

# MVID Members Meeting

August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014



## Meeting Outline:

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Directors Presentation:
  - Project update
  - Next steps
- 3) Q & A and Public Comment

# Meeting Process

- Please hold detailed questions until the end.
- Representatives from the Bureau of Reclamation (in charge of project engineering), Trout Unlimited (project management), Aspect Consulting (Dan Haller, MVID Advisor), and MVID legal counsel (Larry Martin) are here to help answer questions.

# MVID Director's Goals

- Create a viable long-term delivery system for members who are irrigating
- Provide water to maximum number of MVID acres as possible
- Reduce risk from ESA, aging infrastructure and open canals





# Issues with current system:

- Infrastructure
  - Water delivery issues
  - Laterals
  - Mill Hill
  - Concrete lined section
- Liability
  - ESA/Twisp River headgate
  - Infrastructure
  - Open canals
- Water Rights issues from 2002 Tentative Determination.



# Costs Associated with Status Quo:

- Water right issues will require right-sizing, which will result in a smaller District with higher assessments for remaining members
- Efficiency upgrades are required to meet waste order by 2016
- Efficiency improvements needed to deliver water to bottom users
- East side efficiency upgrades needed if Barkley goes to a piped system
- New ESA-compliant headgate needed for Twisp diversion
- Temporary pump for late-season water needed
- Legal fees for ESA and water rights issues
- Pipe around Mill Hill, plus improvements to Maltais Flume and concrete-lined sections
- E-1 Lateral upgrade
- Lateral replacements and extensions required to serve all members

# Overall Project Description

Pump-pipe system for upper west side benches.

Gravity-feed pipe on east side from Mill Hill to Beaver Creek, with new or repaired laterals.

Individual well conversions below Halterman Hole on west side and Beaver Creek on east side.



**This solution was approved by over 90% of members who voted in 2013.**

# Changes from last year's presentation:

- A water banking permitting strategy will be used instead of a change in point of diversion.
- There will not be a storage tank for the west side system.
- There will be multiple wells in the Schultz orchard well-field.
- The upper west side piped system became smaller.
- Members converting to individual wells will stay within the District at least until the District is “right-sized.”
- A voucher reimbursement system will be used to pay for individual well conversions.



# Water Right Issues

In 2002- BPA financed  
exclusions at the end of both  
canals:

Tentative determination  
process occurred

Water duty = **2.83 acre-  
feet/acre** (9 gallons per  
minute)

After exclusions, the  
District was left with **881  
acres of water**





# Water Banking Permitting Strategy

- District will be able to provide more **water to more acres**
- **Built in protection from relinquishment**
- Shifting water rights from west side to east side
- **Increase on-farm duty to 4 acre-feet/acre**
- As per RCW 90.42.120, the priority date of the water right transferred shall be the priority date of the underlying water right

# Assessments

- \$120 to \$150 per acre w/ 1- acre minimum
- assuming 700 irrigable/assessed acres
- 2013 Total Budget was \$158,504

## **Estimating a new total budget of between \$85,000 and \$115,000**

- \$7,000 for power
- \$5,000 savings per year for pump replacement
- \$5,000 savings per year for electrical, valve, pipe replacement
- \$10,000 per year budget for outside contractors
- Savings:
  - No assistant ditch master
  - No spring clean up crew
  - reduced insurance
  - reduced legal and professional costs
  - reduced O & M costs of open canal
  - reduced vehicle expenses
  - Secretary position will not have current additional duties

# Individual Well Conversion Process

- Members with 3 acres or more will be eligible for a new well, if existing well is not adequate
- Details included in the TU Individual Well Conversion Compensation Draft Proposal (to be posted at [www.mvid.org](http://www.mvid.org))
- Voucher reimbursement system will be used, based on actual costs of infrastructure improvements
- Assessment rates for members with wells will be adjusted downward to reflect the costs of operating and maintaining the well



# Implementation Details

## **Abandoned canals:**

- Tree removal planned to start in Fall 2014.
  - Trees will be removed within the MVID easement.
  - Trees can be “saved” with a special liability release form.





# Implementation Details Continued

## **Laterals:**

- Project managers will meet with members served by laterals in fall 2014 to work out details of pipe locations and turn-outs.



# Implementation Timeline

## **First Construction Season-**

### **Fall 2014:**

- start east side mainline piping
- start individual well conversion process and permitting
- drill well field in Schultz Orchard

### **Spring 2015:**

- finish east side mainline piping
- start lateral repairs and replacement (both east and west)

## **Second Construction Season-**

### **Fall 2015:**

- start and finish west side mainline piping
- complete lateral repairs

### **Spring 2016:**

- New system complete

# Map Review

**Project maps** and **irrigable acreage maps** are posted around the meeting room for review.

- please locate your property and verify that the map is accurate

# Project Summary

## MVID Goals Met:

- reliable and efficient water delivery
- eliminated ESA and liability risk
- has public funding support
- creates a viable long-term irrigation district

