

Owyhee Irrigation District Newsletter

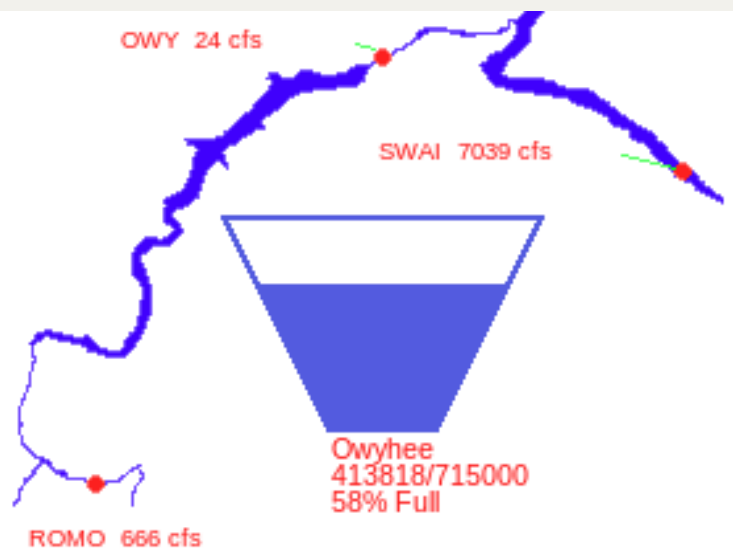
February 2024

Water Outlook

Current reservoir storage is 413,818 acre-feet or 58% full. Significantly more than last year when storage was 114,211 acre-feet or about 16% full. Snowpack is currently above average, and total precipitation is also higher than average. It is still early, but if mother nature cooperates with another good storm or two, cold temperatures coupled with a rapid spring warm up should ensure a productive run into the reservoir. Please continue to pray and be hopeful for a great water year!

Inside this issue

District Projects	2
Outage Alert System	2
Customer Portal	3
2024 Assessment	3
Combination Forms	3
Gopher Bounty Program ...	4
Aquatic Chemicals	4



District Projects:

Staff continues diligently repairing and upgrading District infrastructure. A few projects we're working on this off-season are new coatings on the jet flow valves and tunnel #1 hydro turbine wicket gates, replacing the Kingman pump pipeline, adding fuel storage, inspections and various other smaller projects. The District is still searching for matching funds for the project that will pipe the first section of the Kingman Lateral within the next few years. The District has secured Federal funding for the project and is seeking to secure state funds to fully fund the project. The slow march to project construction under PL-566 is still making modest strides toward approval. Currently, the District is working with Farmers Conservation Alliance on developing the Watershed Plan and all the meeting and studies that will need to be conducted before construction on any of the projects can begin.



New Outage Alert System!

We understand how important having reliable Irrigation Water Delivery is & if an "outage" or interruption to that water delivery occurs it can be devastating.

As much as we wish we can predict & prevent all outages in our District, we must prepare for the worst.

So, to help be proactive, we have set up a notification process so you can be aware as soon as possible if water delivery has to be interrupted due to major canal breaks, pumping plant malfunctions, or other unexpected interruptions.

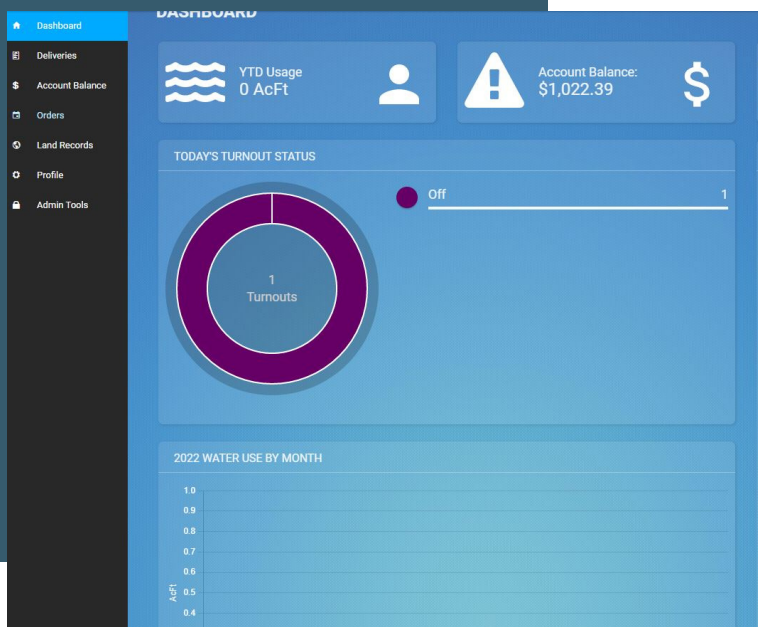
If you would like to sign up to be on the "Outage Alert" notification list;

- Visit our website & sign up
- Call the Office to be added to the Notification List

www.owyheeirrigation.org



**"Move forward.
Good things are
up ahead."**



2024 Assessment

The allotment has not been set for the 2024 water season.

There will be no Annual Water Users Meeting this year.

The Owyhee Irrigation District Board of Directors have set the incurred O&M charges for the 2024 season at \$77.50 per irrigated acre. The fee breakdown is as follows:

- \$1.50 per irrigated acre for a special assessment going towards the Malheur Siphon repairs
- \$76.00 per irrigated acre for the standard annual Operation & Maintenance fee.

Those who own 5 acres or less will be assessed an \$85.00 small acreage fee plus the \$77.50 per irrigable acre.

The customer Portal is a great way to manage your account! You can view your current account balance, view account transactions, & make payments with your credit card or bank account.

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ:

2024 assessments must be paid on or before April 15 or interest charges will be incurred each month.

Payments received in the mail with an April 15th postage will be considered delinquent if received in the office after April 15th!

Avoid delay in your payment by making your payment through the Customer Portal!

Customer Portal

- Water Users will receive the access PIN on the 2024 Assessment Summaries mailed out in February. Feel free to contact the office for assistance setting up the portal.
- Water Users will be able to see Year-to-Date water usage on the portal. **We will NOT be mailing out the Water Usage Summaries.** Water users will need to view water usage details through the Customer Portal or contact the office for assistance.
- RRA Forms—RRAs are not available online, if you need to complete RRA form/s you will continue to come into the office to complete the form/s.

Combination Form

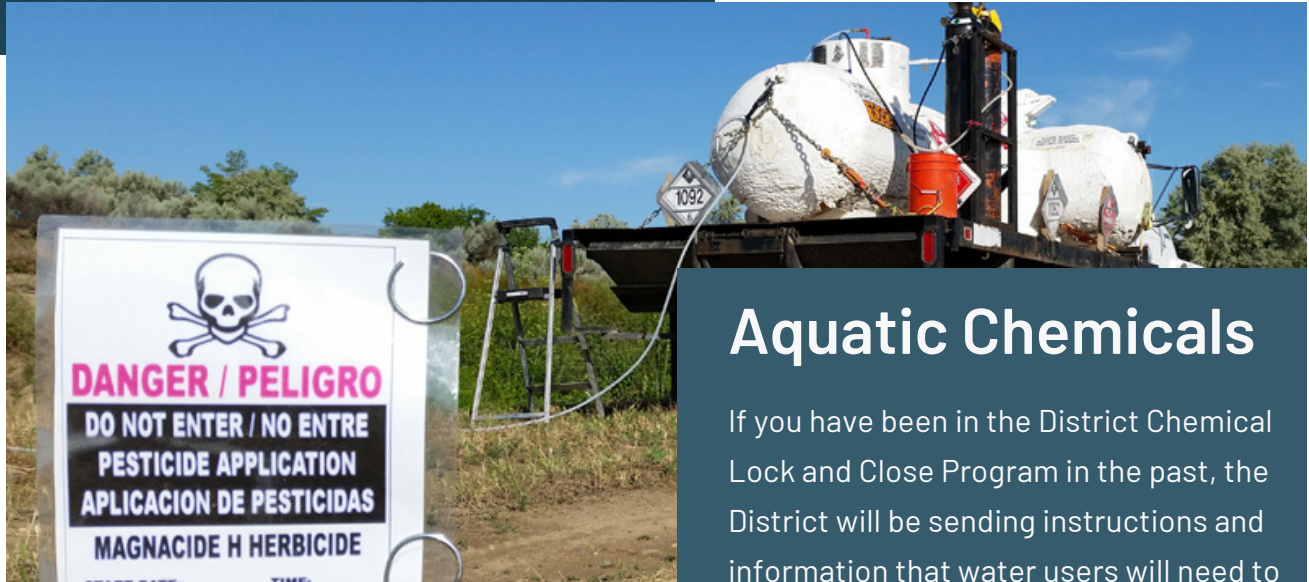


The District has adopted a program for Land owners & Renters to be able to combine multiple parcels into one water allotment pool. This allows the Land Owner/Renter to utilize the total water allotment how they see fit amongst the combined parcels.

There are certain restrictions & limitation that apply. More details & instructions on how to apply for a combination is available on the website.

www.owyheeirrigation.org

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for details & updates.



Aquatic Chemicals

If you have been in the District Chemical Lock and Close Program in the past, the District will be sending instructions and information that water users will need to make an informed decision on the best way to manage your operation.

If you wish to participate, you must complete a Lock & Close Program Request Form located on our website.

This must be completed by April 12, 2024, if you do not wish to have these chemicals enter your Headgate.

For more information, please contact the district office.

This year we will again be using the AlertSense notification system for aquatic herbicide applications made to the canals & laterals. This alert system contacts the user by email, landline, text, or cell phone. Those who were on last year's list have been entered into the system for this year. This system keeps our patrons better informed and provides documentation for our records.

2024 Gopher Bounty Program

For the 2024 water year the LIMIT CONTINUES TO BE 600 TAILS PER PERSON/ORGANIZATION PER MONTH.

- The District will pay \$1.00 per tail.
- Gophers must be caught within the authority of the Owyhee Irrigation District.
- You must be a Land Owner within the Owyhee Irrigation District to qualify!

Please keep in mind, ROTTING TAILS AND OTHER PARTS OF ANIMALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

