

Grizzly Flats Community Services District

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Description of Your Water System

The Grizzly Flats Community Services District is located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, south-east of Placerville, CA. The District has the responsibility of providing treated water for domestic use and fire protection to the residents within its service area.

The community of Grizzly Flats was founded in the 1850's. In 1966, the Grizzly Park Water Company was formed and provided water to the community. In 1987, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors formed the Grizzly Flats Community Services District. The District acquired the water rights and facilities from the privately owned Grizzly Park Water Company.

The District obtains its water supply by direct diversion of stream flows from North Canyon and Big Canyon Creeks which are tributaries to the North Fork Cosumnes River. Flows are diverted through the Eagle Ditch pipeline and are pursuant to water rights dating back to the 1850's. The system is sensitive to low rainfall years and is susceptible to failure in late fall (August – November) in years of low stream flows.

The service area abuts the El Dorado National Forest. Approximately 1220 parcels exist in the service area. Elevations of the service area vary from 3600 feet at the southwesterly end of the area to 4200 feet at the northeasterly end. The District has about 614 residential customers. There are 150 fire hydrants distributed throughout the service area.

Diversions through Eagle Ditch pipeline terminate in a 31-acre foot High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) lined raw water reservoir, which serves as the headworks to the water treatment plant where water is fully treated to meet drinking water standards. The District has two filter units to treat water and four water storage tanks. Water is distributed to customers through the piped distribution system mainly by gravity. Due to the varying terrain, pumping is required in limited areas to maintain adequate service pressures.

The District has three employees: Kim Gustafson (Office Facilitator), Jodi Lauther (General Manager) and Andy Vicars (Maintenance Technician) and is currently under contract to receive operational support from a company named H2O Urban Solutions, Inc. We have a five member Board of Directors who oversees our District. All of our past and present Board members have volunteered thousands of hours managing the District's business.

Since the District was formed, community support has been the key to its success. The "this is my water service District" spirit has gone a long way, because of volunteers devoting their time and skills to help keep costs down. Volunteers constructed the treatment plant and office building, installed approximately 3 miles of pipe from the reservoir to the North and Big Canyon diversions, helped with maintenance such as tree cutting, brush clearing, painting, office work, reading meters, and stuffing bills.