Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

Domestic Water | **Irrigation Service** | **On-Site Waste Disposal**

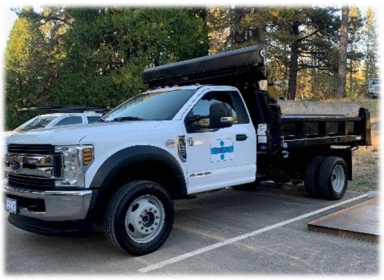
1946 ~ 2023 Reflecting on the Past. Planning for the Future.

The Georgetown Divide Public Utility District is pleased to present this **Consumer Confidence Report and Annual Water Quality Report.**

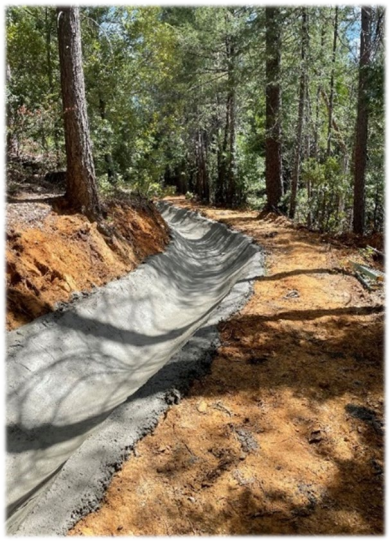
Dear Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Customer;

The 2023 calendar year presented the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (the District) with a new set of challenges in addition to continuing to provide high-quality and reliable drinking water to the residents of the Georgetown Divide communities. Leading up to, and through the summer months, the District was focused on key infrastructure upgrades and routine irrigation season operations. Highlights are detailed below:

- At the start of the 2023 year, the District implemented a work order/asset management software. Cartegraph has helped employees streamline the service order process and track all activities associated with the District's infrastructure.



- Crews completed approximately 1,100' of canal lining between the upper canal and the Spanish Dry Diggins Ditch in 2023. *Shown on the right.*



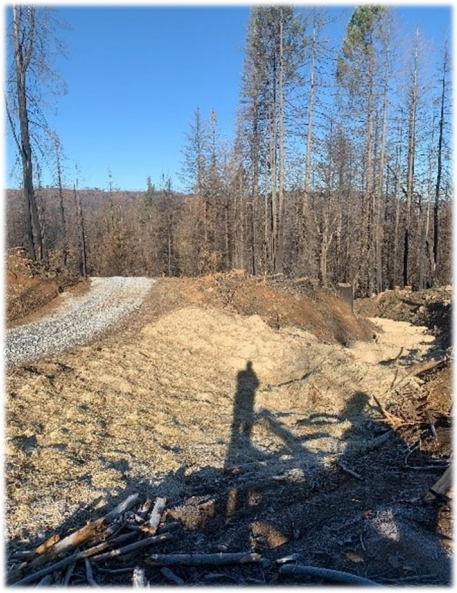
- The District purchased several used vehicles in 2023. These vehicles enable crews to tow equipment and maneuver around the divide safely. *Shown on the right.*
- The Auburn Lake Trails community disposal system (CDS) distribution box was cleaned and the District is pursuing grant funding for additional storage to prevent Sanitary Sewer Overflows.
- The District has applied for Post-Mosquito Fire funding opportunities that include piping nearly 13,000 feet of Upper Canal raw water conveyance system. Piping the Upper Canal will provide resiliency to the District and a reliable drinking water source as the Mosquito Fire burn scar recovers.

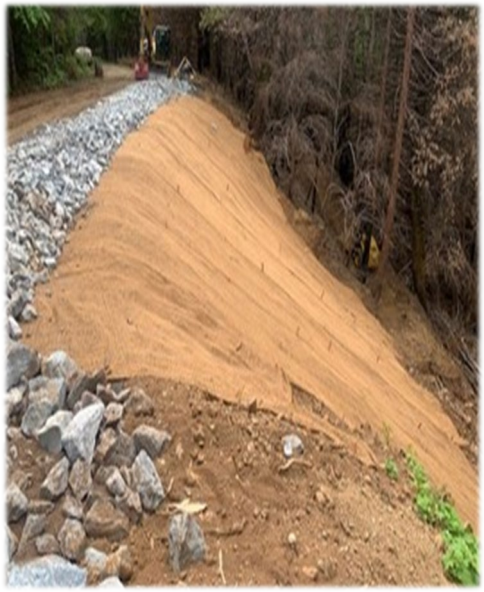
We hope you find this information valuable and invite your questions or comments on this newsletter or any District-related topic. Please contact the District's office at (530) 333-4356 or visit the website at https://www.gd-pud.org/

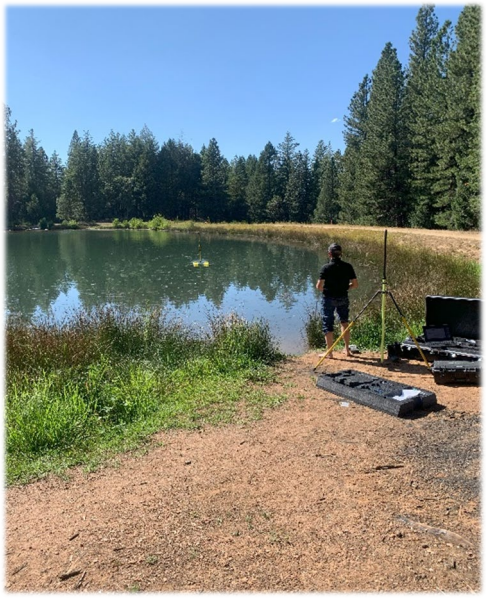
2023 - Post Mosquito Fire Incident Summary

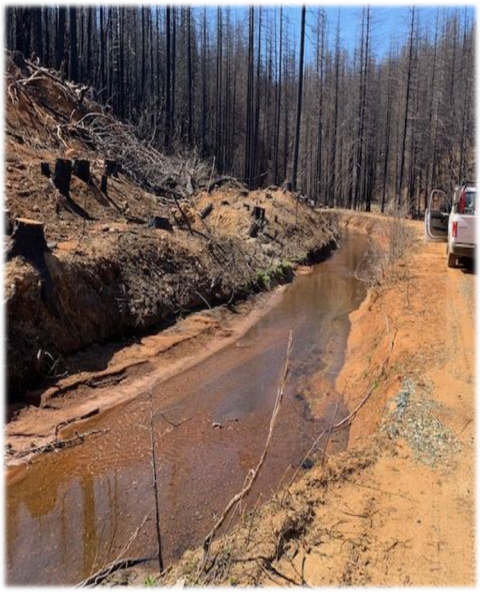
Following the destruction of the 2022 Mosquito Fire, District crews have been working to re-establish vital areas of the upcountry canal that took the heaviest fire damage. This remote infrastructure is important to the District and its customers as it is the main system that brings our surface water down to the treatment plants and irrigation water canals.

- Crews implemented erosion control mitigation following post-fire logging operations and in prep for the 2023 winter season. *Shown below on the right.*
- A road slide area due to erosion was repaired at one of the upcountry side water structures. These structures allow the District to capture side water from creeks throughout the year. Shown below center.
- Preliminary work began for dredging the silt build-up that occurred after the fire in the Walt Lake Treatment Plant holding pond. *Shown below on the left.*



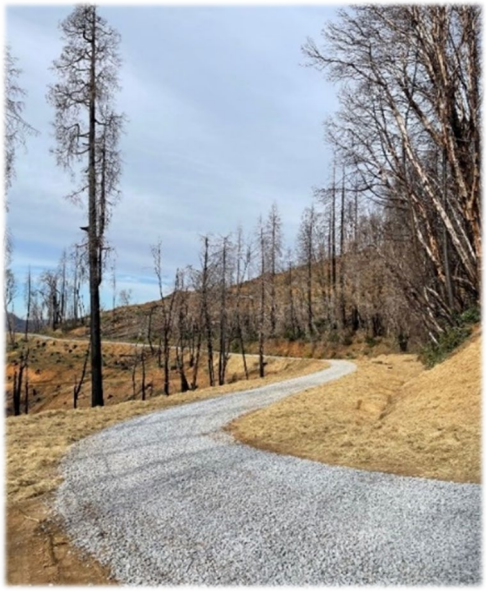






• A total of 3.5 miles of Upper Canal access road was finished with gravel to provide continuous access to critical District infrastructure. *Shown on the right.*

• Staff removed large amounts of sediment from the upcountry canal. The removal made it possible to have a 2023 irrigation season as the buildup was preventing the District from running enough water down the canal to feed our irrigation customers. *Shown on the left.*



GDPUD 2023 News Brief & Accomplishments

Below are some additional highlights of 2023.

Residential & Commercial Domestic Water Service – The District's Walton Lake and Sweetwater Treatment Plants produced approximately 549 million gallons of treated drinking water that was delivered to 3,729 residential and commercial customers in 2023.

The District offers a low-income assistance program. Information can be found at: https://www.gd-pud.org/apply-for-the-low-income-assistance-program

Irrigation Water – The District supplied nearly 3,778 acre-feet of water between June and October to 379 irrigation customers throughout the District.

Auburn Lake Trails Wastewater Services – During the 2023 reporting period, a total of approximately 1,064 annual and 53 escrow inspections were performed in the Auburn Lake Trails Wastewater Disposal Zone. In order to reduce inflow and infiltration into the Community Disposal System (CDS) a total of five tanks were watertight tested for inflow and infiltration. No tanks failed the watertight test.

Infrastructure Improvements – The Chimney Flat Water Line Replacement restored 265 feet of a treated water main. *Shown on the left.*

The District replaced three pump control valves at the Sweet Water Treatment Plant. These pump valves help control the surges of water that occur between the treatment plant and the water tank located at Angel Camp Court.

Operators installed 300 feet of 48-inch diameter pipe along the upper canal as the result of a canal failure.

District filed three emergency declarations funding claims with FEMA associated with winter season storms.

- Upper Canal Road Failure Repair
- Upper Canal Silt Removal
- Walton Lake Dredging

Operational – The District renewed General Manager Nicholas Schneider's contract in October of 2023.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection awarded the District with 1.2 million dollars in grant funding for fire mitigation associated with District infrastructure.

The District received $250,000 in state appropriations to provide backup power for the pump stations, and automated meter reading infrastructure.

Fiscal – Capital Facility and labor rates were updated.

A total of $1,442,454 was transferred from the operating budget to the Capital Improvement Program budget for infrastructure improvements.

2023/2024 fiscal year budget was adopted at $5,778,158.

Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

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DEAR WATER USER,

This report contains important information about your drinking water quality. We are pleased to report that in 2023 as in years past, your water meets or exceeds all United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State drinking water health standards. The District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again, your water system has been in compliance with other water quality standards. Included in these pages are details on where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards. For additional information on water quality, customers may contact Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (the District) Water Resources Manager, Alexis Elliott at (530) 333-4356 ext. 102.

Este informe constiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Favor de comunicarse Georgetown Divide Public Utility District a 6425 Main St., Georgetown, CA (530) 333-4356 para asistirlo en español.

Your Water Supply

Your water source originates in the Sierras within the localized Pilot Creek Watershed that flows into Stumpy Meadows Reservoir and is an extremely high-quality surface water source. Captured water is then transported via a Gold Rush-era canal and pipe system for treatment at the Walton Lake and Sweetwater Treatment Plants. The Walton Lake plant serves the communities of Georgetown, Garden Valley, Kelsey, and Greenwood. The Sweetwater plant serves Cool and Pilot Hill. Both treatment plants employ a multi-barrier treatment process to ensure the quality of your drinking water. The treatment process at each plant involves coagulation for the removal of fine particles, filtration using sand and anthracite, disinfection with liquid chlorine, and reduction of corrosivity through the use of sodium carbonate. Treated water is conveyed to customers through a network of storage tanks and pipes.

Water Quality Rules Explained

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the number of contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protections for public health. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791. The California notification levels are available on the Department's website.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/NotificationLevels.html

Some People are More Vulnerable

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, and some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers, USEPA, and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Board of Directors

The Board of Directors meets regularly on the first Thursday of each month, at 2:00 p.m. at the Districts office located at 6425 Main Street in Georgetown; on YouTube and via Zoom. Your Board members are:

- Mitch MacDonald, President;
- Donna Seaman, Vice President;
- Mike Thornbrough, Treasurer;
- Michael Saunders, Director; and
- Robert Stovall, Director.

District office hours are Monday through Friday.
8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Closed 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm (Lunch)

Natural Minerals Can Enter Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs and canals. As water travels over the surface of the land, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, mining or farming;
- Pesticides and herbicides which can come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, but can also originate from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, septic systems, and agricultural applications; and
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas mining and mining activities.

About Contaminants

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The District is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before consumption. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you can have your water tested.

WATERSHED HEALTH

Water Source Assessment

Source water protection is the primary barrier to providing safe drinking water. A contaminant that does not enter the water source does not need to be removed. An assessment of the District's drinking water source was completed in December 2018. The District is working on an update for 2023. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities; historic gas stations, historic mining operations, wastewater treatment systems, forest management activities, recreational use, storm drain and stormwater discharges, and illegal dumping. No contaminants have been detected associated with the drinking water supply. You may request a copy of the complete watershed survey or a summary at the District office or by contacting Ali Rezvani, the State Board Stationary Engineer at (916) 449-5681.

Understanding the Consumer Confidence Report

The tables presented in this report list all of the drinking water contaminants that were **detected** during the 2023 calendar year, unless otherwise noted. The State allows the District to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a human health risk.

Definitions

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. PHGs are established by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA).

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MECLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known of expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs and treatment techniques for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Measurement of water clarity.

ND: Not detectable at testing limit
NS: No Standard
NA: Not Applicable
ppm: parts per million
ppb: parts per billion

Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Consumer

PUBLIC NOTICE TO DISTRICT CUSTOMERS

Constituent/ Parameter	Unit	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Treatment Plant		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
				Walton Lake	Sweetwater			
Primary Drinking Water Standards – Health Related								
Turbidity and Microbiological Primary Drinking Water Standards								
Turbidity	NTU	TT = 1	NA	0.288peak 0.089average	0.264peak 0.047average	2023	No	Soil runoff
		TT = 95% of samples <0.3		100%	100%	2023	No	
	Turbidity has no health effects but is a measurement of the clarity of the water or the level of suspended matter in the water. Monitoring of turbidity provides GDPUD with an indication of filtration performance. High turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. In reporting turbidity, the highest single measurement and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits are specified.							
Total Coliform Bacteria (Total Coliform Rule – Weekly Sample Analysis)	Absent/ Present	One positive monthly sample.	0	0	0	2022	No	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli (Revised Total Coliform Rule – Weekly Sample Analysis)	Absent/ Present	A routine and repeat sample test positive for total coliform and one of the samples also fecal and E. Coli positive.	0	0	0	2022	No	Human and animal fecal waste.
	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Fecal coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes.							
Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection Byproducts Precursors								
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethane)	ppb	80	NA	20.95 LRAA 7.9 to 29.0	29 LRAA 20.0 to 53.0	2023	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	NA	10.5 LRAA 4.9 to 20.80	26.8 LRAA 10.5 – 51.6	2023	No	By product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	ppm	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4	1.07 average 0.59 to 1.02	0.83 average 0.68 to 1.28	2023	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

Constituents with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard and General Mineral Constituent								
Iron	ppb	300	NS	ND	ND	2023	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	1,000	NS	19	20	2023	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (EC)	micromhos	1,600	NS	28	31	2023	No	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
Chloride	ppm	250	NS	0.83	0.94	2023	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate	ppm	250	NS	ND	ND	2023	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Aggressive Index		NS	NS	8.59 (slightly corrosive)	8.98 (slightly corrosive)	2021	NA	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in the water affected by temperature and other factors
Bicarbonate as Calcium Carbonate	ppm	NS	NS	11	21	2021	NA	Naturally occurring in water
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	ppm	NS	NS	ND	ND	2021	NA	Naturally occurring in water
Calcium	ppm	NS	NS	1.8	3.9	2021	NA	Naturally occurring in water
Sodium	ppm	NS	NS	1.9	1.7	2023	NA	Sodium refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Total Hardness	ppm	NS	NS	8.2	11	2023	NA	Naturally occurring in water, generally from magnesium and calcium
pH (daily treated water in 2021)	units	NS	NS	6.88 average 8.20 to 8.20	6.77 average 7.07 to 9.57	2021	NA	Naturally occurring in water.