

delivery system. We can also give you details about:

- The access easement for the ditch
- The things we do to access, operate, maintain and repair the ditch
- Our policies regarding encroachment and modifications that might affect the ditch.

ENCROACHMENT

Encroachments are things like buildings, parking areas, fences, landscaping and other structures or activities in our easement areas. Idaho law requires a landowner to obtain written permission before encroaching on one of Pioneer's canals or lateral ditches.

We cannot allow construction or other activities in the easement if they will interfere with our access, operation, maintenance and repair activities.

You must contact us if you plan any activity within or affecting any of the canals, laterals or easements prior to starting.

We will review your project and determine if what you want to do will interfere with our access, operation, maintenance and repair activities. If it does, we may be able to offer suggestions on how your project can go forward *without* interfering with our use of the easement.

RELOCATING AND/OR PIPING CANALS AND LATERALS

Idaho law requires a landowner to obtain written permission before relocating or piping one of Pioneer's canals or lateral ditches.

To obtain permission, an encroachment application must be submitted that meets all criteria outlined in the encroachment procedures (form and procedures are on our website). We will then advise you as to whether or not you can proceed, and how best to do that.

If we approve your plans, we also provide you written permission to proceed in the form of an agreement or other appropriate written authorization.

Generally, canals and lateral ditches may only be relocated or piped during the non-irrigation season, after water is out of the delivery system.

**We appreciate your cooperation
in working with us to protect our
irrigation facilities!**

What You Need To Know About Easements and Right-of-Ways on Canals and Ditches



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Important Information About Irrigation District Rights-Of-Way

We are your local irrigation district. We divert water from reservoirs, rivers and other sources and deliver that water to our users through a distribution system of canals, laterals and irrigation works.

In Idaho, there are thousands of miles of canals, laterals and irrigation works. Many of those cross private lands or are bordered by residential and commercial developments. This can prove confusing for many landowners who are unsure what rights they have and what rights we have. This brochure is intended to help you understand our rights, responsibilities and policies regarding our canals and lateral ditches.

EASEMENTS

We have the responsibility to operate and maintain water flows, ditch banks and irrigation structures to minimize the risk of ditch bank failure and blockage, which could result in damage to adjacent landowners.

To do so efficiently, we need access to irrigation facilities through the use of easements. Idaho law gives us the legal right to use these easements through either fee title ownership, by rights-of-way or statutory easements.

Easements are strips of land along the banks of our canals and lateral ditches. They are generally located on either or both sides of the canal or ditch.

It is important to understand that easement areas are not public property. They are not open to public use. Under Idaho law, unauthorized third party use of these strips of land amounts to trespassing.



The black line shows the width of a typical canal easement area. No building or encroachment is allowed in this area without our express permission. Generally it is 16 ft. from top of bank, but may differ depending on facility size & position or relationship to adjacent lands.

Easements give us access so we can:

- Monitor/adjust water flows
- Remove sediment and debris from the canals and ditches
- Control weed growth by mowing, spraying or burning
- Pipe, line and refurbish ditches
- Perform other maintenance activities

Easements also give us the right to deposit material on the ditch banks that has been removed during cleaning and maintenance. As well as the right to take out obstructions to the easement and to prohibit activities which unreasonably interfere with maintenance activities.

If your land is crossed by a canal or lateral, you may use the easement area so long as it does not interfere with our access, operation, maintenance and repair activities.

WORKING WITH YOUR IRRIGATION ENTITY

Please contact us if you have questions about who owns a canal or lateral ditch that crosses your land. We would be happy to tell you whether it is part of our