



Idaho Water Resource Board

ESPA Plan Implementation Committee

June 10, 2009



ESPA Plan and Legislative Direction

- Welcome and Introductions
- ESPA Plan Background
- ESPA Plan Components
- DRAFT Implementation Committee Purpose, Function and Composition
- Working Groups
- Issues, Needs and Concerns



Background

- ESPA Framework Plan Process Initiated (2006)
- ESPA Framework Plan Developed and Adopted (2007)
- Advisory Committee Convened (2007)
- ESPA Advisory Committee Recommendations Developed (late 2008)
- Unanimous Board Adoption of the ESPA Plan (2009)
- HB 264, adopting ESPA Plan, becomes law on April 23, 2009



ESPA Plan Components

Hydrologic Goal

600 kaf Water Budget Change

- Robust mix of conversions, aquifer recharge and demand reduction strategies
- **Implementation Timeline – 20 years**
- **Cost – \$600 million not including O&M**
 - Estimated annual revenue required - \$30 M



ESPA Plan Components

Phase I Actions

Phase I (1 – 10 years)

- Hydrologic target of 200kaf – 300kaf
- Initiate actions that increase aquifer levels, and spring and river levels
- Geographically distributed across the ESPA
- Build institutional confidence with long-term plan implementation



ESPA Plan Components

Phase I Actions

- **Groundwater to Surface Water Conversions**
- **Managed and Incidental Aquifer Recharge**
- **Demand Reduction**
 - Buyouts, buy-downs and/or subordination agreements
 - Rotating fallowing, dry-year lease agreement, CREP
 - Crop mix modification
 - Surface water conservation
- **Pilot Weather Modification Program**



ESPA Plan Components Additional Actions

- ***CAMP Implementation Committee***
Refocus CAMP Advisory Committee on Plan Implementation
- ***Environmental Considerations***
Continue to integrate environmental and other considerations
- ***Clearinghouse***
Evaluate options to implement a flexible mechanism that connects willing participants in the implementation of ESPA water management projects



ESPA Plan Components

Additional Plan Actions

- ***Outreach and Education***

Develop and fund a broad water education and outreach effort

- ***Management Flexibility and Innovation***

Explore innovative approaches that can improve water supplies available for conversion, recharge, and/or enhancement of surface supplies

- ***Downstream Transfer Policy***

Encourage providing water for recharge and conversion projects through downstream transfers of surface water rights to the ESPA in a manner that enhances flows in flow-limited tributaries



Implementation Committee Overview

- I. Purpose
- II. Tasks
- III. Structure
- IV. Charge
- V. Approach
- VI. Roles & Responsibilities
- VII. Decision Making
- VIII. Public Involvement
- IX. Media Relations
- X. Work Plan



Implementation Committee Purpose and Function

Purpose is to develop recommendations on:

- Phase I funding collection mechanisms,
- Implementation criteria, plans and priorities,
- Early action projects, and
- Foundation for Plan implementation - strategically coordinated, consistent and transparent



Implementation Committee

DRAFT-Tasks

Consensus recommendations on:

- Phase I Funding Collection Mechanisms,
- Identification of implementation criteria and priorities,
- Development goals and implementation plans,
- Analysis and incorporation of Working Group proposals,
- Ensuring implementation coordination, consistency and transparency including reporting and monitoring protocols, and
- Identify necessary legislation, if any, to implement Plan



Implementation Committee

DRAFT - Proposed Structure

- **Composition:** Previous Advisory Committee members and alternates (all considered to be members)
- **Agency Participants:** Active role in Committee deliberation
- **Decision-Making:** Consensus recommendations by Implementation Committee members
- **Meeting Frequency:** Bi-monthly



Charge

Develop technically informed recommendations on how best to implement the ESPA Plan.



- ✓ Develop annual implementation goals and work plans
- ✓ Identify implementation criteria and priorities
- ✓ Identify early action projects
- ✓ Institute a monitoring and evaluation program.



Approach

Develop technically informed recommendations on how best to implement the ESPA Plan.



Roles & Responsibilities

- Idaho Water Resource Board
- Implementation Committee Members
- Facilitators



Idaho Water Resources Board

1. Provide decision making authority regarding Plan implementation components
2. Serve as Board liaisons at Committee meetings when available
3. Indicate areas of concern regarding the Committee process and deliberations



Implementation Committee Members

- Regularly attend and prepare for committee meetings
- Clearly articulate and represent the interests of his/her group and be able to articulate an ESPA-wide perspective
- Listen to other points of view and try to understand the interests of others



Implementation Committee Members

- Openly discuss issues and participate in a cooperative problem solving procedure to resolve differences
- Generate and evaluate options to address the needs expressed by the Committee
- Keep constituent group(s) informed and solicit their input about ongoing deliberations.



Implementation Committee Members

- Inform constituents and solicit their opinions about the process and progress of the Committee.
- Represent the interests of their constituent group and bring their constituents' concerns and ideas to the deliberations.
- Provide copies of Committee meeting notes to their constituents and request comments.
- Provide outreach assistance for public meetings to raise broader awareness of the issues under discussion.



Facilitators

- Design agendas
- Facilitate all Committee Meetings
- Facilitate Working Group Meetings
- Ensure technical support for the meetings
- Ensure that important information is available to Committee members
- Prepare and distribute meeting notes



Decision Making

The Committee will strive to reach consensus recommendations regarding ESPA Plan implementation and early action items.



Breaking Impasse

- A member who is not in agreement with the general opinion in the group may "stand aside" and not block the consensus
- A member may stand aside and request that a minority report detailing the other view(s) be added to the final agreement/document
- Announce that there was not an agreement on a particular question or issue and forward the complete views and perspectives of committee members to the Board.



Technical Support

- Eastern Snake Hydrologic Modeling Committee (ESHMC) and other technical experts as needed.
- Members may bring staff from their organizations or agencies, or members of their constituency groups to support the problem solving process.
- Committee members can defer to those individuals when their expertise is required or when requested by the Committee as a whole.



Discussion Guidelines: Goals

1. Everyone has a chance to be heard and to hear others
2. Find creative, innovative solutions
3. Focus on the issues involved rather than on the people holding a particular view



Observers & Public Involvement

- Meetings will be open to the public and include a period for public comment.
 - Exception: Caucuses
- Participation by non-members of the Committee will be at the discretion of Committee members
- Information, including meeting notes, will also be posted on the Idaho Department of Water Resources website (www.espaplan.gov).



Media

- Free to speak with the press on behalf of the constituency or agency he or she represents
- Must make it clear to the press that his or her comments should not be attributed to the whole stakeholder group.
- No Committee member will formally speak for or represent the Committee without expressed authorization by consensus of the Committee as a whole.
- No Committee member will characterize to the press the point of view of other representatives.



Questions

Do you support the Operating Protocols outlined in the document?

- Modifications?
- Questions?

Work Plan

1. Adopt Operating Protocols, Approve Work Plan and Organize Working Groups (1-2 months)
2. Working Groups (2 -6 months)
3. Integration of Working Group Products and Develop Board Recommendations (2-4 months)



Working Groups Overview

- ✓ Purpose
- ✓ Charge
- ✓ Structure
- ✓ Roles & Responsibilities
- ✓ Deliverables to the Implementation Committee
- ✓ The Five Working Groups
- ✓ Questions
- ✓ Short Working Group Meetings



Purpose

- To develop specific plan recommendations and proposals for Implementation Committee review, refinement and adoption.



Charge

- To develop technically informed recommendations on how best to implement the ESPA Plan
- Each Working Group will clarify and reach agreement on its particular mandate at the initial stages of the group's formation*



Structure

- Each Implementation Committee member will have the choice of participating in up to 2 Working Groups. Assignments made based on interest and expertise
 - A Board staff/facilitation member will be assigned to each Working Group; Working Groups can also include other staff/resources as necessary
 - The funding Working Group comprised only of those that have Phase I funding participation targets

Roles & Responsibilities

- Will be defined by group members during the initial planning meetings to assure efficiency
- Some roles may include:
 - Liaison between Working Group and Implementaiton Committee (between meetings)
 - Go-to-person for the facilitation team
 - Information gatherer (general or topic-specific)
 - Cost estimator for projects/particular projects
- Non-members - Technical support



Deliverables to the Implementation Committee


- Work Plans with a prioritization of desired activities and a proposed calendar, assignments, budget and identification of any external support
- Updates and as appropriate regarding changes, highlighting proposals
- Detailed Proposals/Recommendations on the methodology and geographic location to carry out work (including pilot projects)



Logistics

- First meeting will be approximately four hours and face-to-face in early July
- Subsequent meetings will take place over the telephone or via webconference (time will vary based on agenda). If needed, future meetings may take place face-to-face
- If needed, there may be combined meetings if the topic is particularly relevant for more than one Working Group

Logistics Continued...

- Agendas and any other documents for review will be sent approximately one week in advance and summaries will be sent one week following the meeting
 - Meetings will take place on a monthly basis
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The Five Working Groups

- Groundwater to Surface Water Conversions
- Weather Modification
- Demand Reduction
- Recharge
- Funding



Groundwater to Surface Water Conversions

IDWR Technical Staff: Cynthia Bridge Clark
CDR Staff: Joan Kathol

- Make recommendations to opportunistically pursue conversions



Weather Modification

IDWR Technical Staff: Brian Patton

CDR Staff: Jennifer Graham

- Make recommendations on implementing a five-year weather modification process designed to increase winter snowpack



Demand Reduction

IDWR Technical Staff: Neeley Miller

CDR Staff: Jennifer Graham

- Make recommendations on managing overall demand for water within the Eastern Snake Plain



Recharge

IDWR Technical Staff: Bill Quinn

CDR Staff: Jonathan Bartsch

➤ Make recommendations to increase recharge to the ESPA



Funding

IDWR Technical Staff: TBD

CDR Staff: Jonathan Bartsch

- Make recommendations on funding strategies and mechanisms, including but not limited to further identification of water user, federal, and private funding sources



Working Group Meetings

- Find out which Working Groups you are participating in on the flipcharts
- Meet in your Working Group for 10 minutes
 1. Conversions
 2. Demand Reduction
 3. Funding
 4. Recharge
 5. Weather Modification
- Have the following available: the agenda template, your calendar, and a pen