

# **IRRIGATION UPDATES**

**September 18, 2008**

## **New News**

At the Ish Board special meeting last Sat. Sept. 13, they voted for a special assessment of \$15 per share (a thousand shares are the total ownership of Old Ish) to purchase water to run into the reservoir before the Oct. 31 cut off time. Ken Huson agreed to help them find available water to lease and they will then look for the best late season deal on water. There are several opportunities now and the closer to cut off time perhaps the better the deals will be. Assuming we got an acre-foot for \$15 this would fill the reservoir approximately half full. There is no way to know what next year will be like but if there is very little water available to put into the reservoir next year this will still give a small allotment for next year.

I would assume next year would start with a lower initial allotment. Keep this in mind for next years leasing of extra water. I will have a sign up list for next years leasing available starting with our annual meeting.

## **Current News**

The last weekend of September is the end of the year's irrigation season. We are also at that time when most of the farmers are finished irrigating. That means we will probably have to take 100" (the minimum for the ditch rider to open the gate at the lake) if we want to get water. Last year we ran over 100" the last Saturday and Sunday of the season and I would assume that will be the case this year also.

Starting in October please open your irrigation access valves and drain the water in your access including anything you added to your access to operate the irrigation on your lot. Even if you did not irrigate this year you may have water in your access that should be drained. If you need help or have any questions contact an irrigation member. Irrigation members have been assigned lots to be the contact person for those lots. If you do not know whom your contact person is an irrigation member or I will help you identify them. The valves should be closed again for the winter by mid November. In some situations you may want to leave the valve opened slightly. Enough to prevent any additional water drainage build up but not open enough to be inviting to small rodents.

If you are having any problems with your access make sure you irrigation contact person is aware of the issue. Remind them if there is a recurring problem that has not been addressed.

## **Old News**

To date this season we have 43 lots that have used irrigation water and we have used 2135 inches. After the final two irrigation weekends I expect we will add another 300 to 400 inches to this current total. With this years 40" allotment we had 2440 inches of water. We had an additional 1190 inches leased.

Many have asked why there was very little water (1/2 day) run into the reservoir this last spring. Although there was good moisture in the Twin Sisters area this year, the cooler than normal early spring temperatures in the foothills prevented an early enough start of the water flow in the Little Thompson River. By the time it did have a good flow there were Senior water right owners who were then calling for the water. This left Ish Reservoir with very little opportunity to add water. Fortunately we started the season with the water level between 2 and 3 feet below Old Ish full line so we had the 40-inch allotment. Next season we will be starting at approximately half full (including the special assessment water).

For the Riverglen HOA Irrigation Committee,  
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Other Members: Ken Huson 532-1932, Mike Dower 532-4353, Mark McGee 532-5903, John Prock 532-3564  
Bill Vaughn 532-2090, Jim Young 532-3200, Dennis Nevins 532-2843, Derk Mewes 532-0387