



Central Iron County Water Conservancy District  
88 E Fiddlers Canyon Road  
Suite 220  
Cedar City, UT 84721



## PRESS RELEASE

November 16, 2023

### Local entities working to utilize water rights in nearby basins

Water Rights in the state of Utah are organized by basins. In Cedar Valley, the primary source of water currently comes from basins 73 & 81. Basin 73 covers the northern part which includes Cedar City & Enoch, and Basin 81 includes Kanarrville in the southern portion of the valley.

Groundwater levels in Basin 73 are declining and the Utah Division of Water Rights adopted a [groundwater management plan](#) for the basin in 2021 that will reduce groundwater rights of local municipalities by 75%.

Paul Monroe, Central Iron County Water Conservancy District General Manager, said the District also owns water rights in basins 71 & 14.

“We are working to diversify water resources by utilizing our water rights in other basins,” said Monroe. “The District and other local entities have several projects in the works to source water from those additional areas.”

Recently the District completed a waterline along Iron Springs Road as part of a partnership with BZI Steel to deliver water to one of their industrial facilities. More importantly, this waterline extended the District’s water system into Basin 71, west of Cedar Valley.

The next step for the District is to drill a well in Basin 71 so it can utilize water in that area with water rights that it has owned for several years. The District is currently working with experts and scientists to identify a precise location for the well in that basin.

"Securing additional water supplies from other basins in conjunction with our water conservation and recycle measures will enable us to deliver a sustainable water supply to support our thriving community and help our Cedar Valley aquifer recover after decades of over pumping," said Andy McCrea, District Board Member and hydrologist.

Additionally, Cedar City Corporation just recently made a large purchase of water rights in Basin 71 so it can utilize water from the Iron Springs area, or Beryl/Escalante Valley, in the near future.

“This is an infusion from another basin, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that sprang up suddenly and that we were able to capitalize on quickly with the [Cedar City] council’s support,” said Cedar City Mayor Garth Green in the city’s November newsletter.

The District is also in the planning and development stages to develop its water rights in Pine Valley, or Basin 14, that is northwest of Cedar City. The Pine Valley Water Supply Project is currently in the environmental process with the Bureau of Land Management to ensure that the project is environmentally sound and can provide a sustainable source of water for residents of Cedar Valley for generations to come.

Learn more about the District’s water supply projects at <https://cicwcd.org/projects/>.

###

**Photo Captions:**

- #1- Water pipes in front of Innova Tech manufacturing facility: CICWCD partnered with BZI Steel to install a waterline along Iron Springs Road which now supplies their industrial facility and will soon allow access to water from Basin 71.
- #2- Waterline being installed along Iron Spring Road to access water from Basin 71.
- #3- Water from test pumping in Basin 14 for the Pine Valley Water Supply Project.

**Who We are:**

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District was created by a vote of Cedar Valley residents more than two decades ago. It has consistently been dedicated to developing and stabilizing the valley’s water supply through conservation, recharge, reuse, and sourcing of water for the benefit of all current and future water users in the region. The District utilizes scientists, experts and professionals to understand the valley’s underground aquifer and to determine responsible solutions for the community as it strives to meet local water challenges. For reliable information about Cedar Valley’s water situation, please visit <https://cicwcd.org/>.

**Media Contact:**

Jessica Staheli  
(435) 865-9901  
jessica@cicwcd.org