

Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District  
14181 Avenue 24 Delano, CA 93215  
Telephone: (661) 725-2526  
Fax: (661) 725-2556  
E-mail: deid@arrival.net

# DEID

September-October, 2002

Issue 107

**In this Issue:**

A first look at what 2003 may bring.	1
The 2002 water year enters the Fall season.	2
DEID CIMIS Station now fully operational and accessible via the Web.	2
Renovation Project update.	3
District Board votes to oppose Proposition 50.	3
Water conservation and management news, and where's Calvin?	4

**Board of Directors**

**Harold Nelson**  
President

**Anthony Lindner**  
Vice-President

**Peter Hronis**  
Director

**Nick Canata**  
Director

**Anton Caratan**  
Director

Dale Brogan  
General Manager

## Looking to the 2003 Water Year

*Those in the business of forecasting weather are beginning their early season predictions of what the 2003 water year might bring.*

“It will be what it will be” may be the best weather forecast that one might hear. For those a bit more inquisitive, plenty of forecasters are around to give you their thoughts on future weather.

Presented here are the thoughts of forecasters within the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, prepared for the San Joaquin Valley.

**Jet Stream**

In the last issue of the *DEID Pipeline*, we spent some time discussing the “El Nino” and “La Nina” weather patterns. Either event can greatly affect the rainfall that the San Joaquin Valley and the Sierra Nevada Mountain range receive, which in turn provides the water supply to DEID water users. Another important factor in all of this is the jet stream.

Generally flowing from east to west, the jet stream is a narrow band of very strong winds in the upper atmosphere that meander around the globe in a largely unpredictable fashion.

Between 6 and 9 miles high, jet stream winds blow from 60 to 120 miles per hour. Although only a few hundred miles wide and often less than 3 miles thick, it exerts a major influence in directing storm fronts across North America. Fluctuations in the jet stream determine in part who gets wet, and who gets (dry).

**Jet Stream and El Nino**

El Nino (and La Nina) weather patterns depend on changes in the ocean temperature. When a large area of the Pacific Ocean sees a dramatic temperature change, it alters the path of the jet stream, creating a “conveyer belt” for storms across the continent. That also shifts the tropical storm belt,

which fuels wet El Nino events.

Milder El Nino or La Nina weather patterns have little effect on California’s weather. But when sea-surface warming or cooling varies by more than 5 or 6 degrees, floods or droughts can come to the State.

**2003 May be Dry**

It is obviously difficult to predict rainfall in advance. However, many global weather forecasters are hinting that we are likely to have 20-30 years with lower rainfall than we have had since the late 1970’s. The number of

**Without the jet stream redistributing global temperatures, the equator would be 25 degrees hotter and the North Pole would be 45 degrees colder.**

*(Continued on page 2: 2003 WEATHER)*

## Winding Down 2002

*While deliveries are slowing down, there is still much going on. Here are a few points of information and reminders for District water users as the 2002 water year enters the fall season.*

### 2002 Water Supply

Water needs for water users will be met without restriction for the balance of the water year, which ends in February, 2003. Despite the year being on the drier side of normal, the District was able to provide eligible water users with surface water without the need for a per acre prorate.

### Canal Dewatering

The Friant Water Users Authority will dewater the Friant-Kern Canal this winter as part of its routine maintenance program. The entire 152 mile canal will be emptied.

Planned maintenance activities include debris

and silt removal, gate maintenance, and replacement of concrete embankment liners in selected areas.

With the Canal being drained, water deliveries from the District will also cease. District water deliveries will end by mid-November. Water deliveries should resume no later than February 1, 2003.

### Sunday Orders Cease Over Winter

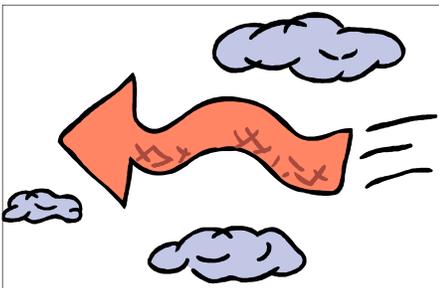
As of the first Sunday in October, the District ceased taking "off" orders for Sunday. The District provides for termination of water deliveries on Sunday by individual growers from May through September as a service to our growers and as a water conservation measure.



*(2003 WEATHER: Continued from page 1)*

years of wet years are also likely to decrease, they say.

During September, a weak to mild El Nino was observed in the Pacific Ocean. This, combined with a jet stream far to the north, may point to a dry winter.



### Weather Predictions To Your Door

The Climate Prediction Center of the National Center for Environmental

Protection provides weather forecasts that are updated monthly. To receive an email notification when updated forecasts are released, contact:

*Climate Prediction Center  
National Centers for Environmental Protection  
NOAA/ National Weather Service  
Camp Springs, MD 20746-4304  
Email: vernon.kousky@noaa.gov.*



*DEID Pipeline acknowledges the USBR-Fresno Office for the basis of this article.*

## LOCAL CIMIS WEATHER STATION NOW FULLY OPERATIONAL

You can now receive local weather information from the DEID CIMIS weather station, located at the District office, directly from the internet.

To get the information, log on to:

[www.cimis.water.ca.gov](http://www.cimis.water.ca.gov)

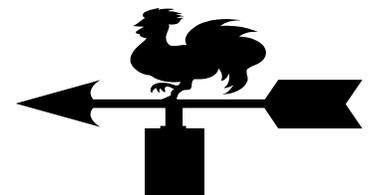
Once there, you can register with the site, which allows you to access all of the information that is available. Registration is free.

The DEID CIMIS station is number 182.

Once you have registered, you can then view daily and historical weather information, including:

- evapotranspiration data
- Precipitation
- Solar radiation
- Maximum, minimum, and average air temperatures
- Maximum, minimum, and average relative humidity
- Dew point
- Average wind speed
- Average soil temperature

The above information and more is available from this web site for locations all over California. Log on and check it out!



# Renovation Project Gearing Up for Final Push

*Project crew will complete the final 35 turnouts during December and January while water deliveries are curtailed due to dewatering of the Friant-Kern Canal.*

After nearly 3 years of diligent work, the District's Turnout Renovation Project crew is nearing the time when the 35 remaining turnouts will be renovated.

The last turnouts are located on the Avenue 56 and Avenue 40 laterals on four separate sublaterals, just west and immediately adjacent to the Friant-Kern Canal.

The work will be completed over the December-January period, when the District will have to curtail water deliveries throughout the District. This is due to maintenance work that is scheduled on the Friant-Kern Canal that will require its dewatering (see related article on page 2).

### **Project Debris Used As Reinforcement**

A mountain of concrete blocks and old pipelines that were generated from the Turnout Renovation Project are being recycled by the District rather than hauled to the closest land fill as waste.

The concrete debris is being placed on selected banks of White River to

provide stability and erosion protection to otherwise unprotected slopes. The property where the work is being done is owned by the District and is used as a groundwater recharge site.

The placement of the concrete debris will be completed by the end of the month.

### **How does your turnout look?**

*One of the tasks that our Project crew recently completed was "sprucing up" the area around renovated turnouts. Excess material was removed and additional fill was placed in areas that had settled.*

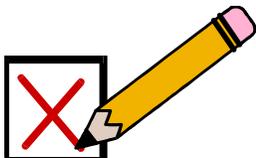
*Landowners are asked to let us know if their turnout still needs additional attention. Please call Project Foreman Bob Wade at the District office and let him know what is needed.*



**An excavator being used to install concrete debris from previously renovated turnouts on selected banks of White River. The slopes were previously unprotected and subject to potential erosion.**

### **District Board Opposes Proposition 50**

After review of the latest "water bond" that will be on the November ballot, the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District Board of Directors unanimously voted to oppose Proposition 50.



In reviewing the proposal, the Board cited its concerns that the \$3.4 billion bond lacked funding for construction of new

water projects that the State needs, and the large sums of money being allocated for various environmental measures that were of questionable value in the Board's opinion.

The Board also recommended that the Friant Water Users Authority also take an "opposed" position to Proposition 50. A majority of Authority's member districts agreed, and the Authority voted to oppose the measure.



**DEID PIPELINE**

PROVIDING INFORMATION ON ISSUES OF INTEREST TO WATER USERS AND GROWERS IN THE DELANO-EARLIMART IRRIGATION DISTRICT

DELANO-EARLIMART IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
14181 Avenue 24  
Delano, CA 93215

Phone: (661) 725-2526  
Fax: (661) 725-2556  
Email: deid@arrival.net



DEID Water Facts:

Over the past 10 years, the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District has delivered over 1,200,000 acre-feet of surface water to District water users.

**Water Conservation and Management Information Provided to District Growers**

**Irrigation Tech-Line**

As part of its ongoing water management and conservation efforts, the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District is pleased to include in this edition of the *DEID PIPELINE* the latest Irrigation Tech-Line. Our thanks to the Friant Water Users Authority for its assistance in providing this helpful publication to the District's water users.

**Irrigation Management Consultants**

The District has recently updated its list of local irrigation water management consultants that can assist District water users in developing and implementing on-farm water conservation practices. Individual growers that are interested in obtaining this type of technical expertise may contact the District office for a copy of the list.

**Potential Funding Sources**

Also available is a listing of potential funding sources for implementation of on-farm water management and conservation practices. Depending on the individual situation, loans, grants and other cost-sharing assistance may be available.

*The District makes no warranty or recommendation of any of the information provided.*



**A familiar but different voice now taking water orders from District water users**

If you have called the office over the past 30 days to place a water order, you have probably noticed that you haven't spoken to Water Operations Supervisor Calvin Wallis. Not that Calvin has been hiding, but he definitely has been out of sight for a while.

While not taking water orders or tending to his other District duties, Calvin has enjoyed, among other hobbies, riding dirt bikes at a track in Porterville. Unfortunately, Calvin got tied up (more like run over) by another rider on a weekend afternoon and ended up with a broken ankle and leg. His injuries were significant enough to require surgery.

While Calvin is out, Maintenance Operations Supervisor Roland Gross is doing a great job filling in for Calvin.

Thanks Roland, and get well soon Calvin!

