

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was established by the Environmental Protection and Health Act, Chapter 1, Title 39, Idaho Code, to protect human health and the environment. As the state's environmental regulatory agency, DEQ is responsible for implementing and enforcing delegated federal programs under the Clean Air, Clean Water, Safe Drinking Water, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts, as well as many state environmental laws and rules. This regulatory responsibility covers a broad range of activities to ensure Idaho's air, water, land, and Idaho citizens are protected from the adverse impacts of pollution.

The Environmental Protection and Health Act also established the Board of Environmental Quality. The board is the administrative body charged with making decisions on rules proposed by the department to carry out provisions of the act and to enforce state environmental laws. DEQ drafts rules with assistance from the Office of the Attorney General following a negotiated rulemaking process involving interested stakeholders. Rules may be adopted, amended, or repealed by the board. All administrative rules adopted by the board are subject to legislative review. The board also functions as the agency's administrative appeals board. Decisions of the agency can be appealed to the board, which may choose to hear the case or designate a hearing officer. Final determinations of the board are subject to judicial review.

To protect human health and the environment, DEQ's primary activities include monitoring, permitting, conducting inspections, performing remediation, and providing a wide range of oversight, technical assistance, and outreach.

- Environmental monitoring is performed to assess conditions and ensure health-based standards are met.
- Permits are issued to facilities that manage wastes or release pollutants to limit discharges to safe levels.
- Inspections of pollution sources are conducted and complaints are investigated to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and standards. When necessary, enforcement action is taken.
- Remediation is conducted to remove or neutralize contaminants in soil, ground water, and surface waters. Compliance with remedial activities is typically voluntary, but when necessary, enforcement action is taken.
- Oversight is maintained for a variety of projects including environmental cleanups, pollution reduction efforts, and drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.
- Technical support, outreach, and education are offered to facilitate compliance with environmental requirements for air quality, water quality, and waste management and remediation.

DEQ works closely and collaboratively with a wide range of public and private partners including the legislature; the Board of Environmental Quality; federal and state agencies; city, county, and tribal governments; businesses; community organizations; and citizens. These partnerships are critical to accomplishing the agency's mission.

DEQ's headquarters in Boise is organized into four divisions focused on developing and administering programs and policies, providing technical support to the divisions and regions, and providing agency-wide administrative support. The divisions include Air Quality, Water Quality, Waste Management and Remediation, and Technical Services.

Day-to-day, on-the-ground agency services are provided by six regional offices located in Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, Pocatello, and Twin Falls. DEQ also maintains smaller satellite offices in Kellogg and Grangeville. Regional and satellite offices are charged with implementing agency programs and policies and providing direct services to citizens, communities, businesses, and industries.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

DEQ's core functions and regulatory authorities are summarized below, followed by a table detailing the department's revenues and expenditures for the past four fiscal years.

- **Air Quality:** DEQ ensures compliance with federal and state health-based air quality standards by collecting air quality information, monitoring, developing and issuing permits, conducting inspections at facilities, responding to complaints, and coordinating air quality improvement efforts among communities, citizen groups, businesses, industries, other state agencies, tribes, and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code; Clean Air Act).
- **Water Quality:** DEQ protects the surface and ground waters of the state to support beneficial uses and provide safe drinking water supplies by setting water quality standards, certifying project compliance with standards, monitoring, reporting on water quality, developing and implementing improvement plans, issuing wastewater reuse permits, and providing grants and loans for constructing drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities (Title 39, Chapters 1, 36, 66, 76, 79, 85, Idaho Code; Title 37, Chapter 21, Idaho Code; Title 50 Chapter 13 Idaho Code; Clean Water Act).
- **Waste Management and Remediation:** DEQ ensures management and disposal of waste generated in or entering Idaho is conducted in a manner protective of human health and the environment. DEQ responds to releases of hazardous substances to surface waters, ground waters, or soils and conducts, oversees, and negotiates cleanups of contaminated sites. DEQ works with communities to rehabilitate contaminated sites to return them to a safe and developable condition (Title 39, Chapters 1, 30, 44, 58, 65, 71, 72, 74, 81, 88, Idaho Code; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act).
- **INL Oversight:** DEQ oversees activities at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) to ensure compliance with legal agreements and environmental regulations for waste treatment, remediation, and removal. DEQ maintains an independent environmental monitoring program designed to verify and supplement monitoring programs carried out by the INL. Working with other state agencies, DEQ assists local governments statewide in planning and responding to emergencies involving radiological materials. DEQ also routinely informs the public about INL activities impacting Idaho's environment (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code).

Revenues and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Air Quality Permitting	\$876,273	\$1,009,266	\$1,110,118	\$931,006
Public Water System Oversight	\$1,592,697	\$1,585,711	\$1,627,025	\$1,651,657
Water Pollution Control	\$4,802,565	\$4,804,394	\$4,810,218	\$4,829,865
Environmental Remediation	\$1,821,475	\$1,846,547	\$1,869,668	\$1,970,968
Cooperative DEQ-Federal	\$31,496,530	\$24,645,797	\$24,536,640	\$20,838,643
Cooperative DEQ-General	\$15,636,200	\$16,449,600	\$17,908,000	\$19,621,100
Cooperative DEQ-Other	\$1,777,616	\$2,131,707	\$2,342,849	\$1,921,310
Bunker Hill Consent Decree	\$440,349	\$470,272	\$480,546	\$568,222
Total	\$58,443,705	\$52,943,294	\$54,685,064	\$52,332,771
Expenditures	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Personnel Costs	\$26,161,800	\$27,402,600	29,859,100	\$30,425,221
Operating Expenditures	\$21,079,300	\$16,405,500	13,209,200	\$12,234,514
Capital Outlay	\$515,400	\$450,800	640,700	\$475,410
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$7,099,900	\$5,149,800	7,558,500	\$5,880,173
Total	\$54,856,400	\$49,408,700	51,267,500	\$49,015,318

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

The following table summarizes some of the key services DEQ provides to communities, businesses, industries, and the citizens of Idaho.

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Air Quality Division				
Air Quality Permits to Construct Issued	54	56	89	90
Air Quality Tier I (Title V) Permits Issued	12	9	15	15
Air Quality Tier II Permits Issued	2	2	1	1
Inspections of Stationary and Portable Air Pollution Sources	146	161	193	125
Number of Crop Residue Acres Approved and Burned	43,345	36,760	41,411	34,247
Water Quality Division				
Wastewater Grants Awarded	\$396,524	\$246,152	\$325,000	\$347,500
Wastewater Loans Awarded	\$28,800,000	\$27,876,605	\$18,305,461	\$66,972,863
Drinking Water Grants Awarded	\$237,420	\$293,443	\$331,172	\$398,958
Drinking Water Loans Awarded	\$11,348,000	\$14,985,992	\$6,165,007	\$21,015,156
401/404 Water Quality Certifications Issued	60	43	40	87
Wastewater Reuse Permits Issued	20	19	12 ^a	19 ^a
Total Wastewater Engineering Plan and Specification Reviews Completed	234	233	238	302
Total Drinking Water Engineering Plan and Specification Reviews Completed	334	315	279	296
Source Water Assessments Completed	139	102	94	110
Drinking Water Sanitary Surveys Completed	456	397	417	394
Active Nonpoint Source Projects Administered (Previous Calendar Year)	61	57	49	32
Nonpoint Source Projects Completed (Previous Calendar Year)	15	15	20	8
Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program (BURP) Sites Surveyed	231	284	240	280
Waste Management and Remediation Division				
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanups Completed	12	7	31	16
Underground Storage Tank Training and Inspections Completed	392	357	399	407
Hazardous Waste Inspections Conducted	117	93	95	102
Total Phosphate Mine Projects with Agreements for Remediation and/or Operations with DEQ Involvement	37	26	123	133
Snake River Plain Environmental Samples Analyzed (for INL)	5,062	4,713	7,100	5,780
Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance Efforts	96	93	104	98

a. In FY 2017, DEQ removed this as a key service and made it a benchmark performance measure.

Part II – Performance Measures

DEQ's target performance measures are used to track and report progress in meeting the overall agency goal of protecting public health and the environment. These targets were chosen because each tracks measurable agency actions and reflects an actual environmental or public health outcome or result. Each performance measure is revisited annually through the strategic planning process to ensure its continued relevance.

New Goals and Performance Measures

Over the last year, DEQ closely examined our agency-wide work processes and through a concentrated strategic planning effort established new and improved goals and performance measures to ensure we are capturing the results and collective impact of the work we perform. Actual measured results are not available for 2015–2018 because data were limited, not tracked, or did not exist. FY 2019 targets are provided in the New Goals and Performance Measures table. (Note: Measures that will longer be reported are provided in the Old Goals and Performance Measures section to close out reporting on FY 2018 data).

Performance Measure 1—The target of zero days is based on 25 days in unhealthy range in CY 2017. This performance measure is determined by any single air monitor reaching unhealthy (red) air quality levels statewide at any time during the calendar year. If multiple air monitors reach unhealthy air quality levels on the same day, it is still counts as 1 day.

Performance Measure 2—Derived from DEQ's 2014 Integrated Report, this performance measure compares the number of river and stream miles that support beneficial uses to the number of assessed river and stream miles.

Performance Measure 3—The target of 247 sites is a 10% reduction in the current 275 open contaminated sites (2,548 historic contaminated sites). This performance measure includes leaking underground storage tanks and general remediation sites. Contaminated site closure is complete when contaminant concentrations meet acceptable risk-based or other approved criteria through assessment or remediation activities. This performance measure excludes sites under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund), including mega sites, such as the Idaho National Laboratory and Bunker Hill, Department of Defense cleanup sites, hazardous waste sites, and solid waste facilities.

Performance Measure 4—This performance measure is based on wastewater reuse applications, IPDES applications, drinking water and wastewater plan and specification submittals, air quality permit applications, and hazardous waste permit applications.

Performance Measure 5—This performance measure is based on 5-year averages across programs. Each program measures compliance differently. Annual updates will be made to the benchmark.

Performance Measure 6—This performance measure includes air quality permits to construct, wastewater reuse and IPDES permits, and hazardous waste permits. With startup of the IPDES Program, DEQ will inherit a permit backlog that will require 1-to-2 permit cycles (5–10 years) to meet the national goal of 90% current permits.

Performance Measure 7—The kaizen method is a long-term approach to systematically target and incrementally change processes to improve efficiency and quality within the agency. This method brings experts together to examine processes in detail and determine output improvements and engages all staff in suggesting and implementing changes that create continuous improvement. A kaizen scheduled for October 2018 will assess compliance processes of the hazardous waste program, including process mapping and identifying process improvement opportunities. An Integrated Report kaizen of the surface water assessment process is scheduled for October 15–18, 2018.

New Goals and Performance Measures						
Performance Measure		FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Goal 1						
<i>Make recognizable and measurable environmental improvements</i>						
1. Reduce number of unhealthy days based on the Air Quality Index (AQI) throughout the state	actual	-----	-----	-----	25 days	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	0 days
2. Increase the percentage of assessed rivers and streams supporting beneficial uses	actual	-----	-----	-----	33%	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	35%
3. Reduce the number of known contaminated sites	actual	-----	-----	-----	275 sites	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	247 sites
Goal 2						
<i>Provide first-class customer service as a trusted source for environmental leadership</i>						
4. Increase the percentage of complete permit applications and facility plan and specification submittal packages on initial submittal	actual	-----	-----	-----	46%	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	82%
5. Increase the compliance rate of inspected facilities	actual	-----	-----	-----	73%	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	82%
Goal 3						
<i>Foster a culture of continuous improvement</i>						
6. Increase the percentage of permits issued before deadline	actual	-----	-----	-----	67%	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	81%
7. Conduct one kaizen each year	actual	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	target	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	n/a ^a	1 event

a. In 2018, DEQ developed all new goals and performance measures, and data are not available.

Old Goals and Performance Measures—The measures below will no longer be reported.

Old Goals and Performance Measures						
Performance Measure		FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Air Quality Goal						
<i>Manage air quality in Idaho airsheds to ensure compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards</i>						
1. Number of days, on average, to issue a permit to construct	actual	103 days	117 days	148 days	151 days	-----
	target	99 days	99 days	99 days	99 days	n/a ^a
2. Percentage of days the Air Quality Index category is correctly forecasted	actual	89%	89%	88%	86%	-----
	target	100%	100%	100%	100%	n/a ^a
Waste Management and Remediation Goal 1						
<i>Through proper waste and product management, prevent and protect soil and water from contamination resulting from solid and hazardous waste, petroleum products, and mining-related activities.</i>						
3. Percentage of scheduled hazardous waste permits or reviews completed within established time frames	actual	100%	100%	100%	100%	-----
	target	100%	100%	100%	100%	n/a ^a

Old Goals and Performance Measures						
Performance Measure		FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Waste Management and Remediation Goal 2						
<i>Protect human health and the environment through proper waste management, mitigation, and remediation of contaminated areas.</i>						
4. Number of brownfields site assessments completed	actual	12	16	13	13	-----
	target	10	10	10	10	n/a ^a
Idaho National Laboratory Oversight Goal						
<i>Protect public health and the environment at and around the Idaho National Laboratory.</i>						
5. Percentage of time air monitoring stations and radiation monitoring stations are operational to monitor INL conditions	actual	96%	98%	97%	99%	-----
	target	96%	97%	97%	97%	n/a ^a
Water Quality Goal 1						
<i>Maintain and improve surface and ground water quality in Idaho</i>						
6. Number of ground water sampling events conducted	actual	-----	-----	177	182	-----
	target	n/a ^b	n/a ^b	250	270	n/a ^a
7. Number wadeable streams monitored following BURP protocols	actual	231	284	240	280	-----
	target	240	280	240	280	n/a ^a
8. Percentage of entities on the fundable list that entered into loans and will be better positioned to sustain their operations into the future	actual	-----	-----	92% grants 47% loans	81%	-----
	target	n/a ^b	n/a ^b	100%	100%	n/a ^a
9. Number of wastewater reuse permits issued	actual	20	19	12	19	-----
	target	20	20	20	18	n/a ^a
Water Quality Goal 2						
<i>Protect human health through the delivery of safe and reliable drinking water from public water systems.</i>						
10. Percentage of people served by community water systems provided drinking water meeting health-based standards	actual	98%	97%	98%	95%	-----
	target	95%	95%	95%	95%	n/a ^a

a. In FY 2018, DEQ developed new goals and performance measures, and these measures are no longer reported.
 b. Data are not available. In FY 2017, DEQ modified existing target performance measures for water quality and added one new measure.

Old Goals and Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

Performance Analysis—Over the past four fiscal years, DEQ has met or exceeded a majority of its performance measurement targets. While DEQ achieved performance of most of the outlined targets during FY 2018, the agency has faced some challenges as discussed below.

Air Quality—The average amount of time needed to issue a permit to construct (PTC) increased significantly in FY 2016 and 2017 and was closer to 150 days in FY 2018. The average is calculated using a 2-year, monthly rolling average. Training of new staff in FY 2017 and 2018 along with increased complexity of permit applications due to stricter health-based standards and increased public interaction have slowed average turn-around times.

DEQ's second air quality performance target measures the percentage of days the Air Quality Index (AQI) is correctly forecasted. While the ultimate goal is to correctly predict these numbers every day, extraneous factors such as wildfire can be challenging to model and greatly impact actual observations. Further, DEQ has at times during wildfire season installed additional air quality monitors across the state, which increased the amount of data and the number of forecasts made for particular areas. A total of 3,947 forecasts were made in FY 2015 compared to 4,134 forecasts in FY 2018. This increased number of forecasts impacts the total number made correctly. Accuracy at higher AQI observations (driven by wildfire events and winter stagnation events) is the primary cause of decreased accuracy for the agency.

Wastewater Grants and Loans—Each year the goals for State Revolving Fund loans and State Planning grants are set based upon interest expressed by Idaho communities. During the course of the fiscal year, communities will sometimes change their plans for funding, by either pursuing a different funding option or by not moving forward with their plans. When communities change their plans, the DEQ Loans and Grants Program makes every effort to commit the financial resources to a new funding applicant. In FY 2018 no entities that were initially bypassed were in a position to accept a loan.

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