Irrigation

Fall 2019

News for SRP Agricultural & Other Urban Shareholders

ANNUAL CANAL CONVERGENCE

Looking for a great way to enjoy the fall weather? Join us Nov. 8–17 at the Scottsdale Waterfront for the annual Canal Convergence. Admission is free, and while you’re there, you can check out the confluence of water, art and light. The beautiful displays share the story of how water has greatly impacted Arizona’s history.

For more information on the Canal Convergence, visit canalconvergence.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the best places to camp, fish or just escape the summer heat is the C.C. Cragin Reservoir on the Coconino National Forest. It also serves an important purpose: The reservoir is part of SRP’s water supply system and also supplies drinking water for the town of Payson and other Gila County communities.

The forest surrounding the reservoir is overgrown. In order to safeguard the water supply, SRP is partnering with stakeholders to restore the forest and protect the watershed. To learn more, visit srpnet.com/forest and click on “Cragin Watershed Protection Project.”

SUSTAINABILITY AND SRP

Sustainability has been at the heart of SRP from the very beginning. Long before the environmental movement, Salt River Valley residents understood the critical connection between the health of the forests within the watershed and the reliability of their water supply. Roughly 13,000 square miles of land make up the Salt and Verde river watersheds, which are dependent on snowmelt and rainfall to keep the rivers flowing.

Early Valley settlers and farmers feared that excessive lumbering or grazing would lessen the amount of snow retained during the winter months, so they sought assistance from the federal government to protect these lands. The Salt and Verde watersheds now consist of lands from five national forests: Prescott, Kaibab, Coconino, Apache-Sitgreaves and Tonto.

Visit srpnet.com/history to learn more about SRP.

A LOOK BACK: HORSE MESA DAM

In May 1926, work crews began pouring concrete at Horse Mesa Dam. Horse Mesa was one of three dams constructed on the lower Salt River during the 1920s as part of a plan developed by Charles C. Cragin, General Superintendent of the Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association. These dams were intended not only to increase the Association’s water storage capacity, but also to expand its ability to generate hydroelectric power.

Horse Mesa’s hydroelectric generating units were producing power before the dam was even officially completed in the fall of 1927, helping to offset construction costs. This electricity powered mining operations around the Globe-Miami area of Arizona. Today, Horse Mesa Dam continues to provide clean hydroelectric power and water storage capacity for SRP customers.

Visit srpnet.com/history to learn more about SRP.
CHANGES TO CARD PAYMENT FEE

Beginning in November, if you pay your bill with a credit or debit card, the fee will increase from $1.90 to $2. To avoid this fee, make an eChex payment using your bank account.

SRP RESERVOIRS 69% FULL

As of Sept. 30, the total SRP reservoir system was 69% full at 1,577,442 acre-feet in storage. A year ago, the total system was 46% full. Storage on the Salt River system is at 71%; the two reservoirs on the Verde River are at a combined 54% of capacity. Stay up to date on reservoir levels daily at watershedconnection.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CANAL DRY-UP BEGINS NOV. 20

Beginning Nov. 20, SRP will drain parts of our canal system to inspect, clean and repair canals and laterals to keep our water delivery system in top condition. We will be performing annual maintenance on portions of the Southside canals from Nov. 20 to Dec. 20, and portions of the Northside canals from Jan. 8 to Feb. 7. For your safety, please observe all signage and barricades where this activity occurs. For more details, visit srpnet.com/canaldryup.

WATER PAYMENTS DUE DEC. 6

The 2020 water basic charges and water delivery fees are due Dec. 6. Please submit payment by the due date to ensure uninterrupted water delivery. Late charges will accrue at 1% on the unpaid basic charges 30 days after the due date. Please call (602) 236-3333 if you have questions regarding your water delivery fees or visit srpnet.com/water/irrigation/fees.aspx.

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CORRESPONDENCE

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