

Lake View



WINTER 2010 | SNAPSHOTS FROM THE MOSES LAKE IRRIGATION & RE-HABILITATION DISTRICT

Irrigation, recreation and caretaking of the environmental health of Moses Lake — the crown jewel of our region — all fall under the District's unique water right and mission.



THE WATERS OF MOSES LAKE ARE SURROUNDED BY 26,000 PEOPLE, THEIR HOMES AND BUSINESSES. IN THIS COMPLEX HUMAN, WATER AND WETLAND ENVIRONMENT, THE DISTRICT MANAGES A PRECIOUS WATER RIGHT FOR IRRIGATION AND RECREATION, WHILE ALSO RE-HABILITATING A 6,800 ACRE LAKE BISECTED BY I-90.

maintaining an intricate web of pipes, pumps and dams, replacing worn out equipment and preparing required lake management plans has added more complexity. Recognizing this mix of challenges, district directors made a timely decision in 2007 to recruit a full-time professional to oversee all operations and grow the asset base.

Thanks to the foresight of early residents who petitioned the legislature to acquire the District's 50,000 acre irrigation water right, progress continues today in rehabilitating and preserving Moses Lake for generations to come.

Moses Lake is the regional center of our family, school and business lives. Four generations of rate payers have recognized the wisdom of protecting the lake as a long term investment.

Since 1928, the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District's legal obligations have expanded to include a delicate balance of social, economic and environmental services for our community. Excess algae growth, sludge and waste pollution were early challenges. Many remedial projects were undertaken and continue today. As water quality standards and recreation uses intensified, managing this precious resource became a complex operation. Soil erosion, silt build up and milfoil are current issues. An alphabet soup of agency permits are now required. Upgrading and



I R R I G A T E



R E C R E A T E



R E - H A B I L I T A T E

“WE’RE ALL HERE THANKS TO WATER. WITHOUT A HEALTHY MOSES LAKE, OUR SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY LIVES WOULD SUFFER DRAMATICALLY.”

**DEBBIE DORAN-MARTINEZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
MOSES LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**





Progressive Management Investing in the Resource

District Role: Irrigate • Recreate • Re-habilitate

MLIRD IS MANDATED BY STATE LAW TO PROVIDE IRRIGATION, RECREATION AND RE-HABILITATION SERVICES. THE DISTRICT WATER RIGHT AND LAKE RESOURCE ARE MANAGED FOR RATE PAYERS AS MULTI-GENERATION ASSETS.

Greater efficiency safeguards rate payer funds. The District employs a hands-on general manager and four staff to manage irrigation water, restore lake habitat, harvest weeds, repair equipment, and improve the recreation facility at Connelly Park.

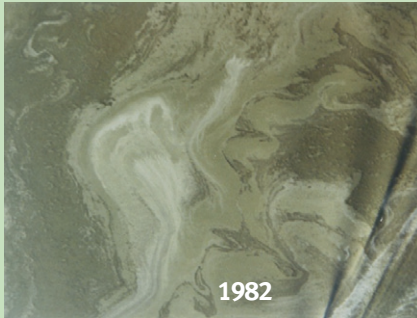
Hired to acquire professional management, mechanical skills and fiscal control, a small multi-tasking staff now does everything from pre-staging of projects to maintenance. Compared to outsourcing, intricate project bids and contract negotiations, this team-based approach greatly simplifies operations and expedites routine maintenance.

**LAKE IRRIGATION
SAVES MONEY
(COSTS LESS THAN
MUNICIPAL WATER)**

“MLIRD SERVES A VITAL FUNCTION FOR MOSES LAKE THROUGH ITS EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS. THE HEALTH OF THE WATER IN MOSES LAKE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL OF US – THE MORE WE KNOW, THE BETTER EQUIPPED WE ARE TO KEEP OUR LAKE CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL.”

CAROLANN SWARTZ, COUNTY COMMISSIONER

THEN & NOW – BOAT WAKES



The most visible improvements are water clarity, algae management and summer harvesting operations. Less obvious improvements are dam and pump maintenance, flood control and, coming soon, dredging operations to deal with sediment buildup in shallow portions of the lake.

MLIRD Provides Community Benefits:

- ▶ SECURE IRRIGATION WATER SUPPLY
- ▶ STABLE RATES
- ▶ DISTRICT TAXES REMAIN HERE
- ▶ OPEN WATER ACCESS
- ▶ FAMILY & SPORTING RECREATION
- ▶ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- ▶ TOURISM INCOME





**“NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE,
YOU LIVE IN A WATERSHED.”**

HUGH BARRETT, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



**MLIRD
EVOLVING HISTORY**

**1928 – 1964
IRRIGATE MISSION
= ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**1964
RE-HABILITATE MISSION ADDED
= NEW CHALLENGES**

**1968
RECREATE MISSION ADDED
= AIRMEN’S BEACH**

**2007 – ONGOING
INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS
= PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT**

**Water Scholarship –
the Social, Economic &
Environmental Interface**

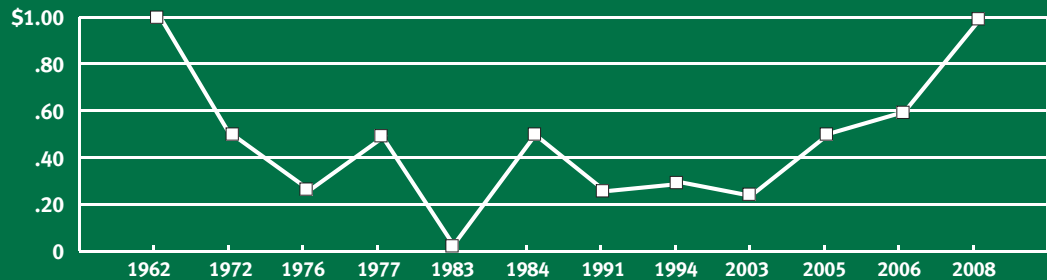
Blessed with water as the pulse and power of the Central Basin, the District began **Water Quality Institute** classes in 2007 to anchor local students in the history of Moses Lake, its huge watershed and how lake rehabilitation supports the entire community. Each summer, students partake in both classroom and on-the-water experiments with specially trained experts in biology, science and education. Rigorous coaching and water quality testing by students includes sampling for oxygen, temperature, bacteria, turbidity, phosphates, nitrates and solids. Graduates of the Institute, in turn, mentor other students, design their own presentations and leave the lake with team-building skills, better prepared for life, to pursue science or higher education in any discipline. MLIRD has awarded \$3,750 in private scholarship donations to high school students in the Water Quality Institute.



**WATER QUALITY INSTITUTE STUDENT
ASSESSING CURLY LEAF POND WEED IN
MOSES LAKE.**

MLIRD RATE PAYER ASSESSMENT HISTORY

**PRIOR TO 1962,
MILLAGE WAS BASED
ON A COST PER ACRE.
SINCE 1962, MILLAGE
HAS BEEN BASED
UPON A TAX ASSESSED
VALUE AS FOLLOWS:**





**MOSES LAKE IRRIGATION &
RE-HABILITATION DISTRICT**

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509-765-8716 • WWW.MLIRD.ORG

postage info

Connelly Park/Airmen's Beach Improvement Project

Three public input meetings
ended in October 2010.
A complete report will be
featured in our next issue
of Lake View.

PUBLIC NOTICE:
Rate Payer / Director Election
Tuesday, December 14, 1:00-8:00 p.m.
Polling Station: Five Corners, 211 N. Elder St., Moses Lake WA

COMING IN 2011

- Phase 2 Milfoil & Noxious Weed Treatment
- 5th Annual Water Quality Institute
- Hydroplane Races
- Parker Horn Dredging
- Kid's Fishing Derby
- Lakeshore Cleanup Day

**"AS OUR #1 COMMUNITY
ASSET, A VIBRANT MOSES
LAKE SUPPORTS ALL AREA
BUSINESSES."**

GARY MANN, OWNER, GARY MANN REAL ESTATE