
KITTITAS RECLAMATION DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

Volume 10, Number 1

April 2008

Know Your District

Board Members

Ed Wakkuri: Upper County Director. 674-2418
Paul Weaver: Reecer Creek. 962-2683
Urban Eberhart: Badger Pocket. Chair. 968-3142
Jim Schnebly: Fairview Director. Vice Chair. 925-6824
Larry Bland: Westside Director. 962-9279

Legal Counsel

Jeff Slothower. 925-6916

District Staff: 925-6158

Ken Hasbrouck: Secretary / Manager
Barbara Pettit: Office Manager / Treasurer
Keli Bender: Lands / RRA
Tina Webster: Office Clerk
Kathleen Satnik: Water Quality Specialist / KCWP
Roger Satnik: GIS / Telemetry / Water Quality
Paul Green: Field Supervisor

Ditch Riders: 925-6158

Ride 1: Bob Main, Westside (South Branch)
Ride 2: Mike Minor, Hayward Hill to Wilson Creek Rd
Ride 3: Dirk Varnum, Wilson Creek Rd to Caribou Rd
Ride 4: Doug Webster, Caribou Rd to Pumping Plant
Ride 5: John Bender, Badger Pocket
Ride 6: Chris Sandvig, Upper County. **Call: 656-2265**
Ride 7: David Mayer, Turbine 0.2 lateral. **Call: 968-4372**

WATER ORDERING: Water Orders are taken by your ditch rider Monday – Friday between 7 A.M. and 7:45 A.M.. Orders may also be placed with office staff from 7:45 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday – Friday, **HOWEVER**, those orders will not be given to the ditch rider until the next morning (**The answering service will not take water orders. The after hours answering service is for emergencies only**).

WATER DELIVERIES: After receiving estimates from the Bureau of Reclamation, the KRD Board of Directors has set this year's allotment to be 100% of normal, or 2.0 cfs per assessed acre. KRD will start flushing and priming the system on April 20th. Ditch riders will start taking water orders on April 21st. Please contact your ditch rider for water delivery dates.

There are no water orders taken on Saturday or Sunday. It is best to give your ditch rider forty-eight (48) hours notice to insure timely delivery. The District also has a forty-eight (48) hour notice with the Bureau of Reclamation. Mondays and Fridays are the most difficult days to receive "same day" deliveries. You should have your order in by Thursday 07:45 to have water delivered on Monday. The ditch riders will attempt to service their rides following the same route daily so you will be able to anticipate when your water will be adjusted.

WATER ASSESSMENTS: There are no assessment increases in 2008. Statements are mailed in February (first half due April 30) and then again in September (second half due October 31). Call the office for specific questions relating to your assessment. **Your assessment goes to pay for the original Construction Debt Retirement (CDR), Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the five (5) Bureau reservoirs and the O&M of KRD facilities. Your assessment does not "buy" water, it pays for the distribution system that gets water to your property.**

AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER IRRIGATION WATER: Forms to transfer water from your account to another account are available at the office or from your ditch rider. All transfers must be approved, and are authorized only for the current water year. Please call the office to discuss your particular water requirements. Landowners that own land in more than one ride may transfer water between owned or leased parcels.

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KRD Roads

KRD operation and maintenance roads (O&M) are restricted use roads. No general public access is authorized. The KRD does permit use of certain O&M roads for specific reasons. Landowners who have agricultural access needs may be authorized use of O&M roads adjacent to their property. Law enforcement and Game Department personnel are authorized access on an as needed basis. Utility Company staff inspecting or working on their facilities are also permitted access with notification. **There is no authorized use of O&M roads for recreation by adjacent landowners or the general public.** No permission has been given to adjacent landowners or the general public to walk, ride bikes, horseback ride, rock hunt, ride snowmobiles or ORVs, hunt, or gain access to private property using KRD O&M roads.

RECLAMATION REFORM ACT (RRA): Landholders who own and/or lease more than 240 acres (combined acreage under KRD and other Districts under Bureau contract, such as Columbia Basin, Roza, etc.) are required to comply with the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982. KRD cannot deliver water to any combination of owned and/or leased lands 240 acres or more without the proper forms on file in the office. If you lease your lands to another party, you must notify them of this requirement. **If your land is held in trust, you must notify the KRD office. Federal Reclamation law requires USBR approval of all trusts, regardless of acreage.** Compliance with Reclamation Reform Act is required on a **YEARLY** basis. Please call Keli if you need additional information.

AUTHORIZATION TO ORDER WATER: Forms are required **ANNUALLY** to authorize someone other than the legal owner to order water. Your signed authorization form must be on file with the KRD office prior to placing a water order. This includes orders placed with your Ditchrider and/or the district office. Water authorization forms were mailed with your 2007 Assessment Statement. If you did not receive one, or need additional forms please contact the KRD. **TO AVOID ANY DELAYS, ORDERS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED WHEN PLACED BY AN AUTHORIZED PERSON.**

CROSSING PERMITS: Crossing permits are required for any activity on District Rights-of-Way. This includes bridges, culverts, flumes, pipes, utilities, new turnouts and residential access via operation and maintenance (O&M) roads.

LAND DIVISION GUIDELINES: KRD has General Guidelines, conditions and requirements that must be met. Certain language is required on the face of a plat and all land division with classified irrigable acreage must submit a written irrigation distribution plan along with map showing the plan. In January of 1999, the KRD Board adopted a resolution that the same approvals and conditions should be applied to any division of irrigable property within KRD district boundaries regardless of whether the division is exempt from County platting or subdivision procedures. In essence, any land action that changes acreage within any given parcel could change the assessed acreage within that parcel and must come before the KRD for review. A water plan must be completed prior to the sale of any lot. Please call Keli for additional information. **Water will not be delivered without an approved water plan.**

BOARD MEETINGS: Board Meetings are held at 1 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month at the KRD Office, corner of Fourth and Water Streets. If you wish to address the Board on a particular subject, please call the Office (509-925-6158) and request to be on the agenda at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. It would be helpful if you outlined your subject in a letter addressed to the Board and provide any information you wish the Board to consider so that we can forward that information to the Board Members prior to the meeting. We encourage you to attend.

LAWN AND GARDEN PUMP PERMITS: KRD will allow the installation of small lawn and garden pumps, but **ONLY** with a permit, and a \$25 fee. This **INCLUDES** pumps that have been installed prior to permit requirements. Please talk to your Ditchrider if you have any questions about your lawn and garden pump.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the office if you have had a change of address, if your phone number has changed or if your mortgage company has changed within the past year. We would also appreciate your unlisted/cell phone number so we can contact you in emergency situations. We will respect the confidentiality of your unlisted number.

USE OF KRD WATER: At the inception of the KRD, the Bureau of Reclamation sent engineers into the valley to complete a survey of the varied soils within the district. The results of the survey identified the lands that were to be considered irrigable within the established district boundaries. Each landowner is given a water allotment based on their irrigable acreage. KRD water is to be applied to irrigable acres **ONLY**. Under no circumstances is KRD water to be put on lands that are classified as non-irrigable or outside of the district boundaries. If you need assistance in identifying your irrigable acreage, the KRD staff would be happy to assist you.

PERMITS AND FORMS: Permits and forms are available at the Office. Some of the forms can also be downloaded from our web site: www.fairpoint.net/~krd

CALL US: Ditchriders and crew are here to assist you with all of your district water needs. Ditchriders attempt to check your point of delivery at about the same time each day, Monday through Friday. Crews are assigned specific maintenance tasks as well as instructed to do what ever ditch bank maintenance they see that needs attention. They are willing to answer questions that you might have. Sometimes things that will help with your water delivery might be overlooked. Please call us and let us know how we can serve your needs better.

How to contact KRD:

Phone: 509-925-6158
Fax: 509-925-7425
E-mail District Manager: krdoffice@fairpoint.net
E-mail Water Quality: krdwq@fairpoint.net
E-mail GIS: krdgis@fairpoint.net
E-mail Lands Clerk: krd.keli@fairpoint.net
E-mail Office Manager: krd.barb@fairpoint.net
E-mail Office Clerk: krd.tina@fairpoint.net
Web site: www.fairpoint.net/~krd



KRD ditchrider lineup.

Top row: Bob Main, Mike Minor, Dirk Varnum.

Bottom row: Doug Webster, John Bender, Chris Sandvig, David Mayer.

KCWP

The Kittitas County Water Purveyors (KCWP), a team made up of local irrigation districts and companies—including the KRD—is continuing to provide financial and technical support to landowners and irrigation districts, as well as monitoring water quality in the local streams and irrigation canals.

In 2008, we'll be sampling at thirteen sites around the county each week for the following parameters: turbidity (water clarity), suspended sediment (amount of dirt), temperature, and flow. Our sampling has shown that while all the canals and streams have improved since 1999, our county's irrigation districts have far exceeded the progress made in the streams. While the districts may be out of Ecology's "hot seat," irrigators who have return flows into creeks must make significant strides to meet Ecology's water clean-up plan (or TMDL) before the 2011 compliance monitoring begins.

If you have water quality issues on your land, please contact us. We can help pay for livestock fencing where improved water quality will result. Water gaps maintain your ability to water livestock, while the fencing protects the remaining banks and streambed from erosion and prevents wide-spread/long-term pollution straight from animals' bodies.

Healthy riparian areas also promote good water quality by cooling the water and filtering sediment. Since fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria cling to sediment, sediment reductions also reduce bacteria populations in the water. Riparian zones are composed of a variety of native grasses, bushes, and trees depending upon the site size and location. The KCWP can also provide financial assistance for riparian restoration where doing so will help the health of a natural waterbody.

More than 75% of the KCWP budget is grant-funded, minimizing local financial burdens. When implementing Best Management Practices, like fencing and riparian restoration, the landowner is responsible for at least 25% of the project cost. The remaining cost is covered by grants. On a typical project, the landowner purchases the supplies and provides the labor for installing the project. When the project is complete, receipts and documentation of time spent on installation are turned in and the owner is reimbursed for the cost of the materials. The allowable value of the owner's time is generally at least 25% of the project cost, so the owner doesn't necessarily need to pay out any cash for the project.

If you're interested in applying for funding through our program, or if you have a question relating to water quality, please contact Kat Satnik at 925-6158. You can also find us on the internet at www.kcwp.org.

KRD and Water Facts

(clip and save for reference)

Phone Number : (509) 925-6158

Fax : (509) 925-7425

Website : www.fairpoint.net/~krd

KRD's annual allotment in a 100% water year is 2 cfs per acre of assessed land.

One cfs is one cubic foot per second flowing for a 24 hour period.

Water Orders are taken by your ditch rider Monday – Friday between 7 A.M. and 7:45 A.M.

1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 2 acre feet in 24 hours

1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 449 gallons per minute

1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 646,317 gallons in 24 hours

1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 50 California miner inches

Aquatic Herbicides

The District uses aquatic herbicides to control the growth of algae and pondweeds that can effect canal capacity and water delivery. If you are using KRD water to supply a pond with fish, or if there is any other reason your deliveries should be suspended during herbicide treatments, NOTIFY the KRD.

KCCD PAM Cost Share

PAM (polyacrylamide) has successfully reduced erosion and increased infiltration on a million U.S. irrigated acres and has been used in Kittitas County for the control of irrigation induced soil erosion since 1995. PAM is a potent and environmentally safe industrial flocculent that greatly accelerates separation of suspended solids from water. It also improves particle cohesion, stabilizing soil structure. It is applied through two basic methods – hand or machine. Hand application involves placing either PAM tablets or granular PAM directly in the furrow. Machine applications involve metering granular PAM into the head ditch. Kittitas County Conservation District studies have proven that it reduces the sediment load in tailwater by as much as 95%. Another KCCD study showed a direct link between the use of PAM and a decrease in the sediment load of the Wipple Wasteway. For the eight season, PAM cost share is available to Kittitas County growers. The cost share or reimbursement rate is 50% with a cap of \$1,000. Cost share is also available for the purchase of applicator devices with a reimbursement rate of 50% and a \$150 cap. Applicants MUST complete an application prior to purchasing the PAM product or applicator in order to be eligible for the program.

Funds are limited and are available on a first-come-first-served basis. For more information or to receive an application for this program, please call 925-8585 ext. 4 or stop by the Conservation District office at 607 East Mountain View.

Kittitas Reclamation District
P.O. Box 276
Ellensburg, WA 98926