

NORTH YUBA WATER DISTRICT



Providing Domestic Water for Brownsville, Challenge, Forbestown and Rackerby, and Irrigation Water for Dobbins and Oregon House

OCTOBER 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2019, 5PM
NYWD Administration Office
8691 La Porte Road
Brownsville, CA

The agenda will be posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting at www.nywd.org/meetings.

CONTACT INFO

Questions? Clarifications?
Ask your NYWD representative!

DOMESTIC DIVISIONS

DIVISION 1 - DOUG NEILSON
DNEILSON@NYWD.ORG

DIVISION 2 - TERRY BROWN
TBROWN@NYWD.ORG

DIVISION 5 - ERIC HANSARD
BOARD CHAIRMAN
EHANSARD@NYWD.ORG

IRRIGATION DIVISIONS

DIVISION 3 - GARY HAWTHORNE
GHAWTHORNE@NYWD.ORG

DIVISION 4 - GRETCHEN FLOHR
GFLOHR@NYWD.ORG



CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE -

The Truth Shall Prevail

Over 5 months ago, two local unnamed residents filed a complaint with the State Water Board, claiming NYWD had intentionally submitted misleading statements in a grant application. This prompted an investigation which was closed on September 9th, and a statement was issued by the State Water Resources Control Board Office of Enforcement **clearing NYWD of all allegations:**

"CONCLUSIONS: The investigation did not find credible evidence of an intentional omission of facts, misrepresentation, or fabrication of data that would alter the eligibility of the grant application. The Quit Claim relationship between NYWD and SFWPA was provided in the application. Reliable aluminum data showing exceedances of the MCL in the ditch water was provided by the NYWD in their application, and that data was not treated by the DFA as significant in ranking the application. The DFA acknowledged the benefit to irrigation water customers as well as to domestic users in their evaluation of the application prepared by Northstar and Mr. Maupin on behalf of the NYWD. The grant application was reviewed, in accordance with the DFA's standard practice, in a 19-step process documented in the application assessment package. The application package provided by NYWD was compliant with State Water Board requirements, and as a result the Forbestown Ditch Planning Project was determined to be eligible for funding."

You can download the entire 46-page report on our website at www.nywd.org/news.

Please help us continue to spread the truth, and if you have questions about things you are hearing, please take a minute to email your District representative (contact info inside) or call the District.



Sincerely,



Eric Hansard
Chairman, North Yuba Water District

FORBESTOWN DITCH PIPING PROJECT: 100% Design Complete!

PROJECT UPDATE - Board Approves Project Design

Your NYWD Board of Directors voted to accept the Forbestown Ditch Piping Project plans and scope of work during a special meeting in September.

Approximately two years ago, NYWD received a \$500,000 planning grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board "Prop 1 funds" to complete this engineering phase of the Project, including creation of a construction plan and final construction budget, now estimated at \$10 Million.

Moving to a piped Ditch will lower the possibility of breaches like the those recently experienced in 2017 and 2018. A piped Ditch will also save a significant amount of water lost from seepage and evaporation, increase the amount of water available for

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT
"TURNOUT"
END OF THE
FORBESTOWN
DITCH**

FORBESTOWN

customers and eliminate a vast majority of dirt, trash and contamination from entering the treatment pond.

Potential funding sources to complete the construction include an additional Prop 1 grant of up to \$5 Million from the State and a matching grant of up to \$5 Million from the Yuba Water Agency.

"This is truly an historic project for the North Yuba Water District," said Randy Fletcher, Yuba County Supervisor and Yuba Water Agency Director. "When you consider the Ditch was constructed when Abraham Lincoln was President, these residents are long overdue for a safe, secure way to receive their water."

- Forbestown Ditch is approximately 10 miles
- The upper section (8 miles) - runs from Woodleaf Penstock South Fork gauging station "SF 14" to the inlet of Costa Creek Siphon
- The lower section (2 miles) - runs from the outlet of Costa Creek Siphon to the Water Treatment Plant in Forbestown

WOODLEAF PENSTOCK

"SF 14"
START OF THE
FORBESTOWN
DITCH

COSTA CREEK SIPHON

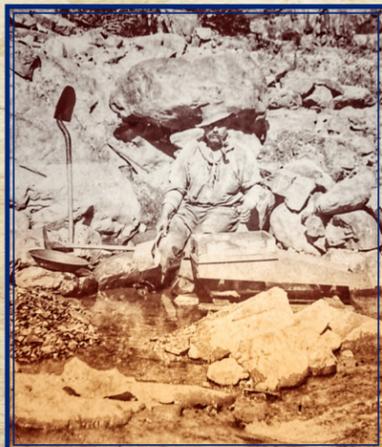
PROJECT TIMELINE - Not a "Pipe Dream" Anymore!

FORBESTOWN DITCH PIPING PROJECT - MAJOR MILESTONES

TASK	DURATION	ESTIMATED COMPLETION
Prop 1 Funds Secured for Engineering Phase - \$500,000	12 months	COMPLETE!
30% Project Design & Begin Permitting	21 months	COMPLETE!
60% Project Design	3 months	COMPLETE!
100% Project Design & NYWD Board Approval	3 months	COMPLETE!
Permits Acquired, Construction Funding Secured & Contract Award	4 months	Fall/Winter 2019
Construction	36 months	Spring 2022
Post Construction Activities	6 months	Fall 2023

1850'S

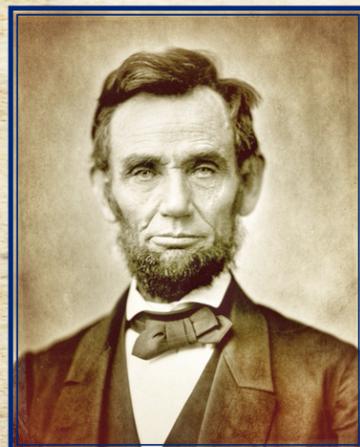
Portions of the Forbestown Ditch date back to the 1850s Gold Rush when it was constructed to divert water from the Feather River to gold mining encampments from high along the western slope of the Sierra Nevada.



An Early History of the Forbestown "Miner's" Ditch

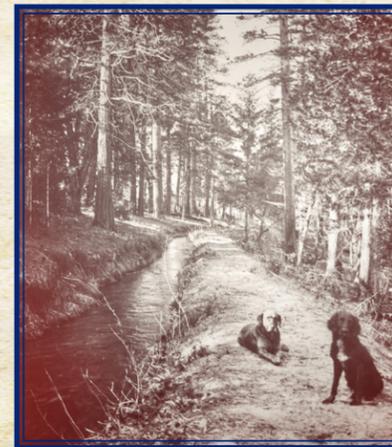
1865

The same year Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, the existing NYWD Forbestown Ditch, then called the "Miner's Ditch" was constructed in 1865 in native soil.



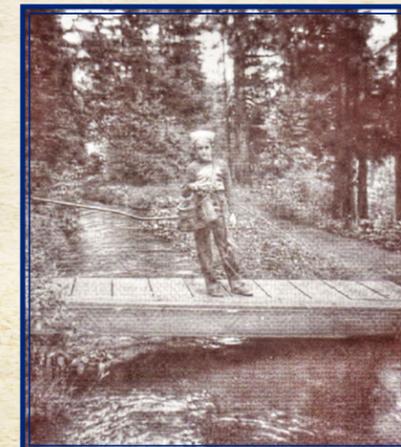
1920'S

By the end of World War I mining operations had faded away and more and more people began to move into the Feather River canyon and surrounding areas where the water was then used for agricultural and domestic purposes.



1952

NYWD was originally formed as "Yuba County Water District" on June 30, 1952. Over the decades, agreements with neighboring South Feather Water & Power Authority, then called "Oroville-Wyandotte Irrigation District" were reached addressing water rights and administration of the Forbestown Ditch.



District Office:
8691 La Porte Road
Brownsville, CA 95919

Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Tel: (530) 675-2567
email@nywd.org
www.nywd.org

ALERT FOR DISTRICT CUSTOMERS

Please be aware that negative detractors of the District operate under the anonymity of names like North Yuba Water Alliance, Oregon House Dobbins Water Association, Yuba Vision and possibly others. These informal groups are not affiliated with the District in any way.

We encourage you to contact the District or your elected representative if you have questions, or need clarification about District policy, conduct or projects, (530) 675-2567 or email@nywd.org.



SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

The 2019/2020 Budget



QUESTION: Was the process of notifying the public and voting on the 2019-2020 budget the same process as previous years?

ANSWER: Yes! The budget was passed at the June 27, 2019, NYWD Board Meeting, and as legally required, the agenda for that meeting was published on our website, www.nywd.com/meetings at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. The agenda packet was also available at the District Office for public review. This is the same process we follow for ALL regular board meetings.

QUESTION: But doesn't the Board usually hold a special workshop to discuss and vote on the budget?

ANSWER: No. Looking back over the last decade, 18 or so meetings were held specifically to discuss and vote on the District budget, only three of them were workshops.

QUESTION: Were budget categories labeled differently this year?

ANSWER: No. The budget categories were established in 2013, before any of the current Board members were elected. The coming year's budget is based on actual expenditures from previous years. Any items that deviate from this are discussed during the Board meeting.