

**April 1, 2023**

**2023 WATER SEASON:** As of now the Bureau of Reclamation is not forecasting an allocation for this water season. The snowpack in our watersheds are considerably higher than they were at this time last year. However, with water levels in the reservoir system remaining lower than normal, an allocation is still a possibility. At this time BOR forecast models are predicting a good run off this year. If conditions allow, we do plan to have an early water run in May. GID staff will keep you informed of water delivery dates. We have been using mass texting to give water users informational updates. If you are not on our texting list and wish to be added, please call the office and give us your info.

**UPDATE ON TUNNEL REPAIRS:** The district staff and commissioners continue to work with HDR Engineering as well as several federal and state agencies to continue the design and NEPA permitting process. Some of the work underway includes core sample drilling, 3D tunnel scans, and canal Lidar scans have already been completed. We will soon have a 3D model of the canal and tunnels which will play a huge roll in final tunnel designs and dimensions.

**TITLE TRANSFER:** In December of last year the commissioners began looking into the possibility of taking title of our canal system from the Bureau of Reclamation. This transfer will help distance the district and its landowners from growing federal government regulations and open more funding opportunities for future projects. Reclamation has completed 43 title transfers of irrigation districts since 1995 of which 11 have occurred since 2020. While exact costs of purchasing the system is still unknown it is our understanding that much of the cost has already been paid by the landowners when the district completed repayment of its initial Reclamation construction loan in 1985. We also have been assured that all contracts with other districts will remain in place. Throughout the title transfer proses the district and Reclamation staff will provide landowners with opportunities to comment on the scope of the title transfer and to clarify whether their interests may be affected. We are just beginning this process and will find out much more information in the near future that we will pass along to landowners. If you have any questions, please contact the district office or your commissioner.

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<b>DITCHRIDERS</b>
Ride 1 Andrew Herbaugh 307.575.7653
Ride 2 Corey Rising 307.575.4739
Ride 3 Trevor Shaub 307.575.4783
Ride 4 Colten Wunder 307.575.2569
Ride 5 Ethan Knox 307.575.4828
Ride 6 Kody Trout 307.575.4829

<b>2023 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS</b>
District 1 Shawn Booth - President
District 2 Steve Schmick
District 3 Fred Reichert
District 4 Randy Steben – Sec/Tres.
District 5 Raymond Lynde – Vice President

<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>
Monday through Thursday
7:30 AM to 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Friday-To Be Determined
7:30 AM to 12:00 PM

<b>CONTACT INFO</b>
Office 307-532-7031
Web <a href="http://www.goshenirrigation.com">www.goshenirrigation.com</a>
Email: <a href="mailto:gidoffice@goshenirrigation.com">gidoffice@goshenirrigation.com</a>

<b>GID STAFF</b>
<b>Kevin Strecker, Manager</b> 307.575.0881 <a href="mailto:kevin.strecker@goshenirrigation.com">kevin.strecker@goshenirrigation.com</a>
<b>Greg Posten, Watermaster</b> (Rides 1,2,3) 307.575.0595 <a href="mailto:greg.posten@goshenirrigation.com">greg.posten@goshenirrigation.com</a>
<b>Ryan Allen, Watermaster</b> (Rides 4,5,6) 307-575-4444 <a href="mailto:ryan.allen@goshenirrigation.com">ryan.allen@goshenirrigation.com</a>
<b>Tyson Gladson, Foreman</b> 307-575-9446 <a href="mailto:tyson.gladson@goshenirrigation.com">tyson.gladson@goshenirrigation.com</a>
<b>Linda Keeran, Secretary</b> 307-532-7031 <a href="mailto:linda.keeran@goshenirrigation.com">linda.keeran@goshenirrigation.com</a>
<b>Andrea Janes, Cost Accountant</b> 307-532-7031 <a href="mailto:andrea.janes@goshenirrigation.com">andrea.janes@goshenirrigation.com</a>

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**Statement of Purpose:**

The original Irrigation District, controlled and administered by Goshen Irrigation District, was implemented, laid out and constructed based on historic uses and application. In order to deliver water to the landowners, the District must have the ability and authority to use and manage the entire physical system that makes up the Goshen Irrigation District, including the structures, easements, rights-of-way, canals, ditches, laterals, diversions and measuring devices.

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**WATER ASSESSMENTS ARE DELINQUENT AS OF MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2023.**

**2023 WATER ORDERS**

When placing your order for irrigation water for the 2023 season you have several options in doing so. "Please Contact your ditchrider". You may also place your water order online or contact the office.

When making your water request information needed:

- 1) Landowners name (if you are a renter, we need the landowners name please).
- 2) Delivery: in feet or in tenths
- 3) Headgate number
- 4) Ditchrider's name (contact the office if you are not sure).

**\*\*Notification of 72 hours in advance of water turn "ON".**

**\*\*Notification of 48 hours in advance of water turn "OFF".**

Water orders after 4:00 p.m. will be dated for the next business day.

Weekend and Holiday orders will be placed on the following business day.

Sunday turn "ON" or "OFF" is up to the individual Ditchrider's discretion.

**If you need to cancel or change your water order, please contact your Ditchrider as soon as possible. If the water can't be used on the turn "ON" date the water will be charged to your account until it can be cut out of the system.**

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**A look at past water deliveries and acre feet delivered to the acre:**

YEAR	DAYS	AF	YEAR	DAYS	AF	YEAR	DAYS	AF	YEAR	DAYS	AF
1995	116	1.48	2002	72	1.01	2009	121	1.55	2016	107	1.51
1996	143	1.91	2003	72	1.00	2010	136	1.53	2017	110	1.57
1997	122	1.62	2004	74	0.92	2011	137	1.53	2018	85	1.30
1998	148	1.93	2005	75	1.08	2012	132	2.23	2019	69	.60
1999	145	1.61	2006	104	1.59	2013	77	1.01	2020	133	1.64
2000	146	2.14	2007	93	1.45	2014	96	1.25	2021	99	1.31
2001	120	1.73	2008	116	1.64	2015	85	1.11	2022	85	1.23

Goshen Irrigation and Gering Ft. Laramie Irrigation Districts and Landowner acknowledge and agree that GID\GFLID owns and operates certain irrigation canals, laterals, ditches, head gates, weirs and property incidental to the operation of GID\GFLID irrigation system which are all legally located on Landowner's real property. GID\GFLID and the Landowner agree to erect a fence within the easement and boundary line between the GID\GFLID Main Canal "Only" and the Landowners property. GID\GFLID agrees to cost share for fencing at a maximum of \$1.00 per foot not to exceed one-half to two miles per fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th) or 7,290 feet or 10,560 feet for a cost of \$7290.00 up to \$10,560.00. After final completion of the fence GID\GFLID will not be liable for any further costs associated with the fence. (12/09/2014 Motion No.1 RC/JBM) The fence shall be constructed using Described Materials and shall be constructed according to plans and specifications hereto known as Schedule "A" Construction and use of Fence.

**IF you are interested, please contact the office for more information.**

**Pump Installation on Easements:**

Anyone who seeks to install a pump that will be permanently placed on any District Easement, canal or ditch must first obtain written permission from the District. No pump may be constructed unless and until the District's Board of Commissioners or its authorized agent have issued a written approval of the plans and designs for the proposed installation of a pump. Pumps shall be installed and maintained at the sole expense of the pump owner.

**It was the consensus of the Goshen Irrigation District Board of Commissioners that any landowner who installs a pump within the districts laterals and the said pump cannot sufficiently pump water during low water flows will need to be addressed by the landowner at their own expense. Goshen Irrigation District will no longer be responsible for checking up the canal or laterals for pumps. If the landowner wishes to install a check structure for their pump, they will need to contact the district.**

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**Work Done for Landowners:**

Landowners within the District may hire District machinery and personnel for water related work on their property. This includes all changes to the original delivery, turnouts, ect. Work done for landowners shall be billed upon completion of the work. Larger projects will be billed on a monthly basis. Landowners must pay the hourly equipment operating rate, the wage set by the district for district employees to operate the equipment and all materials used, unless another agreement between the landowner and the district was agreed upon in advance (such as a quote or bid price). All billings are due within 30 days.

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**Sale of Property in the District:**

When any land within the District is sold by a landowner and title passes to the purchaser, the shares of stock owned by the seller pass to the new owner automatically. The District assessment should be prorated at the time of closing. Whenever any landowner of this District conveys, whether by contract for deed or by sale, any lands under the Goshen Irrigation District Project, to which there is attached a water right served by this District, the landowner and purchaser shall immediately notify the District office of such conveyance and provide the legal description of the lands and acres so conveyed together with the name and address of the person to whom future assessments shall be sent. Until such information is provided, the District will continue to charge assessments to the landowner of record. **\*Title companies do not guarantee water rights please contact the district with any questions. It is the Landowners responsibility to see that all paperwork has been received by the district.**

**Pivot Roads:**

All pivot roads will need to be graveled, and Landowner's are responsible for graveled the pivot roads. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin or Tyson.

**Damages:**

The District shall not be liable or responsible for any damages done to structures or other property as a result of the District's delivery of water, operation of the District system, maintenance of the District system, or in the performance of any of the District's duties and obligations when such damage is the result of work required for the reasonable and prudent operation and maintenance of the Districts facilities.

**Damages to Goshen Irrigation District property, facilities, tile lines, turnouts, ect. Will be assessed and charged accordingly.**

**Use of Easements and Rights-of -Way:**

In accordance with state and federal law, the District has access to its system through easements and rights-of-way for the purpose of delivering water and to operate and maintain the District system, whether the easement is recorded or unrecorded. Access to and along all easements and right-of-ways shall be unimpeded by fences, locked gates, pipelines, or any other obstructions that would inhibit the District personnel from accessing any or all of the District system during the water delivery season (generally April 1st through November 30th of each year). All landowners shall allow free ingress and egress across their premises for the purpose of allowing the District Manager, Water Master, Ditchrider, Commissioners, employees, and/or contractors working under authority of the Board of Commissioners, access to the entire District system, including, but not limited to all canals, laterals and drainage ditches. The District's canals, laterals and drainage ditches are located on and cross over the lands of certain landowners. All such landowners, in fencing their lands, must provide a suitable structure to allow water to flow unobstructed through those canals, laterals, and drainage ditches. Such landowner must provide on the bank of the canal, lateral or drainage ditches, or as near thereto as possible, a suitable gateway for use by the District Manager, Water Master or Ditchriders. The District will remove (and assess an appropriate fee) any fences in the event that it is necessary to do so in order to undertake such things as cleaning and maintenance. Rights-of-way for all main canals, laterals and drainage ditches are the width determined necessary by the District and are at least 50 feet from the waters edge on both the upper and lower sides of the canals, laterals, and drainage ditches. No buildings or other structure shall be allowed within the District's right-of-way. Any modification or use of an easement is prohibited without written District approval.

**Fences Installed on Easements:**

Anyone who seeks to construct a fence across a District easement, canal, lateral or ditch must first obtain written permission from the Board of Commissioners. In no event shall such fence be constructed where the lowest point of the fence is less than one (1) foot above the high water level of the ditch. The fence shall not impede District activities for water delivery or maintenance. The District assumes no liability or responsibility for the construction, maintenance or repair of any such fences.

**Fencing Contract:**

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## **Treatment of Subdivided Lands:**

Will be the same as Sale of Property in the District. The ownership of land within the District has changed over time. Where there was previously only a single or only a few landowners, there is now an increasing number of farm units, and a multitude of landowners and water users. The subdivision activity has created many administrative, legal and practical problems for Goshen Irrigation District and has resulted in greatly increased expense. The District's Rules and Regulations related to subdivision activities shall be implemented, construed and interpreted based on declarations and policies of the Board of Commissioners.

## **Assessments:**

Payment by landowners for the charges assessed by the District for operation and maintenance shall be made directly to the Goshen Irrigation District. All assessments must be paid in full on or before May 10th of the year following the year in which the assessment is made. Delinquent assessments will result in the prohibition of water. The Board of Commissioners shall set the amount of all assessments for O & M, capital construction costs, rehabilitation and betterment, and debt retirement annually. If the taxes and/or assessments levied are not paid as herein provided, then the real property shall be sold at the regular tax sale for the payment of such taxes and assessments, interest and penalties, in the manner provided by the Statutes of the State of Wyoming for selling property for non-payment of general taxes.

