

MANAGER'S REPORT - JULY 2017

This report provides an overview of District issues and projects that we have been working on since the last board meeting.

FIELD SUPERVISOR: Ben de los Santos has been temporarily promoted to Field Supervisor. He will hold this position until September 5. At that time, if he has his pesticide license, he will be considered for the permanent position.

OPERATIONS: We have lots of weeds growing in and around the Boardman ditches. Our crews got the headgate and diversions areas cleared. Kasey K has been mowing almost continually all summer. We hired two teenagers to do weedeating on the open laterals.

Lateral 31 has been a problem all year. The two landowners on the lower end – Doherty and Corpus – have been struggling to get water. This ditch extends directly west from the end of the canal as concrete-lined, then becomes a dirt ditch through the Poe property onto Doherty's, to the desert, then back to Dohertys. Corpus gets water after the ditch winds through Dohertys. We addressed the breaching area on Dohertys last year when we worked with American Rock. They have since sold that property to Dohertys.

For our work, we fixed a diversion on the concrete portion of Lateral 31 that was leaking. Our temporary fix has helped, but not solved the problem. We are planning to do a complete rebuild in August. We shored up a portion on the dirt ditch in the desert area that has been impacted by cattle. There are areas along the dirt ditch that are losing water along the Doherty property, and they are getting frustrated. I expect them to come to the Board meeting or to the office to talk to me.

The repair at Nobles where the canal road was washing out was done on July 11. It is very rare that we take the canal down in the middle of the season. FYI, both this repair and the one on 31 were on our winter work list. We didn't have time to do them, so Richard had the crew pack dirt in, hoping that would hold. You may recall we did that at the start of the season along 86 and that washed out. So, the lesson is this – if we have a problem the only way to resolve it is to do the proper repair. That said, we absolutely did not have time last winter to do anything differently. We delayed the startup as long as we could, you will recall.

CREW LICENSE UPDATES: Frank has his CDL. Ben D and Adam are studying for their pesticide license.

THREE MILE DAM DIVERSION MAINTENANCE: It's time to do the silt removal at the Three Mile Diversion. I plan to ask Gary Kroske to do that work and to train Adam on it.

AQUATIC HERBICIDE: We used Cascade (endothall) on Thursday, July 13. We will do a copper sulfate treatment around the 25th and again in mid-August. We'll do an acrolien treatment near the end of August.