

## ***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; Dale Van Stone; 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 and a stand-alone section: the Water Allocations Bureau, the Water Compliance Bureau, the Planning Bureau, and the Information Technology Services Bureau, and the Hydrology Section. In addition, IDWR is supported by two other organizational entities consisting of Legal Services and Support Services. The Legal Services staff are provided by the Office of the Attorney General and housed at IDWR. Support Services include Human Resources, Purchasing, and Fiscal.

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

**The Water Allocation Bureau** is one of two regulatory bureaus within the Department. The Water Allocation Bureau personnel are located in the state office and all four 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.

**The Water Compliance Bureau** is the second regulatory bureau within the Department. Water Compliance personnel are located primarily in the state office, with select positions staffed at various 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.

**The Information Technology Services (ITS) Bureau** is responsible for the Department's computer and information system needs, which include traditional information technologies (IT), database administration, GIS (Geographic Information Systems) web development, and computer programming. The ITS bureau is divided into two sections: the GIS Section, and the IT Section, which includes web development and computer programming staff.

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 IT Section maintains the networks, servers, computers, off-the-shelf software, internet, telecommunication systems, and the Department's webpage. The IT Section provides technical support and assistance for all telephone, network, and computer related hardware and software installation issues. The Department's computer programming group is also included within the IT Section. The programming group is responsible for the majority of the Department's program application development, operation, and maintenance.

**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 develops and operates ground water models of major aquifers within the state, and maintains and operates 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.

**The Planning and Projects Bureau** is divided into a Water Projects Section with several adjunct staff reporting directly to the Bureau Chief. The Planning and Projects 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 and Projects 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 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
General Revenue Fund	10,651,700	11,101,500	11,195,000	11,827,400
Indirect Cost Recovery	570,200	587,900	626,100	613,700
Aquifer Planning & Mgmt.	2,742,600	2,757,400	2,767,100	2,794,300
Water Admin. Fund	1,308,500	1,742,400	1,757,700	1,416,700
Water Claims Adjud.	0	35,000	35,000	15,900
N Idaho Adjudication	102,800	105,900	106,800	109,300
Federal Grant	3,554,600	3,581,100	3,593,700	3,636,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>1,197,700</u>	<u>1,222,200</u>	<u>1,230,100</u>	<u>1,253,900</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,128,100</b>	<b>21,133,400</b>	<b>21,311,500</b>	<b>21,667,200</b>

  

Expenditure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Personnel Costs	9,591,000	9,887,800	9,873,800	9,791,200
Operating Expenditures	5,514,200	5,512,100	5,079,700	4,875,000
Capital Outlay	164,500	283,700	229,000	362,700
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>554,000</u>	<u>554,000</u>	<u>554,000</u>	<u>570,600</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,823,700</b>	<b>16,237,600</b>	<b>15,736,500</b>	<b>15,599,500</b>

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Water Allocation Bureau</b>				
<b>Snake River Basin Adjudication</b>				
Director's Report Recommendations	73 late claims were reported	133 late claims were reported	108 late claims were reported	31 late or deferred claims were reported
Objections Remaining <sup>1</sup>	292	101	37	28
<b>Northern Idaho Adjudication Commencement</b>				
Filed Claims	Nearly 2,000	Nearly 250	Approx. 213 plus 364 federal reserve claims	402
Notices of Commencements	Nearly 11,000	704 (2nd round)	0	0
Director's Report Recommendations			358 plus 364 federal reserve claims	1,442 plus 19 federal law claims

<sup>1</sup> Final unified decree in SRBA signed August 25, 2014.

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Applications for Permit</b>				
Resolved			397	382
Average Processing Time for Resolved Permits			2.8 yrs	2.3 yrs
Median Processing Time for Resolved Permits			0.4 yrs	0.3 yrs
Unresolved Applications in Progress			594	642
Unresolved Applications on Moratorium Hold			645	645
<b>Water Right Transfers</b>				
Applications Resolved	290	249	311	280
Average Processing Time for Resolved Transfers	1.4 years	0.5 years	0.7 years	0.4 yrs
Median Processing Time for Resolved Transfers			0.2 years	0.2 yrs
Unresolved Transfers		108	115	143
<b>Water Right Licenses</b>				
Licenses Issued	573	967	747	521
Permits Needing to be Licensed	3043	2279	1741	1473
<b>Water Right Ownership Changes</b>				
Owner changes processed			2232	2607
Owner changes to be processed			564	423
<b>Safety of Dams program</b>	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	
Inspections of Existing Dams	132	141	146	Year-to-Date: 73
Design Review & Approval for New Construction or Repair	7	9	6	Year-to-Date: 3
% of High Hazard Dams with Up-to-Date Emergency Action Plans	42	41/85=48%	62%	Year-to-Date: 27
<b>Water Compliance Bureau</b>				
<b>Water Distribution</b>				
Water Districts Created, Expanded, or Modified	1	3	3	1
Measurement Orders Issued (comprehensive orders only)	1	0	4	3
<b>Ground Water Protection</b>				
Well Permits Issued	2,250	2,406	2,790	2,746
Driller Licenses	128	214	173	237
Injection Well Apps Processed	533	407	408	132
Geothermal Well Apps Processed	2	4	6	12
Well Seal Inspections Completed			189	182

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Drilling Companies contacted (field site visits)			54	54
<b>Enforcement/Compliance (Water Rights, Well Construction, and Stream Channel)</b>				
Notices of Violation Issued		9	16	41
<b>Stream Channel Alterations (SCA) program</b>				
SCA Apps Received	282	244	263	340
SCA Permits Issued (does not include Recreational Dredge permits & State/Federal agency MOU permits)	200	176	190	246
<b>Recreational Mining Letter</b>				
Permits issued			300	369
<b>Flood Plain Management program</b>				
Community Asst. Visits (CAV's)				
- Opened or Ongoing			6	8
- Closed			3	4
Comm. Asst. Contacts (CAC's)				
- Initiated or Opened			3	1
- Closed			1	3
Training/Outreach Workshops and Presentations			13	24
<b>Planning and Projects Bureau</b>				
<b>Water Resource Board</b>				
Loans	4 for \$2,951,550	7 for \$5,635,777	0	6 for \$9,290,000
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)	1 for 5,400 ac	5 for 2,434 ac	1 for 3,000 ac	0
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer – acre feet recharged into aquifer	161,936 AF	20,470 AF	11,556 AF	75,233 AF
Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plans (CAMPs) completed and approved (Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer CAMP)	1	0	0	0
Upper Salmon River Basin streamflow improvement projects	6 for \$704,680	6 for \$493,483	4 for \$83,164	6 for \$452,037

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Water Supply Bank</b>				
Rental applications				
Received	68	69	82	107
Processed	58	66	77	97
Lease applications				
Received	141	172	313	445
Processed	165	153	244	286
Lease Contract Release Requests			14	32
<b>Hydrology Section</b>				
<b>Initiatives</b>				
Surface and Ground Water Investigations				
Initiated		1		1
Ongoing	2	1	3	2
Completed	1	1		1
Ground Water Model Revision and Recalibration efforts				
Initiated				
Ongoing	1			1
Completed		2		
Water Rights Accounting Program Modernization efforts				
Initiated			3	1
Ongoing	2	1	1	4
Completed		1		
<b>Surface &amp; Ground Water Measurement Sites</b>				
Number of Measurement Sites:				
Ground Water	1,346	1,288	1,328	1427
Managed Recharge	21	38	38	41
Geothermal	13	20	39	39
Ground Water Quality	299	232	271	236
Water Levels (USGS Co-op, IDWR & Private Contracts)	826 <sup>2</sup>	804 <sup>3</sup>	785	911
Surface Water (USGS gages + return flow sites)	187	194	195	200

<sup>2</sup> Water levels were collected in 222 additional wells as part of Thousand Springs' area mass measurements. These are not included in the total.

<sup>3</sup> Water levels were collected in 1,085 additional wells for ESPA mass measurement/synoptic, 90 additional wells for the Wood River Valley's area synoptic, and 129 wells of the Thousand Springs' area synoptic. These are not included in the total.

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Information Technology Services Bureau</b>				
GIS Database large development and integration projects				
Initiated		3	2	1 <sup>4</sup>
Ongoing	2	2	3	2 <sup>5</sup>
Completed	1	2	2	2 <sup>6</sup>
Target GIS projects and requests completed				78 <sup>7</sup>

**Part II – Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Benchmark
<b>Northern Idaho Adjudication</b>					File Director’s Report in Basins 91 and 92.
Director’s Report Recommendations			358 plus 364 federal reserve claims	1,442 plus 19 federal law claims	
<b>Water Right Transfers</b>					Reduce average processing time for resolved applications for transfer from six to four months.
Applications Resolved	290	249	311	280	
Average Processing Time for Resolved Transfers	1.4 yrs	0.5 yrs	0.7 yrs	0.4 yrs	
Median Processing Time for Resolved Transfers		108	0.2 yrs	0.2 yrs	
Unresolved Transfers			115	143	
<b>Water Right Licenses</b>					Issue an average of 1,000 water right licenses each fiscal year.
Licenses Issued	573	967	747	521	
Permits Needing to be Licensed	3043	2279	1741	1473	
<b>Water Distribution</b>					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
Water Districts - Created, expanded or modified.	1	3	3	1	

<sup>4</sup> WADE (Water Data Exchange)

<sup>5</sup> NHD editing: Weiser, Big Lost, and Lemhi, Interactive Map to Mobile application.

<sup>6</sup> Fully Integrated Geothermal with WrEdit and hydrologic database; Integrated Ground Water Quality Monitoring locations with Hydrologic, updated tools and applications to work with 10.2.2 and integrated new field tool, new check administrative basin layers and pond loss tool.

<sup>7</sup> Most of our work is to support the department, requests for analysis for the Surface Water Coalition, NOV analysis, Wood River delivery calls, AG maps, etc. fall under these target requests status.

Performance Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Benchmark
					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.
<b>Ground Water Protection</b>					On-site field inspections contact with 90% of all active licensed drilling companies each year during critical phases of well construction.
Well Permits Issued	2,250	2,406	2,790	2,746	
Injection Well Apps Processed	533	407	408	132	
Well Seal Inspections Completed			189	182	
Drilling Companies contacted (field site visits)			54	54	
<b>Water Resource Board</b>					Average at least 250,000 acre feet of managed recharge per year.
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer – acre feet recharged into aquifer	161,936 AF	20,470 AF	11,556 AF	75,233 AF	
<b>Water Supply Bank</b>					Create Workflow applications using funds provided by the legislature.
Rental applications					
Received	68	69	82	107	
Processed	58	66	77	97	
Lease applications					
Received	141	172	313	445	
Processed	165	153	244	286	
Lease Contract Release Requests			14	32	

Performance Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Benchmark
<b>Hydrology Section Initiatives</b> Big Wood River Ground Water Model revision and recalibration efforts Initiated Ongoing Completed		1	2	1	Completed ground water investigations in Big Wood River Basin in FY15 and complete model development by FY16.
	1	1		1	
	1			1	
<b>Surface &amp; Ground Water Measurement Sites</b> 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)					Establish continuous monitoring on up to 25 additional wells, three new return flow gages, and three new springs in the ESPA during FY16.
	1,346	1,288	1,328	1,427	
	21	38	38	41	
	13	20	39	39	
	299	232	271	236	
	826	804	785	911	
	187	194	195	200	

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