

MANAGER'S REPORT - OCTOBER 2015

This report provides an overview of District issues and projects.

OPERATIONS: Ray and crew are winding down the irrigation season. Walt has let us know that he will retire the end of December. We would like to start looking for someone now as it will be difficult to find an equipment operator with ag knowledge. Ray has also been looking for a used dump truck and a grader. With all the work we will be doing on the canal road over the next few years and the pipeline construction, this equipment will get good use.

WINTER PROJECTS: Ray is gearing up to get to work on the lateral and canal cleaning and repairs. He would like to bring one prison crew in this fall to do the lateral cleaning. The piping project will need to start after Jan. 1 simply due to the historical work we still need to get done (see below).

LATERALS 7 and 5: As stated earlier, the District is required to consult under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 with affected parties regarding historical significance of its canals and laterals as we move forward on our piping projects. Below is information regarding Section 106 from a website. These regulations were more recently modified in 2004.

*The responsible Federal agency first determines whether it has an undertaking that is a type of activity that could affect historic properties. Historic properties are properties that are included in the [National Register of Historic Places](#) or that meet the [criteria for the National Register](#). If so, it must identify the appropriate [State Historic Preservation Officer/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer](#) * (SHPO/THPO*) to consult with during the process. It should also plan to involve the public, and identify other potential consulting parties. If it determines that it has no undertaking, or that its undertaking is a type of activity that has no potential to affect historic properties, the agency has no further Section 106 obligations.*

I have enclosed the Statement of Work for the project. I recommend that we do Laterals 5 through 17 at this time, to save some money down the road. I have one bid from a contractor on the coast and am working with an archeologist from Anderson Perry for a bid. It has been difficult finding someone to do this work, but we'll get there.

IPS SCREEN PROJECT: Herb reports that the permit is two weeks out.

CITY OF HERMISTON REUSE WATER: This is a correction of last month's report. The permit is expected to be out for a 30-day comment period November 1. In any case, we should have that water for the 2016 season.

CITY OF UMATILLA PROJECT: A meeting was held on the 15th. Here is an e-mail that I sent to Ben Volk, our engineer this morning (JUB also represents the City of Umatilla).
Hello Ben. From what I heard yesterday, the Amazon water, based on 500,000 gallons per day would be about 350 gpm. While that seems like a lot of water for a City, it is not very much at all for the irrigation district. To put that in perspective, we will be getting 1800 gpm from the City of Hermiston.

Today, we have 50 cfs in our canal or 22,440 gpm. However, 350 gpm will irrigate a 40-acre circle.

I heard the City say that they had 2500 gpm available on their well. That would be a good figure to use in planning the project unless they are going to add some wastewater down the road. I believe the City of Hermiston's pipe was 18-inch which would accommodate 3500 - 4000 gpm. You would have the figures on that.

The other thing that I heard directly from the City and JUB folks at the meeting is that the City's development (growth – both Umatilla and Hermiston) is dependent upon WEID to find storage. And it should be a regional storage (both Cities, maybe others and potentially the Port of Morrow). This makes so much sense to me as we are uniquely positioned and have our “ducks in a row” relative to EPA and DEQ. The State of Oregon feasibility grant applications are out and due in February. I contacted Ben Volk this morning to get a bid on preparing and submitting that application for us. We will have at least the two Cities as partners.

Oh, here is a return e-mail from Brett, JUB engineer out of La Grande for the City of Umatilla.

Thanks Bev:

At buildout, the existing amazon facility would contribute about 500,000 gpd if they treated the water (reverse osmosis) and used the water for 6 passes through the coolers. However, that option is expensive and at the current price for water, it is less expensive to directly use potable water (no reverse osmosis) one pass through the coolers. A one pass cooling system could increase the amount they discharge up to 2,000,000 gallons per day (1,388 gpm). The line would likely be sized for at least 2500 gpm. We need to try to figure out what the port may want and what the tribe may want.

Thanks for attending the meeting yesterday. I look forward to working with you.

We recently used an Archeologist for a project in Haines Oregon. She was very good, quick, and cost effective. She is a professor at Eastern so she often uses the projects to teach. I hope to get you in contact with her soon.

Regards

Brett

OK, so movement on the City and another possibility for an archeologist. It's a good day.

WEID WATER SUPPLY MATRIX: I have updated the Matrix and added some new projects. It is enclosed for your review and discussion at the Board meeting, as necessary. The main items for this Board meeting are the Storage grant application and the Conserved water application.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: Having recently attended the OWRC Legislative workshop and Board meeting, I have enclosed information from the Oregon legislative session and from the Family Farm Alliance for your review.