



# Tulare Irrigation District Operation & Maintenance Report



2014 Quarter 1

Prepared By:  
Aaron Fukuda & Wayne Fox  
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## **District Safety Program**

The District Superintendent continues to conduct a series of Tail-Gate safety meetings during the week to keep employees mindful of safety precautions and the proper operation of equipment. Safety meetings were conducted on:

- Code of Safe Practices
- Adverse Weather Conditions
- Don't Let Chemicals Get to You
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

## **Maintenance Operations**

Under the direction of Wayne Fox, District Superintendent, staff addressed maintenance concerns throughout the District.

The major maintenance projects include:

- Continuation of grading on District canals and facilities.
- Major dredging of Main Intake Canal along with embankment shaping. This has not been done in several years and the District has utilized the dry year to accomplish this much needed maintenance.
- Tumbleweed removal along canals and ditches throughout the District.
- Continued repair and replacement of turnout gates.
- Painting of bar gates and installation of "No Trespass" signs at reservoirs.
- Repair of wash-ins throughout the District.
- Construction of the materials/truck/lumber storage building adjacent to the Herbicide Shop.
- Scraping of top of banks on reservoirs and canals.
- Pumping of water from St. Johns and Kaweah River siphons for inspection.

## **Vehicle Maintenance Program**

The Vehicle Maintenance staff (VM Staff) has been busy maintaining and repairing construction and maintenance equipment. The maintenance issues that have been addressed include:

- 90-day inspections for Department of Transportation.
- Multiple repairs on both motor graders.
- Replaced seal on Spray Truck motor.
- Cleaning of yard and facilities.

## **Herbicide Application Program**

The Herbicide Application Staff (Herbicide Staff) has been working on applying herbicide chemicals to District canal embankments.

The following chemicals were used at the specified rates:

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Units</b>
Aqua Cap	64.5	Gallons
CDFA Bait	29	Pounds
Finale	4.25	Quart
Milestone	325	Ounces

Reward	453.25	Quarts
Roundup	479	Gallons
Roundup Custom	768	Ounces
Surflan A.S.	27.5	Gallons

The Herbicide staff also continued to utilize the mower to reduce weed growth, completed the pre-emergent program, utilized the water truck to set the pre-emergents, and implemented a squirrel bait program across the District.

### **Construction Projects**

The District construction staff under the direction of Mr. Fox has been working on the following projects:

#### **Ketchum Ditch Repair**

- Hauled material excavated from the Main Intake Canal to the headworks of the Ketchum Ditch.
- Removed western bank, which was unstable and provided a cleared and stable surface.
- Worked with Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District to compact and place imported material into the western canal bank.

#### **Swall Basin Project**

- Completed barbed wire fencing around basin (contracted service).

### **Pictures**



Main Intake Canal dredging and canal shaping maintenance.



Main Intake Canal channel maintenance.



Ketchum Ditch embankment maintenance project.



Hauling and compacting embankment at Ketchum Ditch.



Pumping Kaweah Siphon for inspection.



Construction of storage facility.



Grader maintenance.



Main Intake Canal maintenance at the Kaweah Siphon.



Tumbleweed collection and disposal.



Tumbleweed collection and disposal.