

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; Southern Regional Office, Twin Falls; Eastern Regional Office, Idaho Falls and Western Regional Office, Boise;.

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, Purchasing, 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.

Water Allocation Bureau is one of two regulatory bureaus within the Department. The Water Allocation Bureau personnel are 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 construction and repair of dams and mine tailings impoundment structures. Other duties include regularly inspecting new and existing dams for safety, consults with dam owners and county emergency personnel to update emergency action/operation plans, offering engineering services within the scope of program duties, and archiving information related to dams, mine tailings impoundment structures, and other water storage projects.

Water Compliance Bureau is the other regulatory bureau within the Department. Water Compliance personnel are 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 program, and the Floodplain Management program.

The Water Distribution Section supervises water distribution via approximately 100 active water districts throughout the state and 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 program 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 Floodplain Management program administers the National Flood Insurance Program, assists Idaho's RISK Map program with the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (IBHS) to map Idaho flood risks, and educates local governments, developers, and individuals planning land uses in flood hazard areas. During FY14, the RISK Map program and one full time position (FTP) was transferred from IDWR to IBHS to enhance assistance to counties for all hazard mitigation planning.

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 creates and updates spatial information in both vector and spatial form. The GIS section provides image processing including evapotranspiration estimates over irrigated lands. The section coordinates with other state agencies for imagery acquisition. Data layers that are created by the department are served to the public through our web site and through the GIS geospatial clearinghouse. The GIS Section also provides web based tools and applications that are used by IDWR staff and 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 develop and operate ground water models of major aquifers within the state, and 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 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 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
General Revenue Fund	10,781,000	10,651,700	11,101,500	11,195,000
Indirect Cost Recovery	711,200	570,200	587,900	626,100
Aquifer Planning & Mgmt.	2,742,600	2,742,600	2,757,400	2,767,100
Water Admin. Fund	1,308,500	1,308,500	1,742,400	1,757,700
Water Claims Adjud.	0	0	35,000	35,000
N Idaho Adjudication	102,800	102,800	105,900	106,800
Federal Grant	3,554,600	3,554,600	3,581,100	3,593,700
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>1,039,600</u>	<u>1,197,700</u>	<u>1,222,200</u>	<u>1,230,100</u>
Total	20,240,300	20,128,100	21,133,400	21,311,500
Expenditure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	
Personnel Costs	9,480,800	9,591,000	9,887,800	9,873,800
Operating Expenditures	5,862,900	5,514,200	5,512,100	5,079,700
Capital Outlay	215,200	164,500	283,700	229,000
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>559,200</u>	<u>554,000</u>	<u>554,000</u>	<u>554,000</u>
Total	16,118,100	15,823,700	16,237,600	15,736,500

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Water Allocation Bureau				
Snake River Basin Adjudication				
Director's Report Recommendations	123 late claims were reported	73 late claims were reported	133 late claims were reported	108 late claims were reported
Objections Remaining ¹	2,384	292	101	37
Northern Idaho Adjudication Commencement				
Filed Claims	>3,500	Nearly 2,000	Nearly 250	Approx. 213 plus 364 federal reserve claims
Notices of Commencements	>6,200	Nearly 11,000	704 (2nd round)	0
Director's Report Recommendations				358 plus 364 federal reserve claims

¹ Final unified decree in SRBA signed August 25, 2014.
State of Idaho

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Applications for Permit				
Resolved				397
Average Processing Time for Resolved Permits				2.8 yrs
Median Processing Time for Resolved Permits				0.4 yrs
Unresolved Applications in Progress				594
Unresolved Applications on Moratorium Hold				645
Water Right Transfers				
Applications Resolved	316	290	249	311
Average Processing Time for Resolved Transfers		1.4 years	0.5 years	0.7 years
Median Processing Time for Resolved Transfers				0.2 years
Unresolved Transfers			108	115
Water Right Licenses				
Licenses Issued	211	573	967	747
Permits Needing to be Licensed		3043	2279	1741
Water Right Ownership Changes				
Owner changes processed				2232
Owner changes to be processed				564
Safety of Dams program	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	
Inspections of Existing Dams	84	132	141	Year-to-Date: 48
Design Review & Approval for New Construction or Repair	8	7	9	Year-to-Date: 5
% of High Hazard Dams with Up-to-Date Emergency Action Plans	33	42	41/85=48%	Year-to-Date: 31
Water Compliance Bureau				
Water Distribution				
Water Districts Created, Expanded, or Modified		1	3	3
Other Activity		(02-Snake R. Milner to Murphy)	(Created WD29O – Bannock CK; Expanded WD170 to Basin 73; Expanded WD75A-Jesse Ck Reactivated three districts	(Created WD37B –Camas Drainage, including merger of WD37A & WD37C; Merged WD37 & 37M (Big & Little Wood Rivers/Silver CK. and added ground water rights; Expanded WD63, (Boise River

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Measurement Orders Issued (comprehensive orders only)	1 WD13A – Cub R ESPA – misc. or individual orders only;	1 Upper Wood Rivers – ground water meas. district created	0 in Lemhi/Salmon area	4 above Arrowrock Dam). Snake River (Milner to Murphy WD02); Big Lost River (ground water); Pahsimeroi River (ground water); Bannock Creek (surface & ground water)
Other Activity:	Magnetic Meter certification established	Ultrasonic Meter certification established	Updated standards; added 1 meter to certification list	Added 2 meters to certification list
Ground Water Protection				
Well Permits Issued	2,017	2,250	2,406	2,790
Driller Licenses	183	128	214	173
Injection Well Apps Processed	391	533	407	408
Geothermal Well Apps Processed	4	2	4	6
Well Seal Inspections Completed				189 (10.5% of new wells)
Drilling Companies contacted (field site visits)				54 (40% of drilling companies)
Enforcement/Compliance (Water Rights, Well Construction, and Stream Channel)				
Notices of Violation Issued			9	16
Stream Channel Alterations (SCA) program				
SCA Apps Received	183	282	244	263
SCA Permits Issued (does not include Recreational Dredge permits & State/Federal agency MOU permits)	149	200	176	190
Flood Plain Management program				
Community Asst. Visits (CAV's)				
- Opened or Ongoing				6
- Closed				3
Comm. Asst. Contacts (CAC's)				
- Initiated or Opened				3

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
- Closed				1
Training/Outreach Workshops and Presentations				13
Planning Bureau				
Water Resource Board				
Loans	5 for \$625,563	4 for \$2,951,550	7 for \$5,635,777	0
Revenue Bond Issuances		2 for \$36,000,000		0
Surface Water Storage Studies in Progress (Weiser-Galloway, Boise River, Henry's Fork-Teton)	3	3	3	3
Implement ESPA Aquifer Management measure – Ground Water-to- Surface Water projects installed (per acre)	9 for 2,332 ac	1 for 5,400 ac	5 for 2,434 ac	1 for 3,000 ac
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer – acre feet recharged into aquifer	61,588 AF	161,936 AF	20,470 AF	11,556 AF
Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plans (CAMPs) completed and approved (Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer CAMP)		1		
Upper Salmon River Basin streamflow improvement projects	5 for \$1,575,988	6 for \$704,680	6 for \$493,483	4 for \$83,164
Water Supply Bank				
Rental applications				
Received	44	68	69	82
Processed	60	58	66	77
Lease applications				
Received	173	141	172	313
Processed	283	165	153	244
Lease Contract Release Requests				14
Technical Services Bureau				
Initiatives				
Surface and Ground Water Investigations				
Initiated			1	
Ongoing	3	2	1	3
Completed		1	1	
Ground Water Model Revision and Recalibration efforts				
Initiated				1
Ongoing	1	1		

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Completed			2	
Water Rights Accounting Program Modernization efforts				
Initiated	1			3
Ongoing	1	2	1	1
Completed			1	
GIS Database development and integration projects				
Initiated	2		3	2
Ongoing	1	2	2	3
Completed		1	2	2
Surface & Ground Water Measurement Sites				
Number of Measurement Sites:				
Ground Water	1,343	1,346	1,288	1,328
Managed Recharge	21	21	38	38
Geothermal	13	13	20	39
Ground Water Quality	300	299	232	271
Water Levels (USGS Co-op, IDWR & Private Contracts)	825	826*	804**	785
Surface Water (USGS gages + return flow sites)	184	187	194	195

*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.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	Benchmark
Northern Idaho Adjudication					File Director's Report in Basins 91 and 92.
Director's Report Recommendations				358 plus 364 federal reserve claims	

Performance Measure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	Benchmark
Water Right Transfers					Reduce average processing time for resolved applications for transfer from six to four months.
Applications Resolved	316	290	249	311	
Average Processing Time for Resolved Transfers		1.4 yrs	0.5 yrs	0.7 yrs	
Median Processing Time for Resolved Transfers			108	0.2 yrs	
Unresolved Transfers				115	
Water Right Licenses					Issue an average of 1,000 water right licenses each fiscal year.
Licenses Issued	211	573	967	747	
Permits Needing to be Licensed		3043	2279	1741	
Water Distribution					Ensure all ground water and surface water rights in areas of the Upper Salmon River Basin are included within a water district and are subject to the measurement and administration by a Watermaster. Surface water rights from the Snake River below Swan Falls and ground water rights in the Mountain Home area are subject to measurement and administration by a Watermaster.
Water Districts - Created, expanded or modified.		1	3	3	
Ground Water Protection					On-site field inspections contact with 90% of all active licensed drilling companies each year during critical phases of well construction.
Well Permits Issued	2,017	2,250	2,406	2,790	
Injection Well Apps Processed	391	533	407	408	
Well Seal Inspections Completed				189	
Drilling Companies contacted (field site visits)				54	
Water Resource Board					Average at least 100,000 acre feet of managed recharge per year.
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer – acre feet recharged into aquifer	61,588 AF	161,936 AF	20,470 AF	11,556 AF	
Water Supply Bank					Create Workflow applications using funds provided by the legislature.
Rental applications Received	44	68	69	82	
Processed	60	58	66	77	
Lease applications Received	173	141	172	313	
Processed	283	165	153	244	
Lease Contract Release Requests				14	

Performance Measure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	Benchmark
Technical Services Initiatives Big Wood River Ground Water Model revision and recalibration efforts Initiated Ongoing Completed	1	1	2	1	Complete ground water investigations in Big Wood River Basin by FY15 and complete model development by FY16.
Surface & Ground Water Measurement Sites Number of Measurement Sites: Ground Water Managed Recharge Geothermal Ground Water Quality Water Levels (USGS Co-op, IDWR & Private Contracts) Surface Water (USGS gages + return flow sites)	1,343	1,346	1,288	1,328	Establish continuous monitoring on at least 50 additional wells, three new return flow gages, and three new springs in the ESPA during FY15.
	21	21	38	38	
	13	13	20	39	
	300	299	232	271	
	825	826	804	785	
	184	187	194	195	

For more information, please contact:

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