in just over 120 days! Anything can happen.....

BEST WISHES.....STAY READY, STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY:

GOOD LUCK AND WATCH THE FORECASTS!


BEST WISHES.....PHIL VOLKER.....

# Item #10

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**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** Wayne Sonnichsen, Engineering Manager 

**Date:** November 7, 2023

**Re:** Engineering Manager's Report

**Miscellaneous items of note:**

- Lazaro is continuing to meet with landowners on the P3 Low ECS project.
- Engineering Technicians, Steve Hayman and Lazaro Lopez have been staking pipe routes and preparing for the Pump 14 ECS project. This work has taken up a large portion of their time since the canal was shut down.
- Culbert Construction, Inc. (CCi) has moved equipment in for the WW5 Reservoir embankment modification project. A pre-construction meeting was held on-site on November 1<sup>st</sup>. CCi's current schedule of work anticipates finishing the project about December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The USBR conducted a canal inspection during the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup>. They are currently drafting the inspection report.
- Stan Schweissing from HDR Engineering and I conducted a thorough liner inspection of the WW5 Reservoir. We found eleven holes in the liner which were mostly concentrated in a single localized area of the reservoir slope. It appears that a hot tool was set down on the liner during the seam welding process. I surmised that this weakened the liner where it was melted and the UV light caused further deterioration since installation. All holes have been patched.
- I conducted a thorough inspection of the entire reservoir site and submitted the required yearly inspection report.