

Managers Report

(Winter 2017/2018)

I'm happy to see that you are now browsing our new TFCC website and I hope you will find it very informative and user-friendly. We will be updating this site frequently with current Twin Falls Canal news, water-supply information, water quality updates, and other topics of interest to our stockholders. Make sure you always visit the Water District 1 page to get daily snow pack, reservoir teacup diagrams and streamflow levels throughout the area. We hope you will visit us on-line frequently to keep up with the latest news in the Water World. If you dig a little deeper into our website you will find lots of TFCC history including pictures and articles from the early days of irrigation in Idaho. We will no longer be publishing and mailing a Winter "Ditch Writer" but will be mailing an enhanced spring "Ditch Writer" to you with all the articles and water-delivery information you expect and will need for the 2018 irrigation season.

My Manager's By Line from last winter's TFCC Ditch Writer started with "Let it Snow"! That wish came true; we had major snowstorms all through January, major flooding in February and subsequently the biggest water supply since 1997. So this year my wish is slightly different: "Let it Snow in the Mountains"!

This 2018 water year started off with a very wet November, but a dry December so as of January 1 we have an average snowpack in the upper Snake River drainages. You might be asking why Shoshone Falls is running at 7500 cubic feet per second when we have just an average snowpack? The answer is that we had a huge carryover in the reservoirs from the 2017 water surplus and now Jackson Lake, Palisades, Island Park, American Falls, and Lake Walcott are all full. Full storage results in winter inflows being by-passed right on down the river. TFCC and numerous other Canal Companies are currently recharging with this surplus water, but December ice jams and required maintenance have greatly reduced the capacities for winter recharge. Hopefully by late February recharge will again be going full bore. The huge water supply last year also provided roughly 1 million acre feet of natural and managed recharge into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. There is still a lot of aquifer deficit to recover, but this is the best possible start to the Groundwater/Surface Water Agreement and spring flows/reach gains currently are the best they have been in many years!

TFCC crews are taking full advantage of the good December/January weather and are currently installing numerous concrete check structures, headgates, and pipelines throughout the system. We are also helping PMF Construction and Gambrel Concrete to install our first Obermeyer Inflatable Weir on the lowline canal near Highway 93. Our goal is always to maintain and improve our delivery system to provide your precious water as safely and efficiently as possible. More good news: Your 2018 O&M assessment will remain at \$26 per share! Please come to our 114th Annual Stockholders Meeting at the CSI Herrett Center at 9:00 AM on January 9th 2018. Presentations will include the 2018 TFCC Financial report, Legal report, Bureau of Reclamation report, Field Supervisor report, Manager report, Recharge report and of course any new business that may come before the meeting. Directors Dan Shewmaker and Phil Blick are running unopposed for their seats, so there will be no election this year. Have a happy and prosperous new year!