



Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District

2026 Community & Water Quality Highlights:

In 2026, MLIRD continued its commitment to protecting Moses Lake, improving water quality, and supporting responsible lake stewardship through strategic partnerships, operational planning, and community engagement.

Freshwater inflow to Moses Lake: MLIRD & USBR coordinated efforts to continue Rocky Coulee Wasteway flows. Approximately 178,086 acre-feet of fresh Columbia River water was delivered into Moses Lake, supporting lake health and water quality efforts.

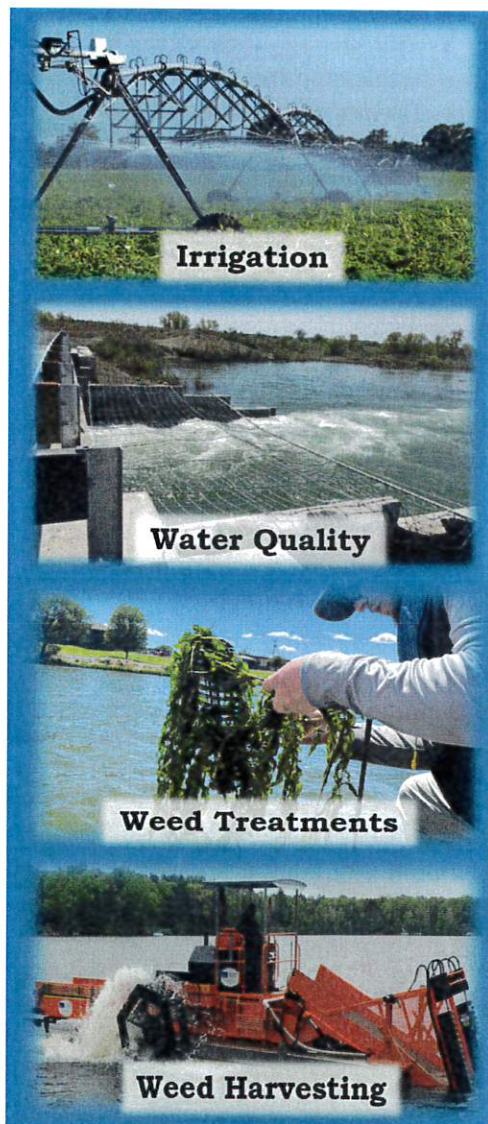
Community engagement at Connelly Park: MLIRD hosted the NWPBA Vintage Test & Tune at Connelly Park, welcoming boating enthusiasts and supporting recreational use of local waterfront facilities on August 29 & 30.

Federal grant advocacy: MLIRD met with staff from the offices of U.S. Senator Patty Murray and U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell regarding Congressionally Directed Spending grant funding for phosphorus mitigation.

Expanded aquatic weed management capacity: MLIRD's two newly owned harvesters are scheduled for deployment in September 2026, enhancing the District's ability to manage aquatic vegetation and maintain recreational access.

Invasive weed treatment: MLIRD treated approximately 490 acres of invasive aquatic weeds in 2026, helping preserve shoreline access, protect habitat, and improve the overall lake experience for residents and visitors.

Water Quality Testing Program: MLIRD's long-standing water quality testing program reflects a decades-long commitment, with continuous monitoring conducted since the 1980s. Recent results show that water quality has been among the best recorded over the past two years, demonstrating meaningful progress in ongoing efforts to protect and improve Moses Lake.



"WE'RE ALL HERE THANKS TO WATER. WITHOUT A HEALTHY MOSES LAKE, OUR SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND COMMUNITY LIVES WOULD SUFFER DRAMATICALLY."

- DEBBIE DORAN-MARTINEZ, PRESIDENT/CEO, MOSES LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Irrigation, recreation, and caretaking of the environmental health of Moses Lake ---- The crown jewel of our region ---- all fall under the District's unique water right and mission.

Upcoming Events:

- September 8 - Meet and Greet - 12:00pm to 2:00pm
- September 16 - State of Our Lake - 6:00pm to 8:00pm
- October 13 - MLIRD Regular Board Meeting
- November 4 & 5 - Grant County LEAD Summit
- November 10 - MLIRD Equalization Hearing
- November 10 - MLIRD Regular Board Meeting
- December 8 - MLIRD Regular Board Meeting



Moses Lake: Water Quality Improvement Projects

Water Quality Issues & Impacts

- Historically nutrient rich with algae blooms back to 1960s
- Diversion of wastewater in 1980s
- Decades of Columbia River Water into Moses Lake dilutes nutrients for better water quality each summer
- Excess nutrients such as Phosphorus is impairing water quality today
- HABs have significant negative impacts today with recreational closures of the lake and local economy
- Tourism and recreation contribute greater than \$300 million per year in economic activity in Grant County



"IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO THROW, DRAIN, RUN, OR OTHERWISE DISCHARGE INTO ANY WATERS OF THE STATE (MOSES LAKE) ANY MATTER THAT SHALL CAUSE POLLUTION OF SUCH WATERS." RCW 90.48



VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED!

OUR BEAUTIFUL BODY OF WATER - MOSES LAKE!

It's up to everybody!!

Help keep Moses Lake clean!!

MOSES LAKE IRRIGATION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT (MLIRD)



Mitigating phosphorus in Moses Lake

Progress and Solutions

- MLIRD and its consultants has been invested for decades in supporting research and management actions to rehabilitate Moses Lake
- MLIRD Annual water quality data collection, lake modeling, and reports
- Managing phosphorus source to the lake will improve water quality
- Continuous effort to identify solutions and funding to rehabilitate Moses Lake for the community
- MLIRD supported the \$3.1 M Columbia Basin Conservation District grant project for phosphorus mitigation in 2024 on Rocky Ford Arm
- **MLIRD received an additional \$500,000 to continue with phosphorus mitigation in 2025 on Rocky Ford Arm**



~ SERVING MOSES LAKE SINCE 1928 ~

WWW.MLIRD.ORG | (509) 765-8716 | MLIRD@MLIRD.ORG