

# Santa Cruz Irrigation Ditch Water Shut Down Procedure

Warning: when going to the river at the ditch head-gate in La Puebla Make sure you call someone before you go in and again when you make it out. Be aware that there is not any cell service at the river.

Warning: if the arroyos are running or if flash flood conditions exist this shut down procedure MUST be initiated immediately and as quickly as possible to prevent the ditch from getting inundated with sand and debris.

Step #1 Drive to the Maguine Desague Flush Gate #5. park at the gate out of the way on County Road (from County Road walk along the Maguine desague to flush gate #5) make sure there are no obstructions and that the water can flow to the river. When you arrive at flush gate #5 open this flush gate to allow  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the water in the ditch to return to the river through the Maguine desague. Drive to Flush gate #4.

Step #2 Proceed to the ditch head-gate and flush gate #4 at the river through the gate at the La Puebla Arroyo (Maggoo Arroyo). Always close the gate behind you and take adequate safety and security measures or precautions. Drive to Flush gate #4 and open it completely allow all the water from the sand trap to flow to the river.

WARNING: Do not allow dirty water (Arroyo or muddy water) in the ditch always allow the river to thoroughly flush before releasing water in the ditch.

Step #3 Drive back to Flush Gate #3 and the gauge gate. Close the gauge gate completely and open Flush gate #3 completely allowing the water to return to the river.

Step #4 Next completely close whichever head-gate #1 or #2 that is open. The head-gate will close easier if you open it an additional 5 to 10 threads to allow the Head-gate to flush prior to closing it. For this purpose of shutting down the ditch it is OK to exceed the 50-thread limit on the head-gate to dislodge debris or flush the head-gate If the head-gate still does not close completely and if the river is clean of mud and debris repeat this step until the head-gate completely closes. If flash flood conditions exist close the head-gate as much as possible allowing the leakage to flow back to the river through flush gate #3. The head-gate is considered closed when the operating Rod (threaded bolt on head-gate) is flush with the top of the nut (chuck). Next verify that flush gate #1 and #2 are completely closed.

WARNING: do not exceed 50 threads above the nut (chuck) on either head-gate during normal operation. Never operate the ditch with more than one head-gate open at a time.

Step #5 Lock the head-gate and the gate at State Road 76. On the drive back to the divider stop at flush gate #6 and check the condition of the sand box at the flumes. If the sand box is full of debris and sand? Make a note of it to flush during the next release. Remove as much debris as possible if there is any in preparation for next release. If time allows go to the divider remove as much debris as possible if there is any in preparation for next release.