



September 18th, 2024

Dear Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District Water Users,

We want to provide you with an important update on our operations and ongoing repairs.

Thanks to the normal seasonal reduction in demand, we are now able to run all systems without interruptions, and we anticipate this will continue through the end of the water season. As we approach the shutdown date of October 1st, we advise all water users to take the necessary steps to prepare for this earlier shutdown.

This off-season will be extremely busy as we strive to ensure the system is fully operational by next spring. Our crews have been working tirelessly to address the damage and manage numerous repairs alongside their regular duties. In addition, we're actively working with various supporting agencies and Jacobs Engineering; securing materials and contracts to ensure a comprehensive response to this event and preparations for the future.

The extent of the wildfire damage has highlighted the vulnerability of our aging infrastructure and the urgent need for a long-term climate resilient solution. While we are making progress on addressing the damage, the environmental devastation has been extensive, and the worst may lie ahead as experts have forecasted a La Nina winter with heavy rains.

To ensure the continued success of our operations and the safety of our infrastructure, we urge water users to actively support our long-term canal replacement project. Consider reaching out to your local representatives and express the importance of securing state and federal support for this critical infrastructure. Your involvement is crucial in helping us navigate these challenges and protect our community's water resources.

We will continue to provide updates on our website and Facebook page as we progress with repairs and address any developments. Please stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Travis Okelberry
District Manager
Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District