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STREET / COURIER ADDRESS:
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SPRING NEWSLETTER
 If you would prefer receiving newsletters via email, please send us a message to: newsletter@brid.ca



Expanse Coulee Check-Main Canal

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BRID WEBSITE
 Visit our website for more information on the BRID at:
<https://brid.ca>

WATER LIMIT

The limit for sprinkler irrigation methods (pivots, wheel lines) remains at 20” per acre, with the ability to purchase up to an additional 4” per acre for \$4.00. The limit for flood irrigation remains at 24” per acre, also with the ability to purchase up to an additional 4” per acre for \$4.00. The ability to pool your total allotment has not changed.

WATER ORDERS AND ORDERING

The ditchriders make every effort to deliver water as soon as possible after it is ordered, but all irrigators must order water 24 hours in advance of the time that they wish to commence irrigation. Though it may take up to 24 hours to deliver water to any specific parcel, ditchriders will attempt to deliver water as

soon as it is reasonably possible. Irrigators are also reminded that they are required to give 24 hours’ notice of shutoffs.

Irrigators should be able to contact their ditchriders and receive a response between the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Monday through Friday and 7:00 A.M. to noon on Saturdays. They are not expected to make deliveries on Sundays.

Messages, whether phone or text, can still be sent at any time but the ditchriders are not expected to respond before 7 A.M or after 7 P.M. Contacting your ditchrider by texting is encouraged as the preferred method of communication between you and your ditchrider. This method ensures that a record of communication exists between both parties.

Pipelines may seem to always contain water, but it takes time for water to flow to the inlets from the reservoirs and canals. When too many irrigators take water without ordering it causes shortages downstream.

The Board and Management will also look at enforcing further penalties on those who ignore the BRID’s policies and bylaws concerning water ordering.

CROP REPORTS

In 2022, crop information for most ditchrider areas will be gathered by the office. Unless your ditchrider asks you for that information, irrigators will be receiving requests for crop information by email or telephone early in the irrigation season.

WATER TURN-ON DATE

Water will be diverted at the Carseland Weir into the headworks canal beginning April 12th.

The earliest that water will be released from Little Bow Reservoir is April 20th pending weather and other circumstances. Please note that it takes 5 to 6 days to fill all pipelines.

DO NOT OPEN PIPELINE VALVES EARLY

The ditchriders check and close all pipeline valves in fall and spring prior to the next irrigation season. They do not normally check valves again immediately prior to the water turn-on. When they start priming the pipelines, in some cases it is discovered that some valves have been opened and left opened. This may cause flooding of a portion of the irrigator’s land, and we are not aware of it until notified by the landowner. All irrigators are requested to leave the valves closed until water is ordered. It is evident that some irrigators are

opening domestic delivery valves to check if water is in the pipeline yet and leaving the valve open.

Not tampering with the valves is appreciated by the ditchriders as they will have better luck with priming the pipelines and will not have to respond to any flooding issues. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOTICE: WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

The Bow River Irrigation District will be applying herbicides to control vegetation within 30 horizontal meters of open bodies of water owned by the district.

Activities will be carried out under approval No. 10409-05-00 issued by Alberta Environment. This approval expires February 15, 2030. Applications for broadleaf control will begin in May and continue until the end of September. For aquatic weed and algae control, treatments will begin May 20, 2022 and continue until the second week of September. Please check our website <https://brid.ca> for a list of locations and application dates. The weed control program is administered by licensed applicators.

<u>Herbicide Used</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Magnacide H	Control of submerged aquatic vegetation algae.
2, 4-D Amine 600, Oracle (Dicamba), VP480 (Glyphosate), Estaprop XT	Control of broadleaf weeds, willow, brush, poplar.
VP480 (Glyphosate)	Control of cattail and reed canary grass.

Contact Bill Skelly at the BRID office: (403) 654-2111 for information.

The BRID does not avoid spraying adjacent to organic crops. It is the landowner’s responsibility to maintain a buffer zone on their own lands between their crops and the sprayed area.

2022 MAGNACIDE APPLICATION NOTICE

The Bow River Irrigation District will apply Magnacide H to control aquatic vegetation and algae at the following locations:

Sundial/Enchant/Deadhorse Area - Main Canal - TWP 13, 14, 15 – RG 17, 18, 19, 20

-Applications on Fridays June 3; June 24.

Deadhorse/Vauxhall/Hays Area - Main Canal – TWP 13, 14 – RG 14, 15, 16, 17

-Applications on Saturdays June 4, June 25, and Friday August 5.

Travers/Lomond Area – Lomond Lateral - TWP 15, 16 - RGE 19 - Applications on Tuesdays May 24, June 7, June 28, July 19.

Badger/Lonesome Lake Area – Lower Lomond Lateral -TWP 17 - RGE 17, 18

-Applications on Tuesdays June 14, July 5, August 9.

Travers/Lomond Area–Lateral D - TWP 15 – RGE 19

-Applications on Tuesdays May 31, June 21, July 12, and Wednesday August 3.

Badger Lake Area-Lateral G & G-3 - TWP 17 – RGE 18

-Applications on Mondays June 27, July 25.

Badger Lake/Enchant Area –Lateral H - TWP 15, 16 - RGE 18 - Applications on Wednesdays May 25, June 8, June 22, July 6, July 20, August 10, August 31.

Travers/Lomond Area-Drain F - TWP 16 - RGE 18, 19

-Applications on Wednesday June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27.

Vauxhall/Retlaw Area - Lateral A - TWP 13 - RGE 16, 17 -Applications on Fridays May 27, June 17, July 8, July 29, August 19.

Circle Hill/Stonehill Area – Lateral B - TWP 14, 15 - RGE 16, 17 - Applications on Thursdays June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, August 4, August 25.

Vauxhall Area – Lateral C - TWP 13, 14 – RGE 16

-Applications on Fridays May 27, June 17, July 8, July 29, August 19.

Circle Hill/Stonehill Area- Lateral K-10 – TWP 14 - RGE 16, 17

-Applications on Friday July 15.

Circle Hill/Stonehill Area-Lateral K-11 – TWP 14, 15 - RGE 16, 17

-Applications on Friday June 10 and Monday July 11.

Hays Area – Lateral R below Scope Reservoir - TWP 12, 13 - RGE 13, 14

-Applications on Friday May 20, Mondays June 6, June 20, July 4, July 18, Tuesday August 2, and Monday August 15.

Hays Area – Main Canal below Scope Reservoir -TWP 13 - RGE 13, 14

-Applications on Thursday May 26, June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 11.

Hays Area – Lateral O - TWP 12, 13 - RGE 13, 14

-Applications on Thursdays May 26, June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 11.

During the application, no water is permitted to enter municipal waterworks systems, water systems used to supply water for household purposes, dugouts or ponds used for livestock watering, dugouts or ponds containing stocked fish. Please ensure that water you divert on these dates does not apply to any of these categories.

Please ask for the information package available from your ditchrider for more details about Magnacide H. Organic growers should be aware that irrigating during applications could affect organic crop certification.

Please check the application schedule on our website at <https://brid.ca/pesticide.html>. If you have any questions regarding Magnacide application, please call Bill Skelly at the Bow River Irrigation Office (403) 654-2111

BOARD MEETING SUBMISSIONS

Board meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month. 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. Submissions 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.

BOARD ELECTIONS

The annual board election results were as follows: James Larson (electoral division 3) returned to the board by acclamation. Vic Van Dyk (electoral division 5) returned to the board after winning the election. Kerby Redekop (electoral division 6) joined the board after winning the election.

Following is a list of the current directors with their 3-year terms noted:

Division #1 – Glenn Logan (2021-2024)

Division #2 – Richard Sander (2020-2023)

Division #3 – James Larson (2022–2025)-
Vice Chairman

Division #4 – John DeVries (2020-2023)

Division #5 – Vic Van Dyk (2022-2025)

Division #6 – Kerby Redekop (2022-2025)

Division #7 – Walter Unruh (2021-2024)-Chairman

STAFF CHANGES

Curtis Johnson was hired to replace Dennis Brouwers as a truck driver.

FIELD DRAINAGE

Landowners are to be reminded that at no time are they to pump or drain low lying areas into District drainage or delivery canals without the consent of the BRID. **Call your ditchrider first or Bill Skelly at the office.**

Any area or ponded water that appears to have polluted water will not be allowed to drain into a BRID canal unless it can be shown through testing that the water does not contain microorganisms typically found in manure. Testing can be done in Lethbridge for a nominal fee and with a 3 to 5-day turnaround.

DITCHRIDER INFORMATION:

Area 1 - Headworks: **Nicholas May**
(403)-892-9446

Area 2 - Travers/Lomond: **Lonnie Howg**
(403)-485-1392

Area 3 - Badger Reservoir: **Vince Row**
(403)-485-1391 or (403)-654-3042

Area 4 - Enchant: **Kelly Howg**
(403)-654-0361

Area 5 - Vauxhall North: **Bryden Geremia**
(403)-654-8214

Area 6 - Circle Hill: **Conrad Cazemier**
(403)-654-3134

Area 7- Vauxhall South: **Ray Friesen**
(403)-654-0362

Area 9 - Grantham/West Hays: **Adam Locke**
(403)-654-8212

Area 10 - Hays: **Richard Church**
(403)-654-8082

If you have an emergency and cannot contact your ditchrider, please contact the operations supervisor.

Operations Supervisor: Daryl Brouwers
(403)-654-8162

IRRIGATION EXPANSION UPDATE

At the start of the 2019 expansion, 8,000 acres were allocated to intensification. The last of these acres were sold towards the end of 2021. After reviewing the applications still being processed and taking in account the acres reserved for future projects, the district has not reached its limit of 295,000 acres. In January 2022, the Board has approved 1,200 additional acres to be available for intensification at a cost of \$3,000/acre. The previous conditions that determined if a parcel was eligible for intensification acres are still in effect. In addition, acres will only be added to areas which are irrigated with efficient systems.

If you are interested in purchasing intensification acres, the procedure is:

1. Contact the office to determine if the parcel is eligible, and how many acres will be required.
2. Pay a \$100/acre deposit to hold the acres for you.
3. Install your system in the field.
4. Confirm with the office that the system is in place and confirm the number of acres required.
5. Pay the balance of the invoice.

Please contact Evan Blindback at (403) 654-2111, (403) 654-7095 or evan.blindback@brid.ca if you wish to apply for or have questions concerning irrigation acres.

WATER SUPPLY

Total storage in McGregor, Travers and Little Bow reservoirs is 320,000 acre feet as of April 8, which is 80% of full storage, and average for this date.

The snowpack in Bow River headwaters is above average at the five measuring stations.

DEADHORSE COULEE RESERVOIR

MPE Engineering is working on the design of this reservoir, assisted by Thurber Engineering and Bear Tracks Environmental. Geotechnical investigations are almost completed and preliminary design is underway. The regulatory approval process will begin this year and we hope to begin construction in 2023, and no later than 2024.

CULTIVATION /GRAZING LEASES UP FOR RENEWAL

The Bow River Irrigation District (BRID) has several cultivation leases that are up for renewal at the end of 2022. Up for renewal are pivots number 1,2,3 and 4 (NE & NW 6-14-14-W4M and SE & SW 7-14-14-W4M) in the Hays area. These pivots vary in size from 106 acres to 159 acres, with irrigation equipment supplied by the BRID. Also, up for renewal is NW 12-13-16-W4M, 70 acres of irrigated grass East of Vauxhall. For this parcel, the lessee supplies the irrigation equipment.

Approximately 470 acres of dryland grass leases are in their final year as well, SE 8-14-17-W4M (89 acres), E ½ 21-13-15-W4M (304.43 acres), and SE 5-14-14-W4M (77 acres) are up for renewal after this season.

NEW CULTIVATION LEASES

The BRID is developing 4 new cultivation leases close to Scope Reservoir, they will range in size from 101 acres to 181 acres. This land is currently dryland grass with the BRID supplying new irrigation equipment on these 4 leases.

These parcels will be available at auction later in 2022 to all interested irrigators of the BRID. An irrigator is anyone who owns land with irrigation acres. The date for the auction has not been finalized.