Memorandum

To: Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)

From: Neeley Miller, IDWR Planning Bureau

Date: November 5, 2013

RE: Water Smart Grant Status Report

Background

At the January 2013 meeting of the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB or Board), Board members were briefed about the creation of Water District 02 (WD02) and a coordinated effort among district water users and both IDWR and IWRB staff to secure cost share funding through a US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Water Smart Grant to assist with the installation of measuring devices and telemetry equipment for diversions in the district.

WD02 was created in July, 2012. The district will provide for the administration of water rights from the Snake River between Milner and Swan Falls Dams. Measurement and regulation of diversions in the district is one of a number of tools that the State can employ to help maintain the IWRB's minimum in-stream flow at the Murphy Gage in accordance with the Swan Falls Agreement.

In May 2013 the BOR announced that the IWRB Water Smart proposal will receive funding in the amount of $151,425. IWRB and IDWR staff (Project Manager Neeley Miller and Watermaster Corbin Knowles) met several times with the local BOR grant coordinator to work through regulatory compliance issues and coordinate with water users. In early September we finalized the Financial Assistance Agreement with the BOR. Additionally, all project regulatory compliance has been completed under budget. Board staff is currently coordinating with each irrigation entity to put in place cost-reimbursement contracts.

The total budget for this grant is $352,152, with $200,726 coming from water users and $151,425 coming from the BOR. The Board will have no financial obligation other than the cost of staff time to work with WD02 to administer grant funds. The estimated cost-share for the parties is attached.

Progress since September

Cost-reimbursement contracts are now in place with 12 of the 15 non-federal entities participating in phase-one of the project. We anticipate the remaining (3) cost-reimbursement contracts will be in place by the end of November. Corbin Knowles (WD02 Watermaster) has been coordinating with water users to identify appropriate measurement devices and develop installation plans. Purchasing and installation of measurement devices and telemetry equipment will begin in November 2013 and we anticipate completion by spring/summer 2014.

IDWR and Board staff plans to work with the WD02 and BOR to submit at least one additional grant application (phase-two) in 2014 to address the remaining large diversions in the district.

Non-federal entities	SHARE	BOR	Total
1. Grand View Irrigation District	$3,568	$2,692	$6,260
2. Grand View Mutual Canal Co.	$8,043	$6,067	$14,110
3. Upper Grand View Canal Co.	$7,146	$5,391	$12,537
4. Snake River Irrigation District	$10,707	$8,077	$18,784
5. Indian Cove Irrigation District	$11,068	$8,350	$19,418
6. South Elmore Irrigation Co.	$15,136	$11,418	$26,554
7. Clover Hollow Co.	$10,291	$7,764	$18,055
8. Little Valley Mutual Irrigation Co.	$7,146	$5,391	$12,537
9. Bybee Lateral Water Users Assoc.	$11,068	$8,350	$19,418
10. J R Simplot Co. (7 stations)	$68,596	$51,747	$120,343
11. Black Mesa Farms LLC	$7,146	$5,391	$12,537
12. Salmon Falls Land & Livestock Co.	$7,146	$5,391	$12,537
13. Flying H Farms (2 stations)	$13,467	$10,159	$23,626
14. Michael James	$8,892	$6,708	$15,600
15. Andrew Johnson	$11,306	$8,529	$19,835
TOTALS	**$200,726**	**$151,425**	**$352,152**

Figure 1. Estimated Cost-Share