

# District UPDATE

## Special Election will determine future of MLIRD Exercise Your Property Rights!

Unlike other taxing districts such as fire or school districts, each parcel you own within the District carries a "property right" that entitles the legal owner to two (2) votes per parcel. This "right" remains with each parcel as long as the District remains in business.

*"Most irrigation districts in the state currently have a five-member board. Few have three and one even has seven. There's a lot of work to be done and [MLIRD] could certainly use two additional board members."*

*Ron Covey, MLIRD Director  
CBH, June 7, 2012*

For 84 years, MLIRD has protected a 50,000-surface-acre-foot irrigation water right that is available to rate payers in the District. MLIRD maintains the health and recreation aspects of the 6,800-acre lake by balancing the delicate ecosystem by means of available technology and good old-fashioned elbow grease. Today's many complex threats to lake health require

constant vigilance, expert project management and steady funding.

If the District water right were to lapse, it could be re-claimed by other state or federal agencies. Local control of the lake could be lost forever. **That's one of many reasons why your vote is more important than ever.**



**LOCAL CONTROL  
OF THE LAKE  
COULD BE LOST  
FOREVER.**

- 1. Annual Director Election  
Position #3**
- 2. Increase Board from *Three*  
Directors to *Five* Directors?**

## MLIRD Rate Payer ELECTION

**TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 11  
1:00 - 8:00 PM**

### POLLING STATION

Five Corners  
211 N. Elder St.  
Moses Lake WA  
ID required

### ABSENTEE BALLOT

Request by Tues, Dec. 4  
Phone: (509) 765-8716  
E-mail: [mlird@mlird.org](mailto:mlird@mlird.org)

#### MOSES LAKE IRRIGATION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

PO BOX 98 • MOSES LAKE, WA 98837  
509-765-8716 • [WWW.MLIRD.ORG](http://WWW.MLIRD.ORG)



# MLIRD water rights are “gold”

Overview from Bill Ecret, Mayor, City of Moses Lake



The Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District (MLIRD) could not have a more important role in shaping the future of our community. Our businesses, our homes and our property values are all affected by the decisions and leadership of the MLIRD. As rate-payers we rely on the MLIRD board to make wise decisions, and to protect and restore our lake for generations to come. Increasing the current board from three members to five will help ensure the MLIRD becomes more successful and more objective.

During the summer of 2012, increased nutrient loads on the lake and weather conditions all played a part in the return of algae blooms in specific areas of the lake. After dredging budgeted for Parker Horn was halted in January 2012, we were all reminded of how fast our water quality can suffer when nothing is done.

This election is very important. District property owners have the right to choose a director. Keep in mind, good lake management is good for rate payers, good for our local community, good for irrigation and good for water rights. All assessments are retained and used here locally. If you cannot vote in person, please contact the District office by Dec. 4 for an absentee ballot request form. *Be good to your lake and it will be good to you.*

Bill Ecret, Mayor, City of Moses Lake  
 Chair, Vision 2020  
 Board Member - Moses Lake Business Association  
 Board Member - Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce

## State Lake Association recognizes Moses Lake restoration efforts

Curt Carpenter, the general manager of MLIRD, has been elected president of The Washington Lake Protective Association (WALPA) for 2014. “This honor reflects not only recent success against common threats of Washington state’s inland lakes, but also the unique multi-agency partnerships guiding MLIRD operations since Curt was hired six years ago,” according to Bijay Adams, water resources manager, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District.

# DISTRICT UPDATE: Multiple Threats to Lake Health Increasing

## ALGAE BLOOM RETURNS TO LAKE

### New treatment defeats algae bloom

Using new technology and the District’s existing Aquatic Treatment permit, MLIRD staff attacked a 6-acre patch of algae surrounding high-use areas near the Connelly Park boat launch and Airmen’s Beach swim areas. The results were unbelievable! The product was applied in the lowest-use evening period and the next morning the water was visibly clear to the bottom of the lake. Treatment results held strong for three weeks. There’s hope for winning this battle in the future.



## BATTLE AGAINST SEDIMENT NEVER ENDS

### Test of modified dredge operations proves effective

Engineering designs were completed in 2009 under contract with Coast & Harbor Engineering, a firm with world-wide dredging expertise. After state permits were granted, MLIRD began dredging during the permit period in 2011.

In Jan. 2012, a majority of the MLIRD Board voted to cancel dredging for the year. However, after much public input, Directors allowed a test period in October. Testing confirmed that staff equipment modifications and the sediment pond design both performed effectively, as per engineered design.

The operation was tested weekly by staff operating the dredge and pumping sediment into a settling pond on shore. After testing, the dredge was removed from the Parker Horn area on Oct. 23. Operation results were successful. Testing results are at right.

	# Days	# Pump Hrs	Total Excavated Area
Test #1	3	20	300 LIN. FT. X 60 FT. W X 6-8 FT. D*
Test #2	3	14	300 LIN. FT. X 60 FT. W X 6-8 FT. D*
Test #3	3	12	200 LIN. FT. X 60-80 FT. W X 6-8 FT. D*

\* Note: Average depth ranges from top of water to bottom of water on lake bed.

## COMBATING INVASIVE SPECIES

### Only professional management keeps invasive species in check

Without constant effort and adaptive management techniques, Moses Lake today would be overrun by invasive plants, especially in shallow areas and shoreline access points where they overwhelm and choke out native aquatic plants. This disrupts the natural life cycles which in turn can destroy local wildlife and plant ecosystems.

NEWEST THREAT ALERT: Zebra Mussels at state borders

