

In the Flow



Pictured from left to right:
Ray Stacey, Jaxsen Sikorski, Fritz Frisendahl, and Gene Souza

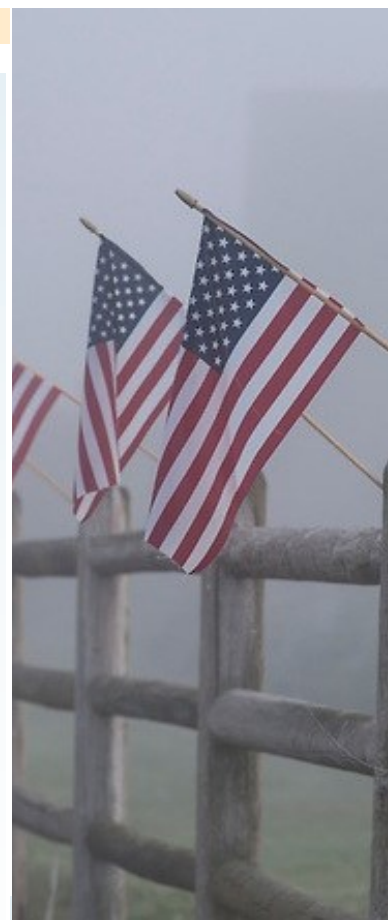
Your K.I.D. Management Team

Over the past 12 months, the Klamath Irrigation District (K.I.D.) management team has experienced a significant turnover. Gene Souza took on the role of Manager in February. Jaxsen Sikorski assumed the role as Assistant Manager / Director of Operations in July. Fritz Frisendahl, a 35 year employee of K.I.D., assumed the role of Water Master this year while performing part-time as the Assistant District Manager. Ray Stacey, another long-serving employee, replaced Fritz as the Chief of Maintenance Operations. (See photo above) We have also brought on replacements to our maintenance and ditch rider team.

Our new team is excited about the opportunities before us as part of the K.I.D. family. We are energetically exploring the Klamath Project in detail. We are working with our partners to identify opportunities to be more efficient in our operations.

Farmers Conservation Alliance Partnership

In October of 2018, the K.I.D. entered into partnership with Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) to explore opportunities to modernize our system. FCA has successfully assisted several irrigation districts in central Oregon and is now focusing resources in the Klamath Basin.



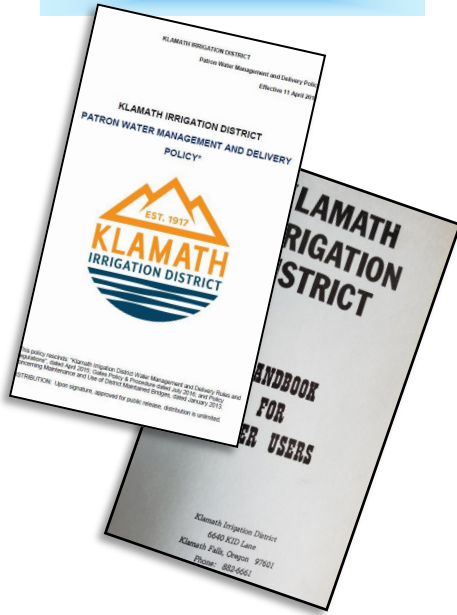
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Special points of interest

- K.I.D. will be enforcing its Gate Policy during this maintenance season.
- Updated Patron Handbook published April 2019
- Water Orders — Your Responsibility
- Legal Update

NEW 2019 Patron Handbook



Patron Handbook Updated April 2019

K.I.D. published an updated Patron Handbook in April 2019. This handbook builds upon the April 1979 *Handbook for Water Users* and consolidates various K.I.D. policies implemented over the past several years.

This intent of this document is to provide water users with a summary of Klamath Irrigation District Policy and water user responsibilities pursuant to the Reclamation Act of 1902, 43 Code of Federal Regulations,

Oregon Revised Statute 545, and K.I.D. By-Laws as related to water management and delivery within K.I.D. boundaries.

The Patron Handbook provides Landowner responsibilities and enforcement information.

Please find your copy with your 2020 bill or on our website at www.klamathirrigation.com

“Each landowner who orders and/or uses water delivered by Klamath Irrigation District shall be deemed to have acknowledged and accepted these rules.” pg. 10 of the Patron Water Management and Delivery Policy.

2019 Water Season

K.I.D. diverted nearly 216,000 acre feet of water from Upper Klamath Lake through the A Canal for irrigation purposes.

Other irrigation districts in the Basin delivered nearly 106,000 additional acre feet of water from Upper Klamath Lake to farmers, ranchers, the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, and other water users.

The K.I.D. management team was blessed with a good water year to cut our teeth.

Water Use Reporting Requirements

In 2015, K.I.D. implemented a requirement for each landowner to be responsible for their application of water utilizing K.I.D.’s “Irrigation Water Use Worksheet” available on our website and at our office.

Please find your copy on our website.

Five-year Non-Use of Water Right

The water use worksheet assists the landowner track their water usage, order water deliveries on and off, and minimize waste and delivery problems. This form also serves as water use documentation and verification for landowners State water-right certificate. K.I.D. maintains records for each point of delivery with the goal to preserve all water rights.

This form also assists the landowner to audit K.I.D. ditch rider records when our systems report a landowner is nearing or has exceeded their water-right allocation for the year.

K.I.D. is preparing to automate this tool in the near future as part of our modernization plan.

In 2019, K.I.D. requested a crop summary for each parcel of land to assist K.I.D. staff anticipate and manage future demand. This information will further inform our modernization efforts and priorities.



The photo above is one example of an unacceptable "gate" practice

Gate Policy Reminder

K.I.D. employees must have free and unobstructed passage to the irrigation system. Fence gates which are not in compliance with the Patron Water Management and Delivery Policy create a hazard to District employees.

In previous years, K.I.D. employees have been injured attempting to move gates not in compliance with policy and K.I.D. equipment has inadvertently caused damage to property.

This year, management has taken inventory of several unacceptable gates and is taking action to begin enforcement of our policy.

Once notified of a violation, the landowner has 60 days to repair or replace a gate to an established standard.

Gates MUST be a minimum of 12 feet wide for our equipment.

Gates MUST SWING freely and not drag across the ground.

Gates MUST have operable closures. (Bailing twine is NOT acceptable)

The District will take corrective action as per the Patron Handbook to protect your public servants from harm; gates not repaired or replaced will be addressed individually and billed to the offending landowner.

District Manager Notes

I have taken a personable approach to resolving issues with K.I.D. patrons and landowners who are violating various policies or have issues with K.I.D. operations. To date, I believe our team is performing our role as required, and as expected by our patrons.

Our Gate Policy is necessary for our team to perform routine operations and maintenance.

During this upcoming maintenance season, I plan to continue my inventory of all the gates, or other obstructions, across the district. If you have a contraption which does not easily swing, presents a safety hazard, or otherwise inhibits our ability to perform routine maintenance, I plan to address these problems and attempt to resolve them prior to the next irrigation season.

K.I.D. Legal Update

In April 2019, K.I.D. was forced to file suit against Reclamation to preserve rights provided in the 1902 Reclamation Act.

Section 8 of the Reclamation Act requires the Federal government to follow Oregon law; in 2013 Oregon issued a Final Order of Determination (amended in 2014), which updated Oregon's position on water-rights in the Klamath Basin. Since 2014, the Federal government has been unlawfully divesting landowners of their vested water rights in the beneficial use of water stored in Upper Klamath Lake without due process of law in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

We expect this decision to be heard in Federal court early in 2020.

2020 K.I.D. Board of Directors Update

Director positions for Zone 1 and Zone 5 were up for reelection in 2019. All nominations were due to the K.I.D. HQ no later than close of business on 8 October.

Both incumbent's submitted qualified nomination packets without opposition. As per ORS 545.137(4), both incumbents were unanimously declared as Directors for an additional 3 year term without the necessity to incur costs for an election.

Your 2020 Board of Directors are:

Ty Kliewer—Zone 1

Jerry Enman—Zone 2

Grant Knoll—Zone 3

Dave Hamel—Zone 4

Ryan Hartman—Zone 5

Board of Director Elections

K.I.D. patrons who wish to vote in future elections must be registered with the District. This registration is different than being registered for County, State, & Federal elections. The process can be more complicated as well. For this reason, the District encourages early registration.

For detailed information on the entire K.I.D. election process, please take a look at our website: www.klamathirrigation.com

Klamath Basin Improvement District

K.I.D. performs all operations and maintenance, in addition to administrative support for K.B.I.D. patrons within our boundaries. Therefore, K.I.D. policies apply to K.B.I.D patrons and other contractors serviced by K.I.D.

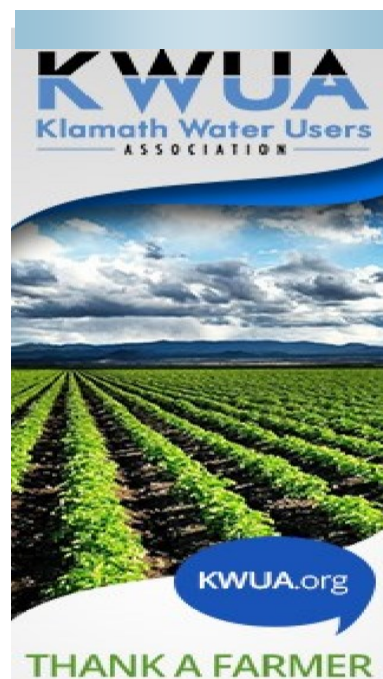


K.I.D. Staff inspecting canals 1959

Klamath Water Users Association Update

The Klamath Water Users Association has proven to be a valuable team member in 2019. KWUA activities beneficial to K.I.D. this year include:

- Lobbyist activities in Washington D.C., Denver, Sacramento, and Salem for consultation of the hastily written 2019 Biological Opinion; additional work on the 2020 Water Bank Funding.
- Secured passage of the Klamath Project provisions in America's Water Infrastructure Act.
- Influencing and Informing the Executive directive to Reclamation study the Klamath Project power issues.
- Influencing Oregon State's new water-quality policies.
- Representing Klamath Basin farmers in the Coalition of the Willing.
- Reduced K.I.D. legal costs through representation of K.I.D. interests
- Support to K.I.D.' modernization financial planning



KWUA and Reclamation held a public meeting at Klamath Community College regarding irrigation power cost reduction actions and provided water users and other interested parties with information opportunities for input regarding a congressionally-directed report that will evaluate irrigation power costs in the Klamath Project and the Upper Klamath Basin.

Water Orders—Your Responsibility

The K.I.D. team identified numerous instances where water users failed to inform their ditch rider of their water needs; turnouts were closed with late or no notice, pumps or turnouts were opened several hours before water from Upper Klamath Lake reached the point of delivery.

These practices result in numerous problems to your neighbors, to the K.I.D. ditch rider, and can significantly increase costs to our neighboring Districts when our spills are as erratic as they were this year.

These actions also degrade our canal system. When water is taken without orders, the water level in the canal is lowered, allowing burrowing animals to dig deeper, and for the canal to dry out. **When the water level is returned by shutting off water deliveries without notification, these holes, and weakness created from drying out result in blow-outs increasing cost for all patrons.**

In the Know: Water from UKL may take up to 48 hours to reach some fields; our policies (when followed) allow for a more responsive delivery.



This year's blow-outs are directly attributed to rapid, unregulated changes in canal water levels. Communication to your ditch rider is imperative.



Klamath Irrigation District

The mission of Klamath Irrigation District is to acquire, maintain, assure, and deliver an adequate water supply for beneficial use on qualified land within the Klamath Project.

We represent our patrons before government agencies, the legislature, Congress, and in such forms as appropriate for the perfection and protection of their water rights. We defend the District from actions which would diminish our effectiveness and function.

We further promote the conservation of water, soil, and other natural resources.

Klamath Irrigation District

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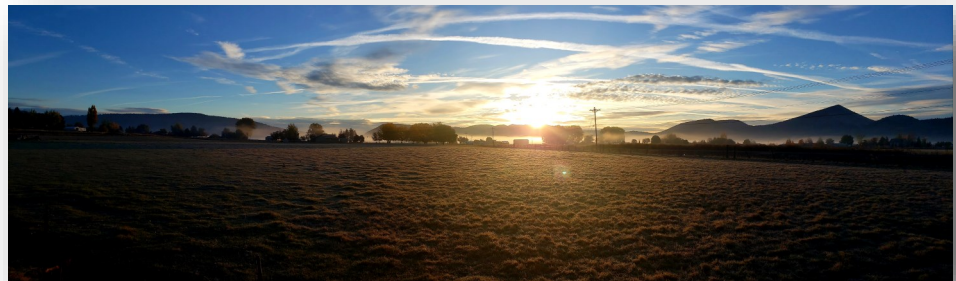


Manager's 2025 Vision for K.I.D.

K.I.D.'s main goal through 2025 is to optimize our water resources by improving flexibility and resiliency of our system.

Key 2025 Modernization Objectives:

- Improve water tracking from diversion to drain
- Maximize efficiency and flexibility of water deliveries
- Bring people together
- Upgrade failing infrastructure
- Exploit opportunities for economic benefits
 - Reduce Power Costs for District and Patrons
 - Reduce Weed Control Costs



Urban / Suburban Irrigation Maintenance

The K.I.D. staff continues to work with our patrons to resolve various issues and find efficiencies in suburban irrigation deliveries.

Of note, many of the ditches and drains in the urban and suburban areas are PRIVATELY owned by individuals or groups. These areas are NOT maintained by K.I.D. beyond our point of delivery. Growth of grass and weeds in the ditches, in addition to the deposit of waste and trash into these systems ultimately result in costly repairs.

K.I.D. is taking special interest in ensuring we are doing our part to provide efficient delivery of irrigation water to our points of delivery and perform weed control; however, we receive numerous calls requesting assistance in resolving a problem which is on private property. K.I.D is not in the habit of performing work on private lands without compensation.