



### TITLE:

**ACID Canal** 

# **RUNTIME:**

87 Minutes

# **SUBTITLE:**

Discovering the true cost of water.

# **LOGLINE:**

When a rural irrigation district in Northern California has its water cutoff during a historic drought, the community must join together to face the devastating impacts to their way of life and the environment around them.

# **SYNOPSIS:**

Get ready for a gripping and emotional ride through the heart of Northern California in "ACID Canal," the groundbreaking new documentary that sheds light on one of the worst droughts in the region's history. When the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District (A.C.I.D.) is informed that they won't receive their full water allocation for the 2022 irrigation season, the community is left reeling. As ranchers are forced to sell off their livelihoods, residential wells dry up, and wildlife preserves become barren wastelands, one man, independent rancher James Rickert, decides to take matters into his own hands.

With a fierce determination to preserve the community he loves, James runs for a seat on the A.C.I.D. board, despite facing stiff competition from the incumbent and better-funded candidate. As James dives deep into the impact of the drought on the community, he unites with fellow ranchers and government agencies to search for solutions. But the road to victory is fraught with challenges, including backroom deals and dirty politics.

Against all odds, James emerges victorious, winning a seat on the board alongside four other community members. And just when it seems like all hope is lost, the rains finally return, bringing life-giving water back to the once-dried out ditches. "ACID Canal" is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity, and a must-watch for anyone who cares about the future of our planet.



# **SHORT SYNOPSIS:**

"ACID Canal" is a gripping documentary about Northern California's severe drought. When the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District (A.C.I.D.) loses their water allocation, the community suffers a devastating loss to their land and livelihoods. Independent rancher James Rickert runs for the A.C.I.D. board to save his community and fight for their water rights. Facing tough competition, political corruption and other challenges, James wins a seat and, miraculously, rain returns. This film showcases human resilience in adversity and will highlight the journey as one community understands the true value of water.

# **IMPACT/AUDIENCE:**

After years of drought in California, the topic of water rights has become a hotly debated issue as agricultural and environmental needs must be balanced in tandem with an ever decreasing supply of available surface water. "ACID Canal" explores water management decisions and how those decisions can impact a local community and its environment by giving voice to all parties involved including ranchers, homeowners, Bureau of Reclamation, State Water Board, Department of Fish & Wildlife and more. As the multi-layered water management system is demystified, the audience sees firsthand the devastating effects of the decisions made by the presiding entities in the case of the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District. We hope that this film opens the eyes of many viewers around the world to how important water is to a community and that these water systems are very fragile and in potential danger.

# **DISTRIBUTION PLAN:**

As an educational film, we aim to reach as many people as possible by starting with a film festival run. We will submit the film to larger, well-known festivals such as Sundance, Telluride, Hot Docs & True/False, as well as smaller agriculture and environment focused festivals such as Arctic Film Festival, Environmental Film Festival of the Nation's Capital, Etc. in order to reach more niche audiences that have firsthand experience with water management. In tandem we will seek distribution on streaming platforms, public television or educational releases for after the film festival season.



### **KEY CREW BIOS:**

### **TYLER FAIRES - DIRECTOR**

Tyler Faires is a film maker from Northern California. Since a young age Tyler has been creating. Starting off with his Dad's VHS camera and then moving on to The Art Institute of Santa Monica, Tyler focuses his efforts on telling compelling and fact based documentaries about people and ideas that educate and expand the mind of viewers.

### T.L. GREEN - PRODUCER

T.L. Green is an independent filmmaker based out of Anderson, California. He got his start in film in 2016 creating and directing the sci-fi anthology web series "The Back Pages". Since then he has gone on to work on a multitude of commercial and narrative projects including episodes of Discovery's "Homestead Rescue" and BBC's "Top Gear".

# **CREDITS:**

#### **Director**

Tyler Faires

#### Producer

T.L. Green

#### **Executive Producer**

Faires Wheel Films

#### **Director of Photography**

Kevin Kewley

#### **Editor**

Tim Clark

#### Composer

Jesse Lawson

#### Finish Editor & Colorist

Tyler Faires

#### Cinematography

T.L. Green
Tyler Faires
Kevin Kewley
Kyle Schwenning



#### **Second Camera Unit**

David Maung Tyler Lockamy Hannah Mae Moore Joshua Sechrist

### **Drone Operator**

Ryan Thompson

### Mix & Master

Jesse Lawson

#### Musicians

Jesse Lawson Jonathan Castaneda Tyler Faires

#### Animation

Josh Fulton

### **Graphic Designer**

Caylie Foley

#### **Shot on**

Canon

#### Lenses

DZO Film Pictor Zoom DZO Vespid Primes

### **Additional Media Provided By**

Craig Stewart
Rod Rice
Bill Gregory
Laurie Shaw
Retha Carter
Jacob Jahnke
Kelly Landry
Chris Cable
Alisha Waters
Action News Now
Joanne Thorpe
Allen R. Leedy
Annelise Pierce
Sinclair Broadcasting Group



#### **Special Thank You**

Teach Green Charitable Foundation

Ed & Elaine Roberts, Bill & Maudie Gregory

James & Casey Rickert, Mary & James Rickert

June Bolton, Jered Shipley, Che Steadman

Kristie White (Anderson City Hall)

Ailene Voisin (California State Waterboard)

Erik Ekdahl (California State Waterboard)

Chris Cable, Tara & Quillan Faires

Annelise Pierce (Shasta Scout)

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Steve Burton (California Department of Fish & Wildlife)

Mike & Debra Berry, Josh Davy

Tyler Lockamy (Archetype Pictures)

Ernest Conant (BOR)

Mary Lee Knecht (BOR)

Mark Dickman (USGS)

Eric Reichard (USGS)

Harry (Steve) Ackley (USGS)

Sally House (USGS)

Nadine Bailey (Family Water Alliance)

Kristian Schenk (US Forest Service)

David Guy (Northern California Water Association)

Roger Cornwell (Sacramento Settlement Contractors Corporation)

Elizabeth Betancourt

Holly Dawley (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)

Ben Duncan (Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District)

Kristi White (Anderson City Hall)

**NOAA Fisheries** 

Michael Caranci (Trout Unlimited)

Dave Meurer

Terri White (Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District)

Woody Clendenen

Zach Bay (State Farm)

Chris Lamm (Change Home Mortgage)

CAL FIRE

### **LEARN MORE:**

www.acidcanalfilm.com