March 16, 2023

Flows in the Tule River, including what was coming over the spillway peaked at 10,693 cfs at 4:00 pm yesterday and hung around that level for several hours before finally starting to recede. Flows are still currently over 9,000 cfs.

There are many breaches along the river due to those high of flows. The water velocity and elevations are very high even in the areas that aren't broke out. District staff has been working 24 hours a day since last Friday. We have also been amazed at how everyone has pulled together through this. There are many farmers out there who have been running 24 hours a day helping the District, helping their neighbors and trying to protect their land at the same time. Absolutely incredible.

Last night was particularly devastating. Breaches in the river ran through fields and across roads and got into other parts of the District distribution system which then busted out and flooded other areas as well. It will take us a day or two to assess damages and resume regular water deliveries in parts of the system. Please bear with us.

Also, everyone must understand this flood event has destroyed parts of our system and diversion structures in certain areas. That means, even when Success Reservoir gets under control, there are some major repairs to the system that must take place to resume normal water deliveries and there will be times throughout this year where parts of the system do not have water in them.

As always if there are any questions please call the office.

Sincerely,

Eric Limas

General Manager