

Part I – Agency Profile

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) actively guides, manages, and plans for the use and conservation of Idaho's water resources. Gary Spackman, the Director of IDWR, was appointed to his position by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter on July 11, 2012, after having served as Interim Director since July 16, 2009.

The eight person Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) was created by constitutional amendment in 1965. The current members of the IWRB are Roger Chase, Chairman; Peter Van Der Muelen, Vice Chairman; Bob Graham; Charles Cuddy; Vince Alberdi; Jeff Raybould; John "Bert" Stevenson; and Albert Barker.

The Director and the IWRB interact in a level working relationship. The Board sets long term vision and policy, and finances, constructs, and operates water projects on behalf of the state. The Director is charged with water right administrative responsibilities and other regulatory functions.

In addition to the state office in Boise, IDWR is comprised of four regional offices that provide services to Idaho citizens: Northern Regional Office, Coeur d'Alene; Western Regional Office, Boise; Southern Regional Office, Twin Falls; and Eastern Regional Office, Idaho Falls.

CORE FUNCTIONS/IDAHO CODE

IDWR operates with four bureaus: the Water Allocations Bureau, the Water Compliance Bureau, the Planning Bureau, and the Technical Services Bureau. In addition, IDWR is supported by two other organizational entities consisting of Legal Services and Support Services. The attorneys in Legal Services are deputy attorneys general housed at IDWR. Support Services include Human Resources, Information Technology, Financial, and Administrative Services.

Primary authority for the Idaho Department of Water Resources, the Idaho Water Resource Board, and its programs rests in Title 42, Idaho Code. The importance of water to the State of Idaho was recognized even before statehood. Article XV of the Constitution contains seven sections dealing with water including Section 7 that established the Idaho Water Resource Board. IDWR provides staff for the Idaho Water Resource Board.

IDWR BUREAUS

Water Allocation Bureau

The Water Allocation Bureau is one of two regulatory bureaus within the Department. IDWR staff is located in the state office and regional offices. Staff in the regional offices carry out bureau programs as directed and supported by state office staff. The Water Allocation Bureau is divided into three units: the Water Rights Section, the Adjudication Section, and the Safety of Dams Program.

The Water Rights Section processes applications for new water rights and water right changes, also creates, archives, and maintains all water right records in the state. The Adjudication Section (formerly Adjudication Bureau) was merged into the Water Allocation Bureau during FY2010. The Adjudication Section supervises all water right adjudications in the state.

The Safety of Dams Program reviews and approves design plans for dam construction and repair, regularly inspects new and existing dams for safety, consults with dam owners and county emergency personnel to update emergency action/operation plans, offers engineering services within the scope of program duties, and archives information related to dams and water storage projects.

Water Compliance Bureau

The Water Compliance Bureau is the other regulatory bureau within the Department. Water Compliance staff is located primarily in the state office, with select positions staffed at different regional offices. Staff in the regional offices carry out bureau programs as directed and supported by state office staff. The Water Compliance Bureau was formed in FY12 by merging the Water Distribution Section and the Resource Protection Bureau, and is divided into two sections and two program units: the Water Distribution Section, the Ground Water Protection Section, the Stream Channel Protection unit, and the Flood Plain Management unit.

The Water Distribution Section supervises water distribution via approximately 100 active water districts throughout the state. The Water Distribution Section assists various water districts each year in areas of watermaster guidance, water measurement, and water right enforcement. The Ground Water Protection Section issues permits for new well construction; field verifies proper well construction; archives information about construction, geographic location, and hydrogeology; and licenses well drillers. The Stream Channel unit evaluates potential alterations to stream channels for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat, aquatic life, recreation, aesthetic beauty and water quality. A bureau staff position coordinates regulatory and enforcement matters for Water Distribution, Ground Water Protection and Stream Channel programs. The Flood Plain Management unit administers the federal flood insurance program, maps flood risk, and educates local governments, developers, and individuals planning land uses in flood hazard areas.

Technical Services Bureau

The Technical Services Bureau supports initiatives throughout the Department and is divided into two sections: the Geospatial Technology Section (GIS Section) and the Hydrology Section.

Idaho Code 39-120 assigns IDWR as the designated leader for natural resource geographic information systems. The Geospatial Technology Section ("GIS Section") provides expertise, applications, data, and analyses that are used throughout the Department to support business processes. The GIS Section also provides web based tools and applications that are used by the public. GIS data layers are used to evaluate well drilling applications, water right applications, compliance issues, and to refine and improve ground water modeling. GIS analysts provide support to the attorney general's office, the legislative redistricting commission, and many other state agencies and local governments.

The Hydrology Section provides detailed scientific data, information, expertise, and technical support for the administration, management, planning, and protection of the state's water resources. Section hydrologists account for the delivery of reservoir storage and natural stream flow according to Idaho's water right priority system. Staff also develop and operate ground water models of major aquifers within the state. Staff also maintain and operate a river and reservoir system operations model of the Snake River for planning purposes. The data, models, and programs are used for predicting the water supply for the upcoming irrigation season, planning for improved utilization of water resources, and quantifying the effects of drought, recharge, and pumping on aquifer water levels and river flows. These studies and modeling efforts are often a part of a collaborative process that is important to private industry, agricultural interests, numerous organizations, other government agencies, and the Department in developing an understanding of the hydrology of Idaho.

Planning Bureau

The Planning Bureau is divided into a Planning Section and several adjunct staff who report directly to the Bureau Chief. The Planning Bureau primarily supports IWRB programs, including the State Water Plan, Idaho Water Supply Bank, water project development and funding, minimum stream flows, natural and recreational river designations and comprehensive basin and aquifer planning. The Planning Bureau is responsible for overseeing and administering, on behalf of the IWRB, several large-scale initiatives, including implementing the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer-Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (ESPA-CAMP), evaluating new water storage reservoirs throughout the state, and undertaking projects in the Upper Salmon River Basin to provide flows needed for recovery of ESA-listed anadromous fish species, including alleviating water use conflicts between the needs of fish and irrigated agriculture.

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
General Revenue Fund	11,293,300	10,781,000	10,651,700	11,101,500
Indirect Cost Recovery	594,600	711,200	570,200	587,900
Aquifer Planning & Mgmt.	3,319,500	2,742,600	2,742,600	2,757,400
Water Administration Fund	2,194,000	1,308,500	1,308,500	1,742,400
Water Claims Adjudication	0	0	0	35,000
N Idaho Adjudication	35,000	102,800	102,800	105,900
Federal Grant	2,938,000	3,554,600	3,554,600	3,581,100
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,303,600	1,039,600	1,197,700	1,222,200
Total	21,678,000	20,240,300	20,128,100	21,133,400
Expenditure	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personnel Costs	10,252,000	9,480,800	9,591,000	9,887,800
Operating Expenditures	5,540,600	5,862,900	5,514,200	5,512,100
Capital Outlay	83,500	215,200	164,500	283,700
Trustee/Benefit Payments	560,500	559,200	554,000	554,000
Total	16,436,600	16,118,100	15,823,700	16,237,600

Part II – Performance Measures

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Water Management Snake River Basin Adjudication				
Director's Report Recommendations	157 late claims were reported	123 late claims were reported	73 late claims were reported	133 late claims were reported
Objections Remaining	4,355	2,384	292	101
Water Management Northern Idaho Adjudication				
Commencement				
Filed Claims	>3,000	>3,500	Nearly 2,000	Nearly 250
Notices of Commencements	>45,000	>6,200	Nearly 11,000	704 (second round)

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Water Right Transfers Approved Average Processing Time for Resolved Transfers Unresolved Transfers	361 resolved	316 resolved	290 resolved 1.4 years	249 resolved 0.5 years 108
Water Right Licenses Licenses Issued Permits Needing to be Licensed	130	211	573 3043	967 2279
Water Management Dam Safety Inspections of Existing Dams Design Review & Approval for New Construction or Repair % of High Hazard Dams with Up-to-Date Emergency Action Plans	127	Calendar Year 84 8 33	Calendar Year 132 7 42	Calendar Year Year-to-Date: 47 Year-to-Date: 9 Year-to-Date: 16
Water Management Water Distribution Water Districts Created or Expanded Other Activity	1 (72-Clayton Area/ E. F. Salmon R.)		1 (02-Snake R. Milner to Murphy)	3 (Created WD290 – Bannock CK; Expanded WD170 to Basin 73; Expanded WD75A- Jesse Ck Reactivated three districts in Lemhi/Salmon area
Water Measurement Measurement Orders Issued (comprehensive orders only) Other Activity:	1 ESPA WD130 – order issued for 100+ wells	1 WD13A – Cub R ESPA – misc. or individual orders only; Magnetic Meter certification established	1 Upper Wood Rivers – ground water meas. district created Ultrasonic Meter certification established	0 Updated standards; added 1 meter to certification list
Water Management Ground Water Protection Well Permits Issued Driller Licenses	2,211 149	2,017 183	2,250 128	2,406 214

Department of Water Resources

Performance Measurement Report

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Injection Well Apps Processed	394	391	533	407
Geothermal Well Apps Processed	10	4	2	4
Water Management Stream Channel Alterations (SCA)				
SCA Apps Received/Processed	182	183	282	244
SCA Permits Issued (does not include Recreational Dredge permits & State/Federal agency MOU permits)	131	149	200	176
Water Management Enforcement/Compliance (Water Rights, Well Construction, and Stream Channel)				
Notices of Violation Issued				9
NOV Penalties Received				\$196,951
Planning Bureau Water Resource Board				
Loans	8 - \$2,356,400	5 - \$625,563	4 - \$2,951,550	7 -- \$5,635,777
Revenue Bond Issuances			2 - \$36,000,000	
Surface Water Storage Studies in Progress (Weiser-Galloway, Boise River, Henry's Fork-Teton)		3	3	3
Implement ESPA Aquifer Management measure – Ground Water-to- Surface Water projects installed (acres)	11 for 3,280	9 for 2,332	1 for 5,400	5 for 2,434
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer – acre feet recharged into aquifer	88,497 AF	61,588 AF	161,936 AF	20,470 AF
Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plans (CAMPs) completed and approved (Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer CAMP)			1	
Upper Salmon River Basin streamflow improvement projects	6 for \$743,390	5 for \$1,575,988	6 for \$704,680	6 for \$493,483
Technical Services Bureau Initiatives				
Surface and Ground Water Investigations				
Initiated	1			1
Ongoing	2	3	2	1
Completed	1		1	1

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Ground Water Model Revision and Recalibration efforts				
Initiated	1			
Ongoing		1	1	
Completed				2
Water Rights Accounting Program Modernization efforts				
Initiated	1	1		
Ongoing		1	2	1
Completed				1
GIS Database development and integration projects				
Initiated	1	2		3
Ongoing		1	2	2
Completed			1	2
Planning & Technical Services				
Surface & Ground Water Measurement Sites				
Number of Measurement Sites:				
Ground Water	1,305	1,343	1,346	1,288
Managed Recharge	14	21	21	38
Geothermal	13	13	13	20
Ground Water Quality	337	300	299	232
Water Levels (USGS Co-op, IDWR & Private Contracts)	757	825	826	804
			*Note: Water levels were collected in 222 additional wells as part of Thousand-Springs area mass measurements. These are not included in the total	*Note: Water levels collected in 1,085 additional wells for ESPA mass measurement /synoptic, 90 additional wells for Wood River Valley synoptic, and 129 wells as part of Thousand-Springs area synoptic. These are not included in the total.
Surface Water (USGS gages + return flow sites)	184	184	187	194

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