

Mill Creek Floods

Every summer there is a chance that one or more floods will come down Mill Creek. When the skies darken and it looks like heavy rain in the mountains, the water master will take the water out of the pipelines to try and minimize the amount of sand that may flow into the system. All three ditches have sand boxes that help to remove sand before the water flows into the pipes.

In 2006, the water master took pictures of what can happen during a Mill Creek Flood. These pictures were taken at the lower diversion dam.



The water was coming hard and fast. It looked like a set of Colorado River rapids. This flood was larger than normal. Some damage occurred to the base of the dam.



Water flowed around and over the sand box of Center Ditch 2 and it filled the sand box with sand, it plugged the exit pipe that allows water to go back into the creek and it put a fair amount of sand into the main irrigation pipeline that had to eventually be flushed out.



A lot of sand was deposited inside and on top of the sand box for Center Ditch 2. It took several days and a large water truck to clean the sand off and out of the system. Shareholders often do not know what the water master deals with behind the scenes to keep the water flowing in the irrigation system.