

## Founding Fathers of DEID

The first Board of Directors of DEID in 1938 were:

- Fred Murray - Division #1
- R.C. Mize - Division #2
- H.K. Nelson - Division #3
- Roy Boone - Division #4
- Paul Driver - Division #5

### Board Presidents:

- Paul Driver  
1938 to 1946
- H.K. Nelson,  
1946 to 1988
- Wayne Turnipseed  
1988 to 1994
- Harold Nelson,  
1994 to present

## DEID To Host 75th Anniversary Celebration

For 75 years the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District has been in existence with one mission: to provide irrigation water to southern Tulare and northern Kern counties. With the first water delivered in 1951, it began fulfilling that mission and has done so ever since. DEID has been an integral part of our local community, charged with the responsibility of bringing water to this fertile land that was once was a desert, and would return to one without this key resource.

Officially created and organized on October 31, 1938, the District has imported millions of acre-feet of water during its history. Serving the agricultural industry that is the economic foundation of our communities, the DEID has been a key part in the prosperity of our communities and their people.

Join us for a day of celebration on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 as we recognize the 75th anniversary of the District. A hosted bar-be-que lunch will be provided with many local, state, and federal leaders joining in this special event. An event highlight will be the availability of book that has been written as part of this celebration that chronicles the history of the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District.

Invitations will be mailed out soon with all of the details.

Summer-  
Fall  
2013

ISSUE 148

PROVIDING  
INFORMATION  
ON ISSUES OF  
INTEREST TO  
DEID WATER  
USERS

# DEID Pipeline

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### Our Mission:

The Mission of the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District is to protect, enhance, and manage the District's water and energy resources and related assets to benefit its growers, the community, and the region it serves through outstanding customer service, commitment to quality, and leadership in the water resources industry.

### Board of Directors:

Harold Nelson  
*President*  
*Director Division 3*

Peter Hronis  
*Vice-President*  
*Director Division 5*

Kelley Hampton  
*Director Division 1*

Nick Canata  
*Director Division 2*

Mark Kovacevich  
*Director Division 4*

Dale Brogan  
*General Manager*

## DEID Proposes New Regional Water Bank

Following five-plus years of investigation and analysis, the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District and the Pixley Irrigation District have announced that it will construct and operate a new regional groundwater banking project. The project is within the Pixley Irrigation District, near the northern border of DEID. It will be jointly owed by the two districts.

### The Pixley Water Bank

The project was first envisioned during a discussion between the two districts concerning their shared groundwater basin. Historically, higher levels of groundwater in DEID have migrated to the Pixley area which has significantly deeper groundwater levels. Based on those discussions, a project was visualized that would use the Pixley groundwater depression area, essentially a bathtub, for storing groundwater.

The essence of any groundwater banking facility is the idea of recharging surplus surface water that is available in above-normal water years and extracting the stored water in years where surface water supplies are below normal.

### Project Attributes

The project is designed to return up to 30,000 acre-feet in a dry year. The total groundwater storage available is calculated to 90,000 ace-feet at a minimum. Banking participants will provide their own water for banking in wet years, with extraction in dry years provided by the banking project. Water recovered from the bank will be pumped from the project back into the Friant-Kern Canal for direct delivery to banking participants or delivery by exchange.

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Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District  
14181 Avenue 24  
Delano, CA 93215

Phone: 661-725-2526  
Fax: 661-725-2556

Website: [www.deid.org](http://www.deid.org)  
Email: [deid@deid.org](mailto:deid@deid.org)

## Evolution of the 2013 Water Supply

Here are some highlights and low-lights of the 2013 water year.

### Fall/Winter, 2012

Encouraging precipitation total of 131% of normal.

### Winter/Spring, 2013

Dry weather abounds; January-March period the driest on record.

### March 1, 2013

2013 water year starts with a 65% Class 1 supply; DEID sets a 1.7 acre-feet per acre prorate.

### April 5, 2013

Water supply drops to 55% Class 1; prorate reduced to 1.5 af/ac.

### April 16, 2013

Another drop in the water supply to 50% Class 1; prorate at 1.5 af/ac.

### May 14, 2013

Water supply drops again to 45% Class 1; prorate lowered to 1.4 af/ac.

### June 7, 2013

SJR Runoff improves; supply increases to 55% Class 1; prorate increased to 1.6 af/ac.

### July 15, 2013

Another increase in the supply to 62% Class 1; prorate increased to 1.7 af/ac. (where we started!).

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Project construction costs are anticipated to be \$30 million.

### Mitigation for SJR Water Losses

The project was designed specifically to assist Friant districts with mitigation of water lost due to the San Joaquin River restoration program. The project is being initially marketed to Friant districts exclusively through the end of this year. Any unsubscribed capacity remaining will be then be offered to other entities and individuals.

Because of the project's design and ability to mitigate water losses that are the result of the SJR restoration

### Water Supply Update

The impact of back-to-back dry years are being felt throughout the state, including those water users in DEID.

The 2012 water year ended as one of the driest on record at a paltry 57 percent Class 1 water supply, which is only 32 percent the average annual water supply of 1.4 million acre-feet for the Friant Division of the CVP.

The current 2013 water year has not fared much better. The supply currently stands at 62 percent Class 1, 35 percent of the average annual water supply for Friant.

For DEID, with the largest Class 1 water supply contract within the Friant Division, supplies total 67,456 acre-feet from the 2013 CVP water supply. This has been supplemented

program, the U.S. Bureau has awarded a \$6.7 million grant to used to construct the project.

As DEID growers are well aware, the District has taken a significant hit in water supply reduction as a result of the river restoration program. In the 2013 water year alone, the reduction to DEID is estimated at over 25,000 acre-feet. In light of current and projected losses, the DEID Board of Directors has committed to purchase 10,000 acre-feet of the 30,000 acre-feet total capacity that is available in the new bank.

The project is expected to be fully operational by November of 2017.



with additional water recovered from our banking projects (19,600 acre-feet) and other miscellaneous water purchases (6,000 acre-feet) for a total of just over 93,000 acre-feet for delivery to water users during the 2013 water year.

The current prorate of 1.7 acre-feet per acre may continue through the end of the current water year, which is February 28, 2014. We will continue to evaluate the remaining District water supply with anticipated demand to determine whether the prorate can be terminated any earlier.

In the meantime, we continue to urge growers to be very judicious with their District water. Please call upon us if we can be of help in managing your 2013 allocation.



## No One Exempt From New Groundwater Regulations

Growers in DEID have been informed over the past several years about plans by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RB) to introduce and enforce new groundwater regulations. After many years of negotiations with water industry leaders, the RB's proposal is about to become reality, set for adoption this week.

### Growers Have Little Choice

Every irrigator within the southern San Joaquin Valley will be subject to the new regulations, regardless of size. The regulations contain specific compliance and reporting requirements that each irrigator must do or face enforcement actions from the RB. The only real choice is whether an irrigator wants to comply on his/her own or join a third-party coalition that will assist with compliance.

### DEID in Tule Basin Coalition

After consideration of compliance options available, the DEID Board unanimously approved proposing that the newly

formed Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) include the DEID area. Proposed boundaries of the Coalition will be submitted to the RB for approval later this year.

All landowners within the Coalition boundaries will be contacted and invited to become a member. Participation in the Coalition is voluntary, with irrigators having between mid-October to around mid-April to submit an application to join the Coalition.

The Coalition must report its membership to the RB, meaning that those not a part of a coalition can expect to be contacted by the RB individually.

### Coalition Costs

The Tule Basin Coalition anticipates a first year cost to members of \$5 per acre, all of which will be used to meet the burden of assisting growers with compliance with the new regulations. Subsequent years are expected to be lower in cost, as there are a series of actions and reports that the Coalition must generate

in the first year of operation.

The \$5 per acre fee is not inclusive of costs that growers will also incur as they comply with the on-farm requirements of the regulations.

Those irrigators that are currently a part of the surface water quality compliance program will be referred to the appropriate coalition that includes their previously enrolled lands (DEID has also assisted SSJMUD landowners and others with the surface water program). For those within DEID, a credit will be given toward their 2013 Tule Basin Coalition fees equal to what was recently remitted to DEID for the 2013 surface water program.

### DEID to End WQ Involvement

The transition to the Tule Basin Coalition for DEID growers will primarily be the responsibility of the Coalition with assistance as required from DEID. Once the transition is complete, DEID will no longer be involved in the Regional Board's water quality compliance programs.



**TULE BASIN WATER QUALITY COALITION**

2904 W. Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291 • (559) 627-2948