



INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

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BRID WEBSITE

Visit our website for more information on BRID at: brid.ca

2022 WATER OPERATIONS SUMMARY

Water use this year was slightly higher than average. The diversion from Little Bow Reservoir was approximately 286,000 acre feet, compared to the average 267,000 acre feet. Total reservoir storage at the end of the season will be approximately 325,000 acre feet, which is normal.

MCGREGOR RESERVOIR EROSION REPAIR

The Government of Alberta will be repairing erosion damage on the NE shore of McGregor Reservoir this winter where it is affecting private land. The reservoir level will be 0.6 m below the normal winter level to accommodate this, but Travers and Little Bow will be held above the normal winter level to fully compensate for the reduced storage in McGregor.

WINTER CONSTRUCTION

Due to the increased volume of construction in irrigation districts and municipalities it is impossible to get as much pipe as we would like, which is impacting construction schedules. This winter we will complete the Lateral O (Hays Block) pipeline, which was started last year. We will then begin work on the B/K3 pipeline, which is one of four pipelines required to replace the Lateral B/K (Vauxhall Block) system. We now expect that completion of that system will take until 2028, which is three years longer than originally planned.

Work is currently underway to flatten the downstream slope of Scope Dam by adding a berm at the toe of the slope. This was identified as a deficiency requiring correction in our last dam safety review. The work should be completed in early November.

A major maintenance project to replace all steel fittings of the Lateral E (Vauxhall Block) pipeline will be completed this winter. This was our first large pipeline, and some fittings have failed due to corrosion. We have been proactively replacing steel fittings on our older pipelines each winter in recent years to avoid interruptions to irrigation.

BRID LAND DEVELOPMENT

Four new pivots were installed on BRID-owned land near Hays this fall, with four-year leases auctioned for their rental. We now have 15 pivots on our land, which provide excellent rental revenue for the district to help offset our operating costs. There will likely be a second solar farm built on BRID-owned non-irrigable land near Vauxhall beginning next spring to further increase revenue from our land.

DEADHORSE RESERVOIR

We are continuing to work on engineering and regulatory requirements for this proposed reservoir. We are probably at least 18 months from possibly beginning construction.

WATER RATES PAYMENT DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for payment of 2022 water rates is December 31, 2022. Given that this date falls on a Saturday in 2022, the payment must be received at the BRID on or before January 3, 2023. Any payments arriving in the mail after this date will be considered late.

An online payment must be in the BRID's bank account on or before the deadline or it will be considered late. This means initiating the payment with your bank several days before the deadline to ensure it is posted to our account on time.

Payments (cash, cheque or online only) can be made in the following manner:

- Payment posted to our account online on or before January 3, 2023.
- Payment at the office on or before 4:30 P.M. on January 3, 2023, during office hours (see holiday hours below).
- Mailed cheques must be received no later than January 3, 2023.

Penalties on arrears will be applied January 4, 2023.

If you are sending in a cheque from someone other than the owner named on the invoice, please specify on the cheque: the owner name, account number and land location being paid for. This is to ensure that payment is applied to the correct account. If someone other than the landowner is responsible for paying the water rates, it is the landowner's responsibility to forward the bill to the responsible party.

Receipts will no longer be mailed for online or mailed payments. Please contact the office to request a receipt.

STAFF CHANGES

Rob Zalik retired from his position as equipment operator after over 15 years of service.

EXPANSION UPDATE

The district still has some irrigation acres available for the intensification of existing irrigated parcels. They are available on a first come first served basis and some conditions apply. The cost is \$3,000 per acre.

Please contact Evan Blindback at (403)654-2111, or email Evan.Bindback@brid.ca if you wish to apply for, or have questions concerning irrigation acres.

BOARD MEETING SUBMISSIONS

To ensure that requests or concerns are received in time to be included on the agenda of the upcoming board meeting, and to allow staff and directors sufficient time to complete any research on the issues, submissions must be received at the office no later than 4:30 P.M. on the Wednesday prior to the board meeting. Board meetings are normally held on the fourth Wednesday of every month. A submission received after that time will be considered for the agenda of the next month's meeting.

Submissions to the office should be addressed to either the board of directors, Richard Phillips-General Manager, or Jessica Robbins-Assistant General Manager-Finance & HR. They can be sent by mail, fax (403-654-4197), or email to Richard.Phillips@brid.ca or Jessica.Robbins@brid.ca.

HISTORY BOOK

The BRID now has updated history books. A chapter was added to the original book, which is a history of the district from the early concept in 1903 through 1995. The final chapter updates the history through 2019. Any irrigator interested in a copy of the book needs only to make a request to the BRID and a free copy will be sent to you.

IRRIGATION DISTRICT WATER QUALITY DATA TOOL

This website provides access to water quality data collected throughout Alberta's 13 irrigation districts as part of the Irrigation District Water Quality Project. This project assesses the quality of water in Alberta's irrigation districts.

To access this website, enter www.idwq.ca/

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Closed - December 26th, 27th and 28th.

Open - December 29th and 30th.