

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
DWORSHAK SMALL)
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT)

RESOLUTION TO COMMIT
FUNDS AND PROVIDE PAYOFF
ON REVENUE BOND

WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB or Board) owns and operates the Dworshak Small Hydroelectric Project (Project) located near Orofino, Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the Dworshak Small Hydroelectric Project was completed in 2000 and consists of a 2-unit, 3 MW powerplant located on the water supply pipelines that deliver water from Dworshak Reservoir to the Clearwater Fish Hatchery and the Dworshak National Fish Hatchery; and

WHEREAS, the power output from the Project is sold to the Bonneville Power Administration pursuant to a 30-year agreement; and

WHEREAS, the IWRB issued revenue bonds to finance the construction of the Project, which were refinanced in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the bonds may be paid in full beginning on May 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, a May 1, 2016 payoff amount was obtained from the Bond Trustee in the amount of \$2,127,534.75. However, the Trustee is holding a total of \$1,735,671.64 in the Trustee's accounts associated with the bonds, leaving net payoff amount required from the IWRB of \$391,863.11.

WHEREAS, revenues from the Project in excess of operations and maintenance, debt service, and reserves for future repairs, are deposited into the IWRB's Revolving Development Account to be made available for loans or other uses consistent with the Account and approved by the IWRB.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the expenditure of up to \$392,000 from the Revolving Development Account to pay in full the revenue bonds associated with Dworshak Small Hydroelectric Project.

Dated this 18th day of March 2016.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

Attest:



Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

Attachment No. 1, Meeting No. 2-16
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF A HYDROGEOLOGIC) A RESOLUTION
ANALYSIS OF THE EASTERN AND) TO ALLOCATE
SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF THE LEWISTON) FUNDS
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA, ID)
_____)

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature passed HB 479 in 2014 to provide a one-time appropriation in the amount of \$15 million from the General Fund and transfers that money to two funds administered by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB); and

WHEREAS, the bill provides for the transfer of \$10.5 million to the Revolving Development Fund and \$4.5 million to the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management and Implementation Fund; and

WHEREAS, projects from the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management and Implementation Fund include \$500,000 to conduct joint water need studies in coordination with Northern Idaho communities to ensure water availability for future economic development; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2014, the IWRB adopted a resolution approving the expenditure of a total of \$201,000 from the IWRB's Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management and Implementation Fund for the Rathdrum Prairie Future Water Demand Study; and leaving a remaining balance in the Northern Idaho allocation of \$299,000; and

WHEREAS, on November 17th, 2015, the IWRB adopted a resolution approving the expenditure of a total of \$100,000 from the IWRB's Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management and Implementation Fund for the Palouse Ground Water Basin Water Supply Alternatives Project; and leaving a remaining balance in the Northern Idaho allocation of \$199,000; and

WHEREAS, problems of ground-water level decline in shallow basalt aquifers in the areas south and east of Lewiston have been known since the 1990's; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) designated the Lindsay Creek Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) in 1992; and

WHEREAS, a larger area of water-level decline in wells completed in shallow basalt aquifers was identified in recent years by IDWR; and

WHEREAS, IDWR rescinded the Lindsay Creek GWMA and designated the much larger Lewiston Plateau GWMA on May 20, 2013; and

WHEREAS, after considerable public input, a ground water management plan for the Lewiston Plateau GWMA was adopted by IDWR on March 25, 2015. The goals of the Lewiston Plateau ground water management plan are as follows: 1) protect existing shallow aquifers from

further decline, 2) protect existing and future ground water rights and ground water quality, 3) improve the understanding about the existence and location of the regional and shallow aquifers, 4) encourage education and outreach efforts that promote conservation of the ground water resources and 5) provide reasonable growth opportunities from available water supplies; and

WHEREAS, a cost estimate of \$90,000 has been prepared for a study directed toward goal number three (3) in the ground water management plan targeted at improving the understanding, the location, and the yield of the regional deep aquifer; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the expenditure of a total of \$90,000 from the Northern Idaho allocation in the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund to undertake the study targeted at improving the understanding of the Lewiston regional deep aquifer.

DATED this 18th day of March 2016.



ROGER CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST



Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE) A RESOLUTION TO MAKE
BADGER CREEK) A FUNDING COMMITMENT
WATER TRANSACTION)
_____)

WHEREAS, Badger Creek is a tributary to the Teton River that provides quality spawning and rearing habitat for Yellowstone cutthroat trout and other fish, but is flow and passage limited at certain times of the year; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Idaho to increase stream flow in the Teton River and its tributaries to encourage recovery of Yellowstone cutthroat trout, which are currently designated as an Idaho Species of Greatest Conservation Need; and

WHEREAS, staff has identified an opportunity to permanently acquire a water right from Old West Business Park, LLC to improve stream flow for native fish in Badger Creek; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the water right to be appraised by an Idaho licensed appraiser; and

WHEREAS, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has agreed to provide four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) in funding to assist with the cost of the appraisal; and

WHEREAS, appraisal of the water rights is in the public interest and in compliance with the State Water Plan.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman to fund an appraisal of water right no. 22-12775, in an amount not to exceed \$~~8000~~⁰⁰.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to the condition that the IWRB receives funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the amount of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00).

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



ROGER CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST: 

Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

Attachment No. 3, Meeting No. 2-16
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLE CREEK)
WATER TRANSACTION CONTRACT)
)
_____)

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE
A FUNDING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout habitat in the Upper Salmon River basin is limited by seasonally disconnected tributaries; and

WHEREAS, Pole Creek has been identified as a high priority stream for flow restoration efforts, to provide high quality habitat for anadromous Chinook salmon and steelhead and resident bull trout, and the 2004 Snake River Water Rights (“Nez Perce”) Agreement commits the state to providing incentives for improving fish habitat which includes improving or protecting flow conditions to augment stream flows; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Idaho to maintain the reconnection of Pole Creek to encourage recovery of ESA-listed Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout fish; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board has contracted with Salmon Falls Land and Livestock Company to maintain flows of 5-6 cfs since 2005; and

WHEREAS, there is funding available to secure an annual contract to maintain minimum flows of 12-18 cfs in Pole Creek during the 2016 irrigation season; and

WHEREAS, the water user will maintain minimum flows of 12-18 cfs in Pole Creek, as measured at the Idaho Department of Water Resources Gage, through the 2016 irrigation season; and

WHEREAS, the Board will compensate Salmon Falls Land and Livestock Company an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for increased power costs incurred through groundwater pumping and the use of 3-phase power to turn a new irrigation system; and

WHEREAS, Salmon Falls Land and Livestock will lease a portion of Water Right No. 71-10882 into the Idaho Water Supply Bank; and

WHEREAS, said lease will require a one-time application fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250); and

WHEREAS, funds are available from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Columbia Basin Water Transaction Program for a one-year minimum flow agreement and water supply bank lease; and

WHEREAS, the Pole Creek transaction is in the public interest and is consistent with the State Water Plan.

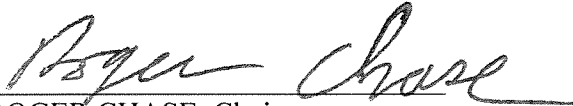
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman, or his assigns, to enter into a one-year contract with Salmon Falls Land and Livestock Company and/or

subsequent owners for a minimum flow agreement in Pole Creek in an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000).


NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman, or his assigns, to pay a one-time lease application fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) on behalf of Salmon Falls Land and Livestock Company.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to the condition that the IWRB receives the requested funding from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Columbia Basin Water Transaction Program in an amount of up to sixty thousand two hundred fifty dollars and no cents (\$60,250).

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



ROGER CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST: 

Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
2016 BOHANNON CREEK)
WATER TRANSACTION)
CONTRACT _____)

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE
A FUNDING COMMITMENT

WHEREAS, steelhead and juvenile Chinook salmon habitat in Bohannon Creek is limited by low flow in the lower reaches of Bohannon Creek; and

WHEREAS, Bohannon Creek provides steelhead and juvenile Chinook salmon habitat and the 2004 Snake River Water Rights (“Nez Perce”) Agreement commits the state to providing incentives for improving fish habitat which includes improving or protecting flow conditions to augment stream flows; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Idaho to protect flows in Bohannon Creek to encourage recovery of ESA-listed steelhead and Chinook Salmon; and

WHEREAS, staff has now negotiated a short-term agreement with the Bohannon Creek water users not to divert water at the BC3 diversion to maintain target flows of 2 cubic feet per second and facilitate the incubation of steelhead eggs; and

WHEREAS, administration of the short-term agreements has increased the burden on the watermaster of WD 74C; and

WHEREAS, a request for \$600 has been submitted to the Idaho Fish Accord Water Transaction Program to be used to compensate Water District 74C for the increased administrative duties; and

WHEREAS, a proposal for \$15,268 has been submitted to the Idaho Fish Accord Water Transactions Program to be used to fund said agreements; and

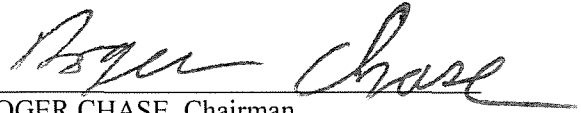
WHEREAS, the Bohannon Creek transactions are in the public interest and in compliance with the State Water Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman to enter into contracts with E Dale Jolley and Eagle Valley Ranch LLC, or their successors, for agreements not to divert out of Bohannon Creek using an amount not to exceed \$14,668 (\$7,334 per party.)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman to enter into contract with Water District 74C for administration of agreements not to divert out of Bohannon Creek using an amount not to exceed \$600.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to the condition that the IWRB receives the requested funding from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Idaho Fish Accord Water Transaction Program in an amount of up to \$15,268.

DATED this 18th day of March 2016.



ROGER CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST:



Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE LITTLE)
LITTLE MUD CREEK AND)
PAHSIMEROI RIVER TRANSACTION)
_____)

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE
A FUNDING COMMITMENT

WHEREAS, Chinook salmon and steelhead habitat in the Pahsimeroi River basin is limited by low flow in the main-stem and disconnected tributaries; and

WHEREAS, Little Mud Creek and the Pahsimeroi River have been identified as high priority streams for flow restoration efforts, to provide high quality habitat for anadromous Chinook salmon and steelhead, and the 2004 Snake River Water Rights Agreement (also known as the Nez Perce Agreement) commits the state to providing incentives for improving fish habitat which includes improving or protecting flow conditions to augment stream flows; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Idaho to maintain the reconnection of Little Mud Creek to encourage recovery of ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead; and

WHEREAS, the Board will compensate BAR G FARM or its successors, \$36.97 per acre per irrigation season for said rental for an annual payment of \$5970.66 for 161.5 acres and a 3-year total of \$17,911.98; and

WHEREAS, the lease and rental fees for said agreement will not exceed \$4533.46; and

WHEREAS, a proposal for \$22,445.44 has been submitted to the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program for approval; and

WHEREAS, funding is available through the Idaho Fish Accord Water Transactions Fund for said lease/rental agreement; and


WHEREAS, staff anticipates the funds being placed in the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) Revolving Development Account for annual payment to the water right owners; and

WHEREAS, the Little Mud Creek and Pahsimeroi transaction is in the public interest and is in compliance with the State Water Plan.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman to enter into a lease/rental agreement for water rights 73-10005, 73-11982, 73-90, 73-11978, 73-11992, 73-11988, 73-11987, and 73-11981 for delivery to minimum stream flow 73-7045, using an amount not to exceed \$22,445.44

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to the condition that the IWRB receives the requested funding from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Idaho Fish Accord Water Transactions Fund in the amount of \$22,445.44

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



Roger Chase, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST: 

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PRATT)
CREEK TRANSACTION)
_____)

A RESOLUTION TO
MAKE A FUNDING
COMMITMENT

WHEREAS, Chinook salmon and steelhead habitat in the Lemhi River basin is limited by low flow and seasonally disconnected tributaries; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the State of Idaho to restore flow in the Lemhi River and tributaries to encourage recovery of ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead fish; and

WHEREAS, the diversions on Pratt Creek, tributary to Sandy Creek and the Lemhi River reduce stream flow in rearing reaches of the Lemhi River Basin; and

WHEREAS, staff has developed a twenty-year agreement not to divert water from Pratt Creek to improve stream flow for anadromous and resident fish; and

WHEREAS, the water user has changed the point of diversion to pump from a Sandy Creek source that is not flow-limited and the funds paid under the agreement will approximate the power expenses incurred, over a 20-year period, by changing the point of diversion; and

WHEREAS, funds are available from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Idaho Fish Accord Idaho Water Transaction Fund; and

WHEREAS, staff anticipates the funds being placed into the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) Revolving Development Account for annual payment to the water right owners; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Creek transaction is in the public interest and consistent with the State Water Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the Chairman to enter into contract with Brent Mulkey and/or subsequent owners for an agreement not to divert out of Pratt Creek in the amount of eighty-seven thousand six-hundred forty-three dollars and sixty-three cents (\$87,643.63).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to the condition that the IWRB receives the requested funding from the Bonneville Power Administration through the Idaho Water Transaction Program in the amount of eighty-seven thousand six-hundred forty-three dollars and sixty-three cents (\$87,643.63).

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



ROGER CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST: 

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF AQUIFER)	A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
STABILIZATION AND EASTERN)	FUNDS FOR RECHARGE
SNAKE PLAIN AQUIFER RECHARGE)	INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 legislature allocates \$5 million annually from the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB), for statewide aquifer stabilization, with funds to be deposited into the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 479 passed and approved by the 2014 legislature allocates \$4 million for Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) managed recharge, and Senate Bill 1190 passed and approved by the 2015 legislature allocated \$500,000 for aquifer recharge; and

WHEREAS, managed aquifer recharge was identified as a key strategy in the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) which held stabilization and recovery of the ESPA as a goal; and

WHEREAS, the ESPA must be stabilized in order to prevent future ground water user-versus-surface water user conflicts; and

WHEREAS, a Resolution dated May 22nd, 2015 (Secondary Aquifer Planning Management & Implementation Fund Budget) was approved for budgeted funds for North Side Canal improvements for \$2,000,000; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, North Side Canal Company (NSCC), which owns and operates the NSCC Main Canal, entered into a 5-year recharge delivery agreement with the IWRB under an incentivized payment plan; and

WHEREAS, NSCC delivered recharge water under IWRB's water right during the 2015-2016 season and plans to continue to deliver recharge water during the non-irrigation season through seepage from the NSCC Main Canal and Wilson Lake; and

WHEREAS, to increase reliability and capacity of recharge during the non-irrigation season, and to minimize impacts to the four hydroelectric facilities located on the NSCC Main Canal, NSCC proposes several improvements to its conveyance system; and

WHEREAS, an engineering feasibility assessment to study the necessary infrastructure improvements to allow delivery of recharge water during the non-irrigation season, was completed in February, 2016, and NSCC selected Alternative No.2, the isolation of the Hazelton A and Hazelton B hydroelectric facilities, and the installation of de-icing systems at the Bypass and Wilson Lake hydroelectric facilities, and Wilson Lake dam; and

WHEREAS, NSCC accepted a professional services proposal (Task Order: NSCC-09) from CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc. to perform the site survey and final design for the proposed infrastructure improvements outlined in Alternative No.2; and

WHEREAS, NSCC agrees to deliver the Board's recharge water right for a minimum period of twenty (20) years pursuant to a Water Conveyance Contract and a Memorandum of Intent between the Board and NSCC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditures not to exceed \$274,581 from the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund, for the field survey and design of the infrastructure improvements outlined in the Alternative No.2 in the study and the proposal Task Order: NSCC-09 submitted by CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc. to NSCC.

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST


VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF AQUIFER)	A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
STABILIZATION AND EASTERN)	FUNDS FOR RECHARGE
SNAKE PLAIN AQUIFER RECHARGE)	INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 legislature allocates \$5 million annually from the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB), for statewide aquifer stabilization, with funds to be deposited into the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 479 passed and approved by the 2014 legislature allocates \$4 million for Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) managed recharge, and Senate Bill 1190 passed and approved by the 2015 legislature allocated \$500,000 for aquifer recharge; and

WHEREAS, managed aquifer recharge was identified as a key strategy in the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) which held stabilization and recovery of the ESPA as a goal; and

WHEREAS, the ESPA must be stabilized in order to prevent future ground water user-versus-surface water user conflicts; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, American Falls Reservoir District #2 (AFRD2), which owns and operates the Milner-Gooding Canal, entered into a 5-year recharge delivery agreement with the IWRB under an incentivized payment plan; and

WHEREAS, AFRD2 delivered recharge water under IWRB's water right during the 2015-2016 season and plans to continue to deliver recharge water during the non-irrigation season through seepage from the Milner-Gooding Canal, MP 31 and Shoshone recharge sites; and

WHEREAS, diverting managed winter recharge water past the Dietrich Drop Hydroelectric Facility will allow unrestricted access to the Shoshone Recharge Site; and

WHEREAS, managed winter recharge water being sent to the Shoshone Recharge Site will increase the annual reliability and capacity above current levels; and

WHEREAS, an engineering assessment was completed on February 17, 2016 and provided several alternatives and costs for passing managed winter recharge water at the Dietrich Drop Hydroelectric Facility;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditures not to exceed \$1,500,000 from the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund, for the design and construction of infrastructure improvements to pass managed winter recharge water at the Dietrich Drop Hydroelectric Facility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFRD2 agrees to expedite engineering design and contracting so that the proposed infrastructure improvements will be completed as soon after the end of irrigation season as possible and to coincide with the proposed construction of the MP 31 Recharge Site expansion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFRD2 shall deliver the Board's recharge water right for a minimum period of twenty (20) years pursuant to a Water Conveyance Contract and a Memorandum of Intent between the Board and AFRD2.

DATED this 18th day of March, 2016.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST



VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE) RESOLUTION TO COMMIT
PRIEST LAKE) FUNDS AND PROVIDE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS) SIGNATORY AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) owns the Priest Lake Dam which was constructed in 1951 as an outlet control structure to maintain lake levels and downstream flows in the Priest River in accordance with Idaho Code § 70-507; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 70-507 authorizes the director of IDWR to contract operation and maintenance of the dam, and requires that the water surface level of Priest Lake be maintained at 3.0 feet on the USGS Priest lake outlet gage (2,434.64 feet above mean sea level) after run-off of winter snowpack until the close of the main recreational season; and

WHEREAS, limited water supply and drought conditions in northern Idaho in 2015 restricted the director's ability to maintain required pool levels and downstream flow in the Priest River during the recreational season; and

WHEREAS, Governor Otter directed the Idaho Water Resource Board to develop a water sustainability policy and support water sustainability and aquifer stabilization projects across Idaho to address declining ground water levels, existing or potential conjunctive administration water use conflicts, alternative water supplies and long-term water management needs; and

WHEREAS, Priest Lake, Upper Priest Lake and the Priest River are significant draws for tourism and recreation, and are highly valued environmental and economic assets for Bonner County and the state of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, Priest Lake and Upper Priest lake are connected by a navigable 2.5-mile-long channel called the Thorofare which is the primary source of access to the upper lake and is actively used by the public for recreation; and

WHEREAS, a 1,400-foot-long Breakwater structure at the north end of Priest Lake, which is intended to manage sediment at the mouth of the Thorofare and provide protection to landowners at the north end of the lower lake, has been in serious need of replacement for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, Bonner County, with support from the community, local officials and the Lake Pend Oreille, Pend Oreille River, Priest Lake and Priest River Commission, is evaluating options for rehabilitation or replacement of the Breakwater structure (Thorofare-Breakwater Project); and

WHEREAS, IDWR recognizes the need for potential improvements to the Priest Lake Dam to address general maintenance needs, and improve measurement of lake levels, outflow, and operation of the outlet structure to help manage available water supplies into the future; and

WHEREAS, a feasibility study should be initiated to evaluate lake level operations and potential improvements or modifications to the Priest Lake Dam, including outlet gate automation, measurement instrumentation, operational changes, and a raise of the dam or lake elevations; and

WHEREAS, support of Bonner County's efforts to improve the Breakwater structure and protect the Thorofare should be considered in order to coordinate water management projects and ensure potential impacts and benefits to the Priest Lake system are considered; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditure of funds not to exceed \$300,000 from the Revolving Development Account for a coordinated feasibility study of Priest Lake Dam Improvements and Thorofare-Breakwater improvements.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee to execute the necessary agreements or contracts to complete coordinated feasibility studies of potential improvements to the Priest Lake Dam and the Thorofare-Breakwater Project.

Dated this 18th day of March 2016.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

Attest: _____



Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Idaho Water Resource Board