AGENDA

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Aquifer Stabilization No. 2-26
Thursday, March 26, 2026
1:00 p.m. (MT) / 12:00 p.m. (PT)

Water Center
Conference Rooms 602 B – D
322 E. Front Street
BOISE

Livestream available at https://www.youtube.com/@iwrb

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer Regional Sustainability Proposal by Elmore County Commissioners*
3. Other Items
4. Adjourn

Committee Members:
Chair Dean Stevenson, Al Barker, Brian Olmstead, and Pat McMahon.

Finance Committee No. 3-26

Begins upon adjournment of the Aquifer Stabilization Committee No. 2-26

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. IDWR Budget Update
3. Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Project Budget Update*
4. Water Management Account Spending Plan and ARPA Spending Plan*
5. Other Items
6. Adjourn

Committee Members:
Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Jeff Raybould, Marc Gibbs, Dale Van Stone, and Dean Stevenson.

*Action Item: A vote regarding this item may be made at this meeting. Identifying an item as an action item on the agenda does not require a vote to be taken on the item.
Americans with Disabilities Act: If you require special accommodation to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please contact the Department no later than five days before the meeting. To request an accommodation, please send an email to milin.ream@idwr.idaho.gov or call (208) 287-4800.

MEMO

To: Idaho Water Resource Board Aquifer Stabilization Committee (Committee)

From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff

Date: March 20, 2026

Subject: Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer Regional Sustainability Proposal by Elmore County Commissioners

---

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Formally Establishing a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program

---

Representative(s) from the Elmore County Commissioners will provide a presentation to the Committee on the subject proposal.

Attachments:

- *IWRB Board Letter, dated March 20, 2026*
- *Elmore County Water Alternatives Update*
- *PowerPoint Presentation*

Elmore County
Board of Commissioners

Phone (208) 587-2129 Ext. 270

ELMORE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
150 South 4th East Suite #3
Mountain Home, Idaho 83647

Fax (208) 587-2159

Albert Hofer
(208) 599-1620

Crystal Rodgers
(208) 999-2206

Franklin L. Corbus
(208) 599-1294

Elmore County Board of Commissioners
150 South 4th East Street
Mountain Home, Idaho 83647

March 20, 2026

Idaho Water Resource Board
Aquifer Stabilization Committee
322 E Front Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

Re: Request to Establish the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer Water Program

Dear Members of the Aquifer Stabilization Committee:

On behalf of the Elmore County Board of Commissioners, we appreciate the Committee's willingness to convene and consider the critical groundwater challenges facing the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer. We respectfully request that the Committee take action to formally establish a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program, modeled in purpose and structure after the successful Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer (ESPA) program.

For decades, the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer has experienced a persistent and well-documented overdraft, with annual groundwater pumping significantly exceeding natural recharge. This imbalance threatens the long-term viability of municipal, agricultural, and industrial water supplies in our rapidly growing region. The aquifer is the sole source of drinking water for our residents and supports the broader Mountain Home community, which provides the housing, schools, workforce, and services that are essential to the long-term stability of the region, including those who live and work in connection with Mountain Home Air Force Base. Mountain Home Air Force Base has been an engaged partner in regional water discussions and recognizes that long-term water sustainability in the surrounding community is essential to supporting their mission and maximizing the State's existing investment in water infrastructure. In addition, continued growth in the Treasure Valley is placing increasing development pressure on Elmore County, and the new jobs created by Micron's massive expansion under the federal CHIPS Act will increase housing demand in the county.

Elmore County, in partnership with the Idaho Water Resource Board and other stakeholders, has taken meaningful and measurable steps to address this deficit, as detailed in the Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives 2026 Status Report.

While these efforts demonstrate strong local commitment and progress, they also highlight a fundamental challenge: the absence of a dedicated, long-term funding and implementation framework for the Mountain Home region risks slowing the momentum we have been building to address this challenge. To date, much of this work has been advanced through intermittent grant opportunities and significant local investment, with Elmore County and the City of Mountain Home collectively contributing hundreds of

thousands of dollars to plan, study, and advance solutions. Establishing a more consistent and sustainable programmatic approach is necessary to build on this momentum and ensure long-term aquifer stabilization.

Establishing a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program would provide the necessary structure to:

- Support long-term, reliable funding for aquifer stabilization projects;
- Enable coordinated planning and implementation of recharge and surface water conversion projects;
- Leverage the knowledge and experiences the Board and its committee and staff members have gained through their state-wide water supply enhancement efforts;
- Provide flexibility to respond to changing hydrologic conditions and opportunities; and
- Recognize the regional and statewide importance of stabilizing this aquifer system.

We respectfully request that the Committee recommend to the full Idaho Water Resource Board the creation of a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program, including the identification of funding mechanisms and implementation strategies to support ongoing and future projects.

Elmore County stands ready to continue its partnership with the Board and to assist in the development and implementation of this program. We appreciate your leadership and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Elmore County Board of Commissioners

Franklin L. Corbus, Commissioner

Crystal Rodgers, Commissioner

Albert Hofer, Chair Commissioner

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEAL
ELMORE COUNTY IDAHO

cc: Mountain Home Irrigation District
City of Mountain Home
Mountain Home Air Force Base

Elmore County Water Alternatives - 2026 Status Report

Report prepared by Elmore County Board of County Commissioners for submittal to the Idaho Water Resource Board

March 23, 2026

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSED 6266 STATE OF IDAHO TERRY M. SCANLAN

Terry M Scanlan

3/23/2026

Contents

Tables

Figures

Appendices

Acronyms and Abbreviations

2017 Report	*Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives*
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CCBCGWA	Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area
cfs	cubic feet per second
ESPA	Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer
ESPAM	Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Model
GWD	groundwater district
GWMP	ground water management plan
IDL	Idaho Department of Lands
IDWR	Idaho Department of Water Resources
ITD	Idaho Transportation Department
IWRB	Idaho Water Resources Board
MHID	Mountain Home Irrigation District
MHAFB	Mountain Home Air Force Base
MHGWA	Mountain Home Ground Water Area
MHGWMA	Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area
MTAC	Model Technical Advisory Committee
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
SFBR	South Fork Boise River
Simplot	JR Simplot Company
WeSPAM	Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model
WAG	Water Advisory Group
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Background and Purpose

The regional aquifer beneath the Mountain Home Plateau in Elmore County, Idaho, was developed using deep wells to supply agricultural irrigation and other uses primarily from the mid-1960s through the early 1980s. Aquifer water levels responded to development by rapidly declining, resulting in establishment of the Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area (CCBCGWA) in 1981 and Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area (MHGWMA) in 1982 (Figure 1). Since that time, groundwater development within these administrative areas has largely stopped (with some localized exceptions).

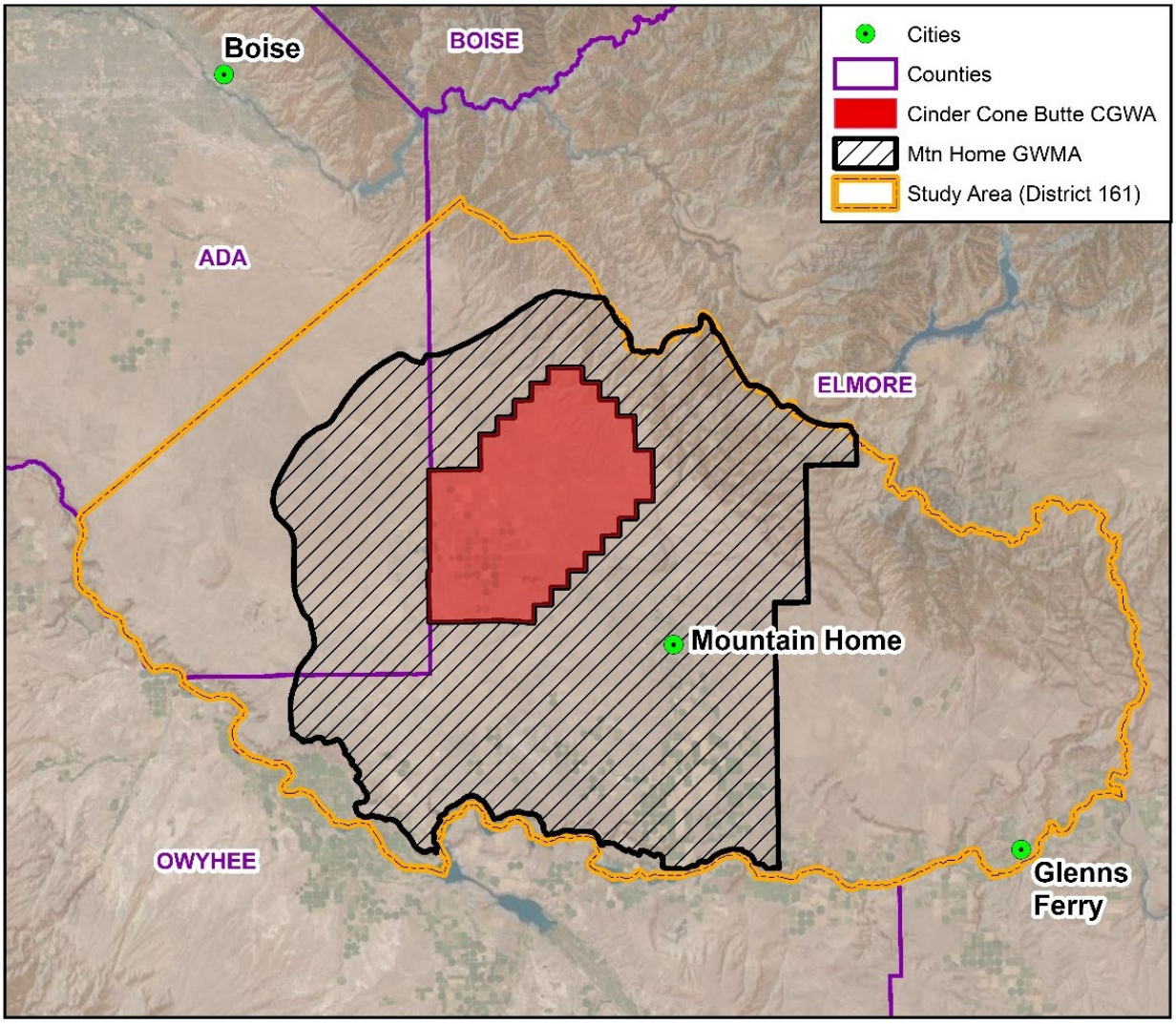


Figure 1. Administrative Areas on the Mountain Home Plateau

The cessation of groundwater development has reduced economic growth within the Elmore County (County), with industry and housing often bypassing the area due to lack of water supply. Chronic

water level declines present a threat of curtailment to existing water rights, further constraining growth.

In 2016, the Elmore County Board of County Commissioners (County Commissioners), with financial assistance from the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB), commissioned an investigation of water supply conditions that culminated in a summary report (2017 Report). The 2017 Report[1] included recommendations for potential actions to improve water supply within the County.

The purpose of this document is to revisit findings and recommendations from the 2017 Report and present a summary of water supply improvement actions completed, currently underway, or proposed since 2017.

The 2017 Report did not address an alternative water supply for Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB). This important project was already underway at that time under the guidance of the IWRB and now provides Snake River water to MHAFB to replace groundwater supplies. Groundwater remains available as a backup water source and stabilization of aquifer levels at MHAFB through County-sponsored actions will improve base resiliency. While this project secures a reliable, long-term water supply for the base itself, it does not materially benefit aquifer conditions for the Mountain Home area approximately 10 miles to the northeast—and upgradient—of the MHAFB. This is important, because the MHAFB depends on the Mountain Home area for housing, schools, spousal employment, and other essential services.

Similarly, the 2017 Report does not discuss the Anderson Ranch Dam raise project. This IWRB project is also vitally important to Elmore County as it has potential to provide an important source of water supply to the Mountain Home Plateau.

1.2 2017 Report Findings

Key findings from the 2017 Report are briefly listed below.

1.2.1 Water Levels

Groundwater levels in portions of the aquifer have declined since the 1970s, with nearly 100 feet of decline south of the City of Mountain Home (Figure 2) and more than 150 feet of decline in portions of the CCBCGWA (Figure 3). Little or no decline has occurred in some other areas, including north of Interstate 84 near Mountain Home (where Canyon Creek and Mountain Home Irrigation District [MHID] provide incidental recharge) and Mayfield (with minimal water development to date and recharge from Indian Creek).

[1] Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives, report prepared for the Elmore County Board of County Commissioners, February 28, 2017, SPF Water Engineering, LLC. Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives | February 28, 2017

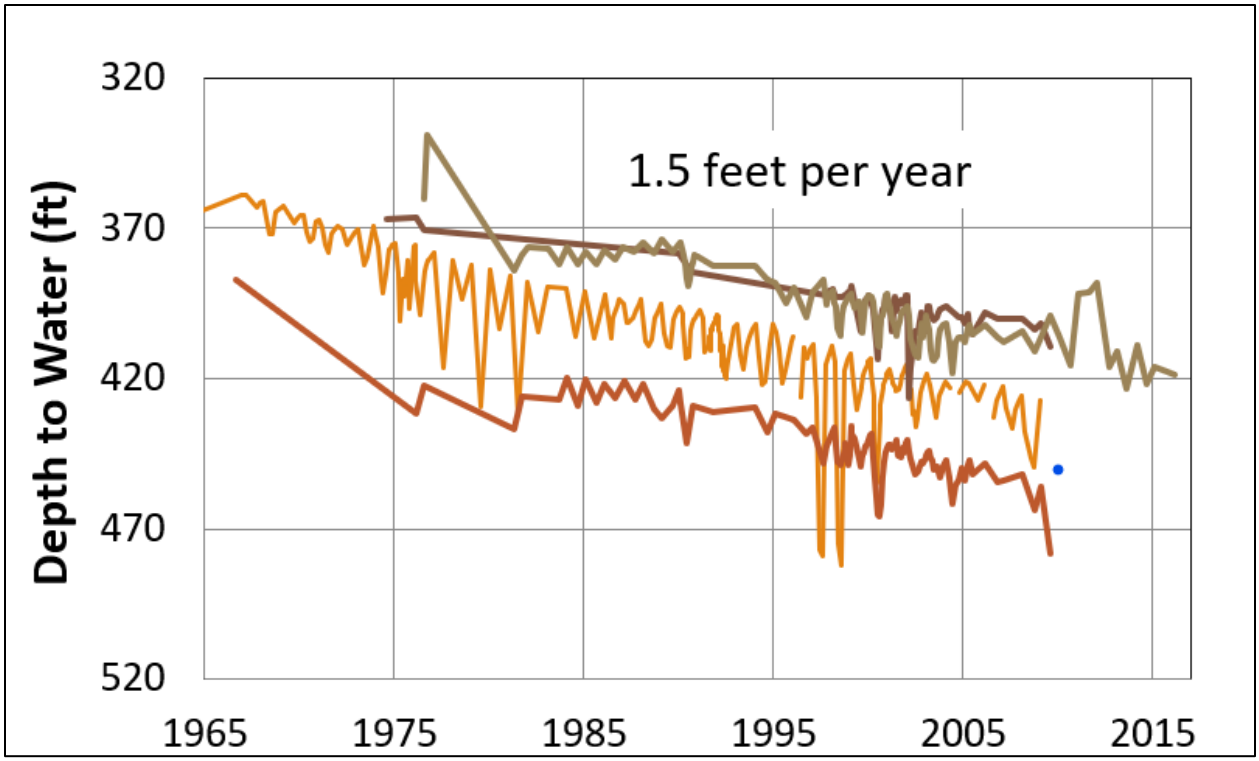


Figure 2. Water level hydrographs for wells located south of Mountain Home

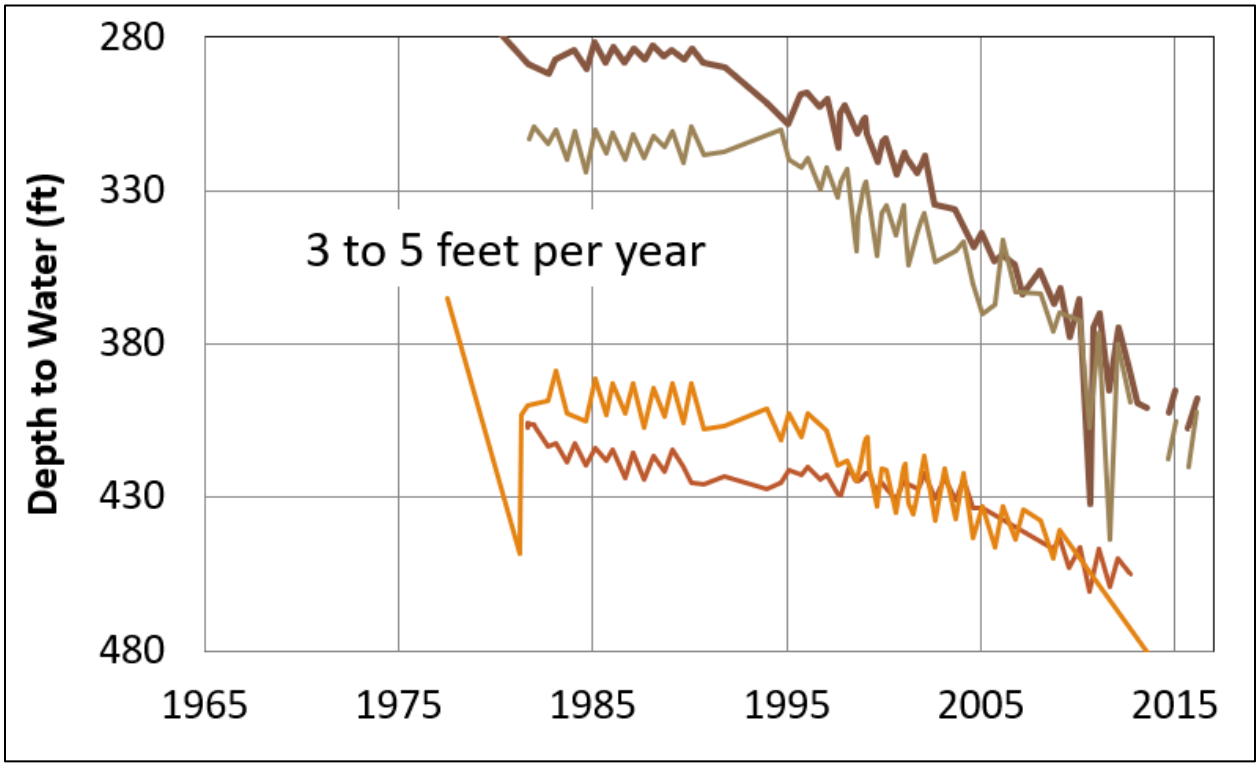


Figure 3. Water level hydrographs for wells located near Cinder Cone Butte

1.2.2 Pumping Deficit

Annual groundwater diversion within the study area (Water District 161) was estimated at slightly less than 80,000 acre feet, with more than 90 percent of diversions used for agricultural and municipal irrigation. Based on an analysis of water level decline since 1970, an average annual deficit of 43,000 acre feet was estimated. This estimate was similar in magnitude to a previous water-balance derived deficit estimate of 30,000 acre feet by Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR)[2] .

1.2.3 Methods to Achieve Groundwater-Level Stabilization

Simply put, the report concluded that groundwater-level stabilization can be achieved by reducing the net groundwater use within the area of water-level decline through reduced groundwater pumping or increased groundwater recharge, or both. Groundwater pumping can be reduced by converting existing irrigation (and other uses) from groundwater to imported surface water from the Snake River and Boise River. Recharge using surface water sources can also provide a net reduction in groundwater withdrawals.

1.2.4 Sources of Alternative Water Supplies

The Boise River within Ada and Elmore counties was identified as fully appropriated at most times of the year, with water available only in years of above average runoff and for limited durations. It was noted that stored water in the Boise River reservoir system or senior-priority natural flow Boise River water rights would be more reliable sources, although neither were available at that time.

The Snake River was identified as the most physically available water supply, with flows exceeding the minimum streamflow limits more than 99 percent of the time. It was noted that appropriation of Snake River water is restricted by statute and must be determined to be in the public interest.

1.2.5 Infrastructure for Water Importation

Five infrastructure alternatives for delivering Boise River water to the study area were evaluated, and nine infrastructure alternatives for delivering Snake River water to the study area were evaluated. Unit costs for delivery of Boise River water ranged from $100 to $200 per acre foot, with lower costs for alternatives with longer pumping durations. Unit costs for delivery of Snake River water ranged from $90 to $270 per acre foot. Unit costs did not include water right acquisition.

1.3 2017 Report Recommendations

The 2017 Report provided the following five recommendations.

1. **Snake River Appropriation.** The County should seek a determination from the IDWR director, through a declaratory ruling or other means, that diversion of trust water from the Snake River in Elmore County for supplemental irrigation, aquifer recharge, and municipal purposes that results in Snake River depletions of more than 2 acre feet per day are in the public interest under the criteria of Idaho Code Section 42-203C(2).

[2] Ondrechen, B., 2004. Memorandum updating water budget for Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area, Idaho Department of Water Resources

2. **Snake River to Mountain Home Value Engineering Study.** The County should conduct a value engineering study for a pumping station and pipeline from the Snake River directly north to Mountain Home. The project would provide the following benefits.
    a. A replacement supply for up to 4,000 acres that are currently irrigated with groundwater in this area. The Snake River water would be used when available to reduce groundwater diversions for aquifer stabilization purposes.
    b. A supplemental supply for participating acres within MHID. The Snake River water would be used when MHID supplies are limited due to water supply conditions.
    c. An available municipal supply for the City of Mountain Home. The water could be appropriated under a reasonably anticipated future needs application and be made available to support City growth. To the extent used, the water could be used as raw water in pressurized irrigation or be treated to support new industry and residential growth.
    d. An available supply for aquifer recharge to support municipal and existing irrigation uses. Snake River water delivered to the southern end of MHID could be exchanged for Canyon Creek water used for aquifer recharge north and west of Mountain Home in the Canyon Creek streambed, gravel pits, or Mountain Home Reservoir.
3. **Snake River to Cinder Cone Butte Value Engineering Study.** The County should conduct a value engineering study for a pumping station and pipeline from the Snake River to Cinder Cone Butte. Use of this water would be for replacing existing groundwater supplies, either by direct pumping or aquifer recharge.
4. **Boise River Reservoir Storage Space Acquisition.** The County should continue to participate in activities to obtain storage space within the Boise River reservoir system, either through development of additional storage space or through obtaining uncontracted storage.
5. **Canyon Creek Recharge Improvements.** The County should initiate or support actions to enhance recharge using runoff water from Canyon Creek or other streams crossing the Plateau.

Chapter 2 Actions Taken Since 2017 Report

The County has spent approximately $3.4M on water projects since mid-2015, with most of these expenditures following completion of the 2017 Report in February 2017. Since February 2017, the County has taken the following actions to address water supply deficits on the Mountain Home Plateau.

2.1 Water Rights

Water rights obtained by Elmore County are described below, with copies provided in Appendix A.

2.1.1 Canyon Creek Recharge Permit and License

Water right authorizations are necessary to divert water for aquifer recharge. Elmore County had achieved limited aquifer recharge using Canyon Creek runoff diverted into a gravel pit managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) northwest of Mountain Home. This recharge had been authorized under permit 61-7731 held by the Mountain Home Ground Water Advisory Committee. The permit lapsed in 2008 but he County Commissioners, recognizing the importance of recharge to local groundwater supplies, took actions to obtain necessary approvals to revive the recharge project, including the permit.

2.1.1.1 Licensing of Lapsed Permit 61-7731

The County Commissioners obtained an assignment of lapsed permit 61-7731 from the former members of the Mountain Home Ground Water Advisory Committee, along with a BLM right-of-way and temporary use permit (S.N. IDI-32357). The County Commissioners then submitted to IDWR a beneficial use field report, a permit amendment, a statement of completion, a Request to Reinstate a Permit Lapsed More than 60 Days, and the necessary filing fee. Following IDWR review, the permit was amended and then licensed on February 20, 2018. The license authorizes diversion of 22.68 cubic feet per second (cfs) and 962 acre-feet annually for groundwater recharge in two gravel pits known as the BLM Pit and the JR Simplot Company (Simplot) Pit. The priority date was advanced to June 12, 2017, to match the date that the statement of completion was submitted.

2.1.1.2 Permit 61-12314

An application for permit seeking 200 cfs from Canyon Creek for groundwater recharge was submitted to IDWR on March 3, 2017. The application listed four gravel pits (BLM, Simplot, State, and Ireland pits) as places of use. The BLM, Idaho Power Company, Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), and Cat Creek Energy submitted protests. All protests were resolved prior to hearing, and the permit was approved on May 9, 2019. Permit conditions include the following:

- Compliance with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality water quality monitoring requirements
- Monitoring of daily diversions with reporting prior to February 1 each year.

2.1.2 South Fork Boise Recharge and Supplemental Irrigation Permit

Application for permit 63-34348 seeking 200 cfs and 10,000 acre feet of storage from South Fork Boise River (SFBR) was submitted to IDWR on March 3, 2017. Proposed uses included diversion to

storage, storage in Little Camas Reservoir for groundwater recharge and irrigation, irrigation and irrigation from storage within MHID, and groundwater recharge from storage in four gravel pits (BLM, Simplot, State, and Ireland pits) northwest of Mountain Home.

The Boise Project Board of Control, numerous Boise River canal companies and irrigation districts, Cat Creek Energy, Idaho Conservation League, and the BLM protested the application. Following 8 days of hearings, the hearing office issued a Preliminary Order approving the permit. Elmore County filed a petition for reconsideration and several other parties filed exceptions resulting in an Amended Preliminary Order. Exceptions were filed to the Amended Order, resulting in the IDWR directing issuing a Final Order, which approved the application in the quantities requested, with the following significant permit conditions (paraphrased for brevity):

- In any given year, water diverted for irrigation from storage and irrigation shall not exceed 50 percent of the total volume of water diverted for all uses described by the right.
- Water for irrigation from storage and irrigation shall only be used to supplement lands irrigated with MHID water rights.
- The right holder shall only exercise this right when the Boise River is on flood release below Anderson and Lucky Peak dams.

2.1.3 Snake River Recharge and Supplemental Irrigation Permit

The county submitted application 02-10535 seeking 20 cfs of year-round diversion from the Snake River to IDWR on March 3, 2017. Proposed uses included supplemental irrigation within the MHID, groundwater recharge in four gravel pits (BLM, Simplot, State, and Ireland pits) northwest of Mountain Home, and municipal use within the City of Mountain Home.

Idaho Power Company, IDL, IWRB, Cat Creek Energy, Idaho Conservation League, and the BLM protested the application. All protests were resolved by negotiated stipulations.

The application was approved on September 12, 2025, for groundwater recharge and supplemental irrigation uses. The proposed municipal use was not approved based on a letter to IDWR from the City of Mountain Home stating that they had no plans to use the water. Significant permit conditions (paraphrased for brevity) include the following:

- This right may only be used for supplemental irrigation on the same lands within the MHID service area irrigated with MHID water rights.
- Monitoring of daily groundwater recharge diversions with reporting prior to February 1 each year.
- The right is for the use of trust water and is subject to review 5 years after the date of permit approval.

2.2 Canyon Creek Recharge System Improvement and Operation

The County diverted groundwater for recharge in gravel pits northwest of Mountain Home intermittently since 1998, using flood flows from Canyon Creek (Figure 4) located, as authorized by permit 61-7731 (200 cfs groundwater recharge and groundwater recharge storage) issued to the Mountain Home Ground Water Area (MHGWA) Advisory Committee in 1998. The MHGWA Advisory Committee constructed headgates for this purpose, and a recharge event was documented in 1999.

The Advisory Committee was disbanded in approximately 2006, and the permit lapsed in 2008. Water was diverted for recharge intermittently after 2008 during high runoff years, but volume was not documented until the large runoff event of 2017, when approximately 4,460 acre feet were recharged[3].

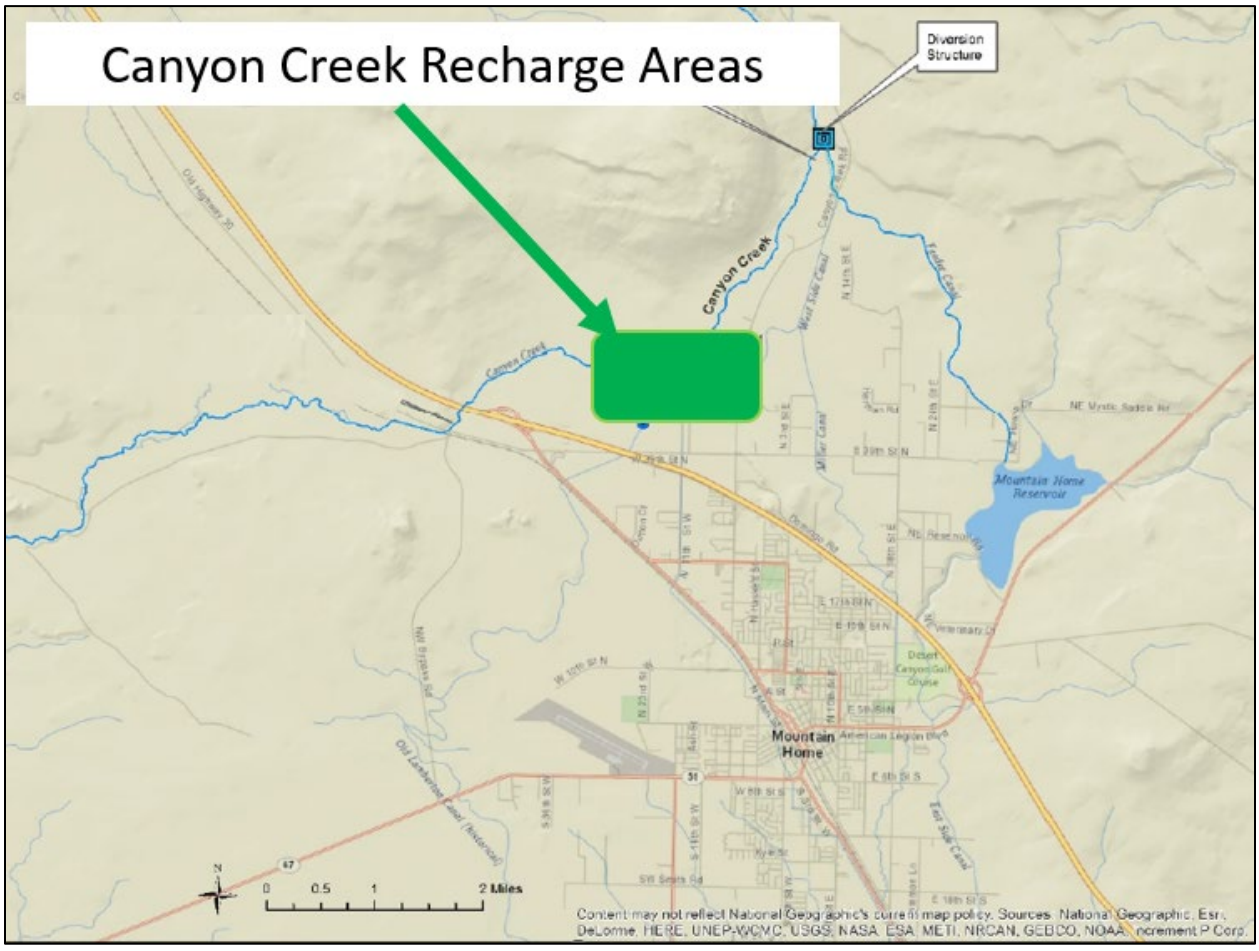


Figure 4. Recharge area vicinity map

After the 2017 event, the County received an assignment of lapsed permit 61-7731, obtained licensing of 61-7731 for 22.68 cfs and 962 acre-feet annually, and in 2019, gained approval of permit 61-12314 (200 cfs) for rates and volumes more than authorized by license 61-7731. The County also obtained an expanded right-of-way from the BLM for a recharge pit, and license agreements with Idaho Transportation Department, JR Simplot Company, and Calvin Ireland for recharge in their pits.

Elmore County entered into a $140,000 financial assistance contract with the IWRB in 2017 for recharge site upgrades. The IWRB-funded upgrades included installing check structures, headgates, culverts, and measurement weirs (Figure 5) at three sites during the winter of 2018-2019. The City of Mountain Home assisted Elmore County by boring under Mashburn Road to connect the BLM and Idaho Transportation Department pits. Photos of the groundwater recharge system improvements are provided in Appendix B.

[3] Owsley, Dennis. Summary of Canyon Creek Recharge Project – Spring 2017. IDWR Open File Report, July 2017.

Figure 5. Measurement weir for recharge inflow to the BLM gravel pit

Since the 2019 approval, recharge has occurred when flood flows were available, including 1,403 acre feet in 2019[4], 100 acre feet in 2022, 912 acre feet in 2023, 2370 acre feet in 2024, and 759 acre feet in 2025.[5] Recharge volumes have averaged approximately 1,100 acre feet annually since 2017 and 800 acre feet annually since 2019.

During each year that recharge has occurred, the County has conducted a groundwater quality monitoring program by collecting water quality samples from wells in the vicinity of the recharge sites. Water quality monitoring is conducted in accordance with a sampling plan approved by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Up to 16 wells are sampled in each sampling event, with sampling events occurring before, during, and after recharge to the extent practical. Samples from each well are analyzed in the field for pH, temperature, and conductivity, and in the laboratory for the following parameters:

[4] Elmore County – Canyon Creek Recharge Project Update. May 8, 2019 Memorandum from Terry Scanlan (SPF Water Engineering) to Roger Chase (IWRB).

[5] 61-12124 Recharge Monitoring Report for 2020 through 2025, July 10, 2025 letter from Sean Alberson P.E., (HDR Engineering) to Jacob Caraig, E.I.T. (IDWR).

- total coliform
- E. coli
- bicarbonate
- chloride
- sulfate
- calcium
- magnesium
- potassium
- sodium
- arsenic
- cadmium
- selenium
- nitrate
- phosphorus
- pH
- temperature
- conductivity

Recharge activities will continue in coming years whenever water is available for this purpose.

2.3 South Fork Boise River Diversion Project

The SFBR Diversion Project proposes to pump water from the South Fork Boise River at Anderson Ranch Reservoir to Little Camas Reservoir. The water can be delivered from Little Camas Reservoir to the Mountain Home area through the MHID delivery system. The MHID system includes 13 miles of open canal and flume, with 15 tunnels that convey water from Little Camas Reservoir within the Boise River drainage through a divide into the Canyon Creek drainage. The last tunnel discharges into the East Fork of Long Tom Creek (tributary to Canyon Creek), and the water subsequently travels through natural stream channels and Long Tom Reservoir to reach the MHID feeder canal diversion structure located 3 miles north of Mountain Home. The SFBR water can then be either diverted into the MHID system for irrigation, incidental recharge, or storage in Mountain Home Reservoir or delivered 2 to 3 miles downstream of the feeder canal diversion structure to the Canyon Creek recharge sites.

Water right authorization for the project was obtained with approval of permit 63-34348 in 2019 authorizing 200 cfs from SFBR and 10,000 acre feet of storage in Little Camas Reservoir. Permitted uses include diversion to storage, storage for groundwater recharge and irrigation, irrigation and irrigation from storage within the MHID, and groundwater recharge and groundwater recharge from storage in four gravel pits. The County is currently seeking to acquire a storage water entitlement from the Anderson Dam raise project and will also seek Water District 63 Rental Pool water when the diversion project is complete.

Since approval of the water right permit, Elmore County has proceeded with design and permitting of the project. A 60 percent design was completed in December 2025 for the pump station and pipeline. A right-of-way agreement has been secured for the private-land portion of the pipe route. Approval of the pump station and pipeline on federal land from the U.S. Forest Service is pending completion of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies. Geotechnical studies have been completed, and negotiations/investigations of power supply alternatives with Idaho Power Company are ongoing. County expenditures toward design and permitting of the project exceed $1M.

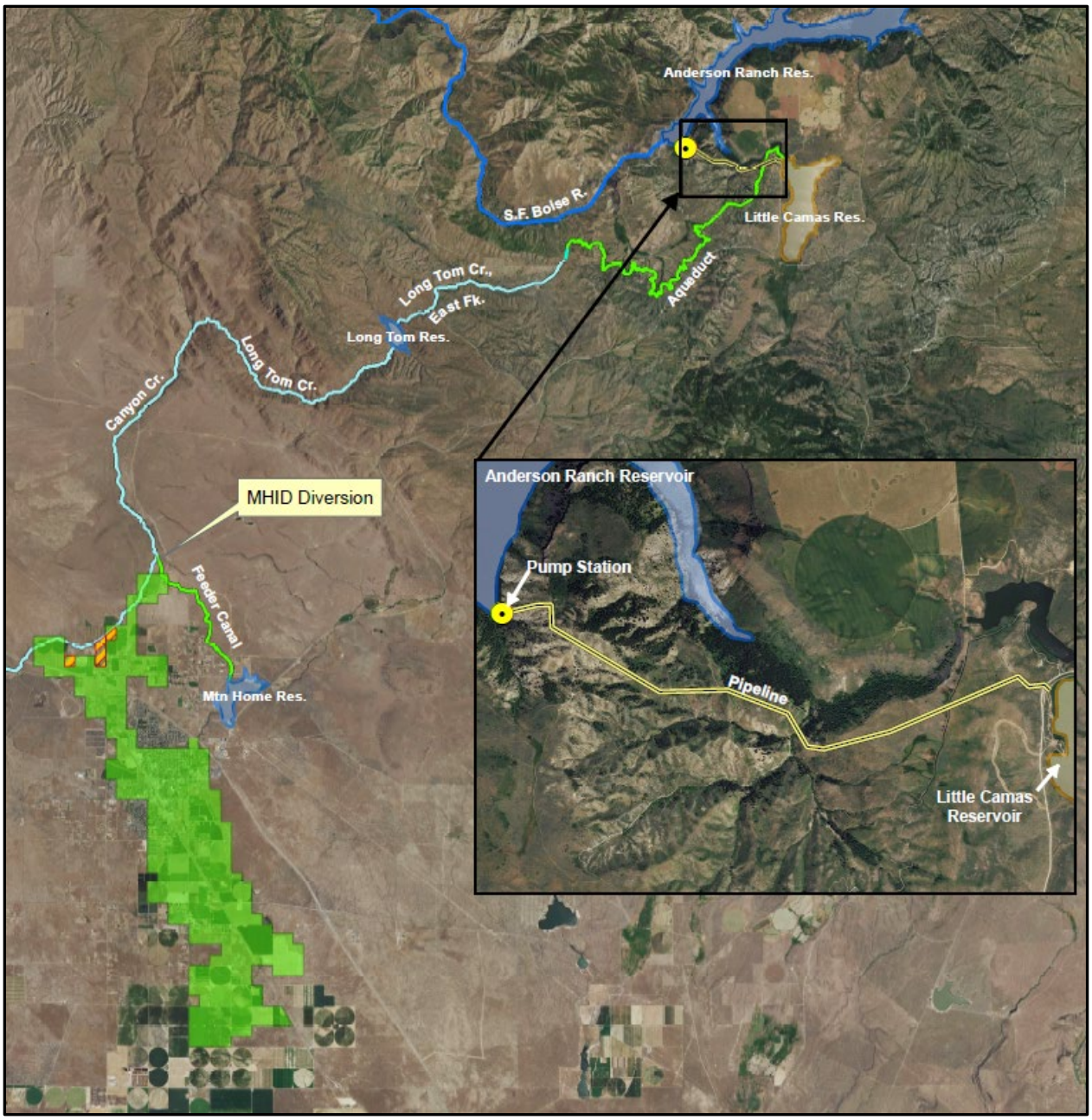


Figure 6. South Fork Boise Diversion Project Location

The 60 percent design proposes a nominal 50-cfs pump station, expandable to 70 cfs. Five 1,500-horsepower, horizontal submersible pumps are proposed initially, although the pump station is expandable for up to seven pumps and a 70 cfs flow rate. A 48-inch pipeline is proposed, with sections of either epoxy-lined and coated steel or fiberglass reinforced plastic, depending on operating pressure. The pipeline can discharge into Little Camas Reservoir or directly into the MHID Canal downstream of the reservoir. Estimated construction cost is $53.1M (+20 to -15 percent range). Idaho Power Company has quoted a cost of $19.8M to bring power to the site, for a total project cost of approximately $73M. The text of the 60 percent design report and pipeline plan and profile sheets extracted from the 60 percent design set are provided as Appendix C.

The SFBR Diversion Project has the potential to deliver approximately 10,000 acre feet annually into the Mountain Home area if operated for 100 days per year at 50 cfs. This estimate would rely on the

SFBR flood water permit for approximately 23 days per year and SFBR storage for 77 days per year. It is likely that most of this volume would be used for either direct groundwater recharge or for indirect recharge by replacing groundwater that would have been used for supplemental irrigation. A portion will also be lost to incidental recharge.

2.4 MHID Canal and Tunnel Repairs and Upgrades

The SFBR Diversion Project will rely on the MHID Canal and tunnels located between Little Camas Reservoir and the East Fork of Long Tom Creek to convey water diverted from the SFBR at Anderson Ranch Reservoir. Likewise, the MHID has relied upon the same system to deliver natural flow and storage water from Little Camas Reservoir, which is within the Boise River Basin, to the Mountain Home area for over 100 years. The annual volume currently imported from the Boise River watershed through the canal is assumed to average approximately 10,000 acre feet (i.e., 100 days at 50 cfs average flow). This imported water supports not only irrigation within MHID, but also groundwater users in the Mountain Home vicinity because approximately 50 percent of the water diverted by MHID is lost to incidental groundwater recharge in the Mountain Home vicinity.

The canal, tunnels, and flumes within the Boise River watershed have long been recognized as a weak link within the MHID delivery system. Collapse of a tunnel (as happened during the summer of 2024 at Tunnel #9) has the potential to be catastrophic for irrigators and for the SFBR Diversion Project. Repairs and upgrades of the system have been ongoing for the past several years. Projects have included:

- Permanent repair of Tunnel #9, which included pulling a steel pipe through the entirety of the tunnel.
- Partial repair, using Gunite, of tunnels #7 and #8.
- Access and equipment pad development for access of tunnels and flumes.
- Bypass pipe and headgate replacement at tunnels #7, #10, #13, and #15.
- Gunite of flumes between tunnels #2 to #3, #6 to #7, and #7 to #8.

Recognizing the importance of the delivery system to MHID and to groundwater users, funding via three Aging Infrastructure Grants for the projects has been provided by the IWRB ($1.28 million), contributions from Elmore County ($200,000) and the City of Mountain Home ($200,000), and from assessment increases to the MHID patrons.

2.5 Snake River Project

The Snake River currently provides irrigation supply to more than 30,000 acres in Elmore County. Water from the Snake River is currently used for municipal supply in Glenns Ferry and will soon be used for municipal supply to MHAFB.

Appropriation of water from the Snake River in Elmore County is currently restricted by the on-going Snake River moratorium, by policies within the State Water Plan, and by minimum flow water rights held by the IWRB at the Murphy gage located downstream of Swan Falls Dam. Despite these restrictions, water right permits can be approved if the applications meet the requirements of Idaho statutes, administrative rules, and policies, as demonstrated by the 2025 approval of the permit for Elmore County (02-10535) and pending approval of a permit for MHAFB (02-10556).

Elmore County's water right permit 02-10535 authorizes a 20-cfs diversion for supplemental irrigation within the MHID and for year-round recharge purposes at the County's Canyon Creek recharge facilities. Between groundwater recharge and reduced groundwater pumping for supplemental irrigation purposes, this permit has the potential to reduce the groundwater deficit by more than 10,000 acre feet if operated year-round. If exercised only during the irrigation season (April 15 to September 15) for supplemental irrigation and for recharge (through an exchange with MHID for Canyon Creek water), the permit could provide a 6,000 acre foot benefit to the aquifer.

The County has investigated opportunities for using existing pump station and pipeline infrastructure to deliver water under permit 02-10535.

2.6 Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model (WeSPAM)

Elmore County recognizes that although all proposed actions to import water to the Mountain Home Plateau are likely to be beneficial, the quantification of the location, magnitude, and timing of benefits cannot be accomplished without a predictive tool for this purpose. The County initiated discussions with IDWR and IWRB staff to determine the feasibility of developing a numerical model of the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer in 2020. At that time, a numerical model of the Treasure Valley Aquifer was nearing completion.

The southeast boundary of the Treasure Valley Groundwater-Flow Model is located near the border between Elmore and Ada counties. This location does not reflect a hydrologic boundary; productive aquifers beneath the Western Snake River Plain extend from southeast of Mountain Home northwest to the vicinity of the City of Payette. Given that the aquifer system is continuous throughout the Western Snake Plain, IDWR staff proposed expanding the Treasure Valley Model across the Mountain Home Plateau rather than create a distinct model for the Mountain Home area. Elmore County petitioned the IWRB at the May 2021 meeting to expand the Treasure Valley Model to create a Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model (WeSPAM). The WeSPAM model could be analogous to the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Model (ESPAM), and similarly used for evaluating transfers, mitigation plans, reductions, and curtailment actions.

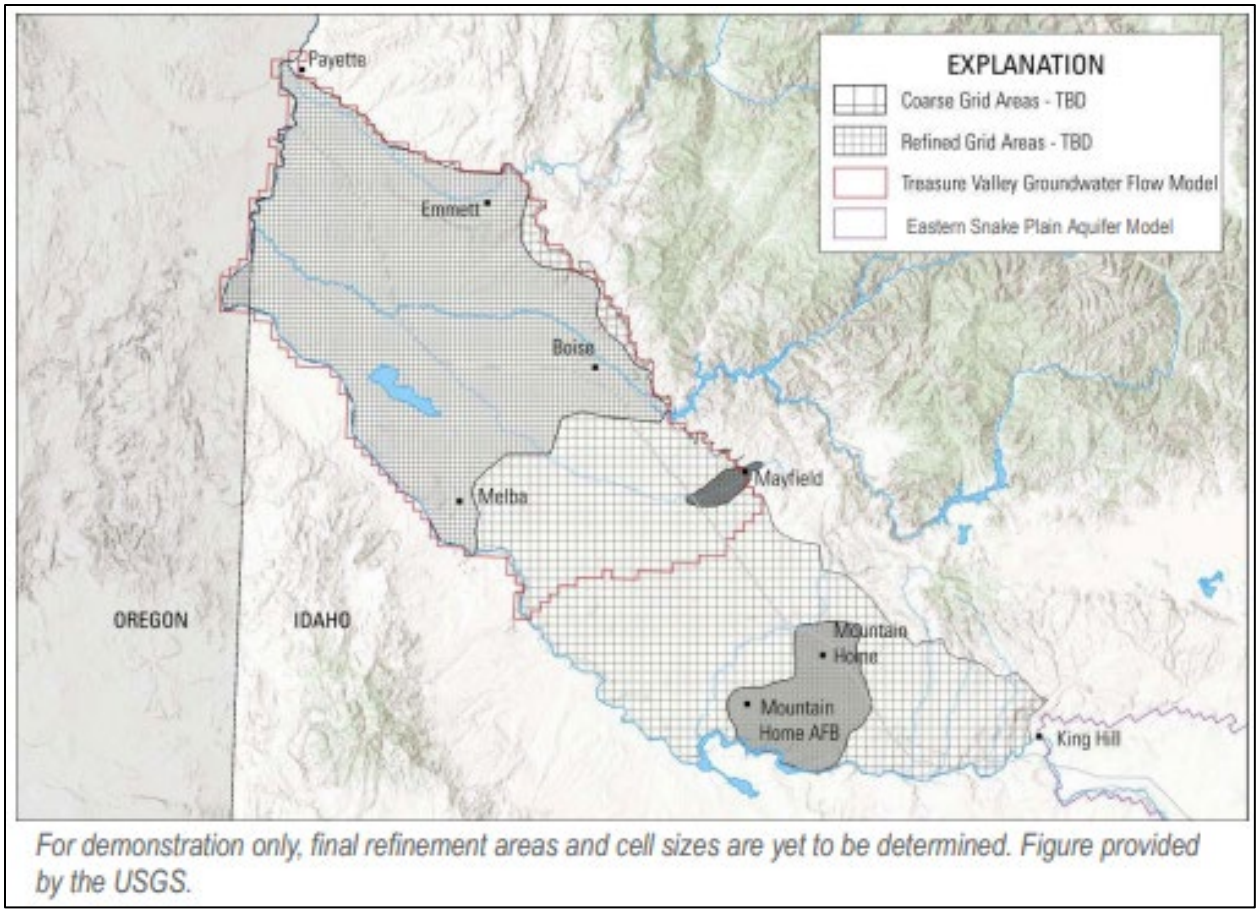


Figure 7. Preliminary WeSPAM model area

IWRB approved the concept of expanding the model. The following actions have occurred.

- In January 2022, the IWRB passed a resolution for a $750,000, 3.5-year hydrologic study of the Mountain Home area.
- Later in 2022, the IWRB entered into agreements with IDWR and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for water budget, hydrologic framework, and groundwater level measurement work.
- In the spring and fall of 2024, an IDWR contractor drilled five monitoring wells within the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer, collected borehole geophysical data, and installed water level transducers.
- The IWRB passed a resolution for $850,000 over FY25-FY28 to construct the WeSPAM.
- The USGS published a hydrogeologic framework report for the Mountain Home area in January 2025.[6]
- In June 2025, IDWR released an update of groundwater conditions in the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area and Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area.[7]

[6] Hydrogeologic framework of the Mountain Home area, southern Idaho

[7] Update of Groundwater Conditions in the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area and Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area

- A Model Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) meeting was held in Mountain Home on August 26, 2025, attended by representatives from IDWR, USGS, Elmore County, and Mountain Home Irrigation District.[8] [9] [10] A second MTAC meeting was held in Boise on March 10, 2026.
- A groundwater budget for the Mountain Home Area in 2022-2023 was completed by the USGS, as described in a report dated February 26, 2026.[11] The budget information will help inform the WeSPAM model work.

When the model is complete, it will be able to evaluate the impact of various water management actions. Scenarios can be developed to show the groundwater-level effects of initiation or cessation of groundwater pumping in various areas, reductions in groundwater diversions, increases in aquifer recharge, or curtailment of water rights that are junior to a specific date.

2.7 Elmore County Community Outreach

Elmore County has initiated outreach to the local community to seek input on local and regional water supply issues.

2.7.1 Water Resource Survey

In 2023, the County conducted a survey to understand the community's current understanding of the water issues in the region and the level of support for potential solutions. More than 1,145 people participated in the survey. Results showed a high awareness of groundwater problems facing Elmore County.[12] Of the survey respondents that use private wells, 23 percent reported having experienced water level decline and 14 percent reported having had to deepen their wells.[13]

2.7.2 Elmore County Water Resources Webpage

Since 2022, the County has maintained a water resources web page[14] on the County website. The web page includes links to news, current water projects, and past studies.

2.7.3 Water Advisory Group

A Water Advisory Group (WAG) meets approximately quarterly to discuss County water projects and initiatives. WAG meetings are open to the public and attendees typically include a County Commissioner, County consultants, interested water users and community members, and representatives from MHAFB, MHID, Elmore Soil and Water Conservation District, and Water District 161. In addition, while participation by the City of Mountain Home has historically been inconsistent,

[8] Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model Introduction and Background

[9] Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model Scope and Objectives

[10] 20250826-MTAC-USGS-Modeling-Approach.pdf

[11] Groundwater budget for the Mountain Home area, southern Idaho, 2022–23 | U.S. Geological Survey

[12] Water-Resources-Survey-Report.pdf

[13] Water Resources Infographic

[14] Elmore County Water Resources - Elmore County, Idaho

a City Council member has been regularly attending these meetings since 2025. The meetings provide updates on various water matters and allow for community input.

2.8 Economic Study

The County authorized Triple Point Consulting to conduct a study of the impacts of a water delivery call that would reduce pumping from the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer by 40,000 acre feet. The study[15] found that a delivery call reducing groundwater pumping in Elmore County by 40,000 acre feet would result in a $424M annual reduction in total economic output and a loss of 2000 jobs. The study then examined the effects of five water supply improvement scenarios following curtailment. As would be expected, each scenario provided significant economic improvement compared to curtailment, with scenarios providing a net increase in total water supply following curtailment resulting in significant economic growth.

2.9 Historical Research

The County commissioned a study of past water supply improvement proposal in the Mountain Home area. The resultant historical report[16] found that community leaders have sought to improve the water supply in the Mountain Home vicinity for more than 100 years. Beginning in the 1940s, plans for various projects were approved but never completed. Several of these proposals included the Anderson Dam project where the Bureau of Reclamation indicated that the dam would "serve as a source of supply for irrigation of the 400,000-acre Mountain Home area," including 110,000 irrigated acres within a project area designated the "Long Tom Unit". Bureau of Reclamation's proposed projects included

- Payette Unit, Mountain Home Project (Payette Unit Exchange Agreement) in the 1940s
- Sloan's Boise River Valley Pumping Exchange Plan in the 1950s
- Guffey Unit Exchange Proposal, Mountain Home Division in the 1950s and 1960s
- Mountain Home Division, Southwestern Idaho Water Development Project in the 1960s.

The failure of federal projects to materialize then led to development of privately financed Snake River and groundwater irrigated projects in the 1960 and 1970s. The extensive groundwater development within this period resulted in over appropriation of the groundwater resource with declaration of the CCBCGWA in 1981 and the MHGWMA in 1982.

2.10 Legislative Efforts

Elmore County actively monitors activities within the Idaho Legislature and has contracted with a lobbyist to provide guidance on potential legislation that can impact water development activities. The County recognizes that it may need to work the legislature to modify existing statutes to support operation of proposed projects or may need to obtain legislative appropriations for construction and operation of projects.

---

[15] *Economic Impacts of Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives* - Triple Point Consulting, December 2024

[16] *The History of Reclamation Efforts on the Mountain Home Plateau* - Historical Research Associates, April 2025 The History of Reclamation Efforts on the Mountain Home Plateau

2.11 Funding

In addition to continued partnership with the Idaho Water Resource Board, Elmore County is actively pursuing a diversified funding strategy to advance these projects. Due to the scale of infrastructure required, many traditional funding sources are insufficient on their own. The County has demonstrated significant local commitment by self-funding preliminary project development efforts, including completion of the 60 percent design for the South Fork Boise River Diversion Project, pre-NEPA activities, and associated consultant and legal team costs across all projects. The County has also self-funded procurement of critical water rights necessary to advance these efforts. In addition, the County received a $280,000 grant from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to support initial engineering for the SFBR Diversion Project. Since July 2015, the County has invested more than $3.35 million in local funds toward water supply development.

The County is coordinating with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to evaluate opportunities under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), specifically to support development of the Snake River Project. The proximity and regional importance of Mountain Home Air Force Base provide a strong nexus for additional federal funding opportunities that are uniquely available to this area, particularly where projects enhance water supply reliability, community resilience, and long-term mission sustainability. These opportunities include potential alignment with Department of Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) funding. In addition, the County is evaluating other federal and state programs, as well as bonding and local financing mechanisms, to ensure these projects are positioned to move forward as funding opportunities arise and to maximize leverage of IWRB investments.

Chapter 3 Proposed Future Actions

The seven proposed future actions listed below will contribute to stabilization of the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer. These actions are:

- South Fork Boise River Final Design, Permitting, and Construction
- Mountain Home Irrigation District Canal Repairs and Upgrades
- Snake River Alternatives Study
- Water Right Permit for Soft Conversions of Groundwater to Snake River Water Supplies
- Snake River Pump Station and Pipeline Design, Permitting, and Construction
- Evaluation of Groundwater Districts and Other Entity Types for Operation
- Revive the Mountain Home Ground Water Area Advisory Committee and complete a Ground Water Management Plan for the MHGWMA.

None of these projects stand alone. Instead, each project depends on facets of some or all of the other projects to meet the County's goal of stabilizing water levels in the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer near Mountain Home and MHAFB and providing water supply for domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial growth within the area. The projects, in combination, can increase importation of Boise River and Snake River water supplies by more than 30,000 acre feet annually, resulting in a similar reduction in net groundwater withdrawals from the aquifer. Successful implementation of these projects can provide a roadmap for future projects to potentially address declining aquifer levels in the Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area.

3.1 South Fork Boise River Final Design, Permitting, and Construction

Following completion of the 60 percent level design of SFBR pump station and pipeline in late 2025, the County recently approved a proposal to complete 90 percent design work in 2026. Thus far, the County has self-funded this design work.

Before proceeding to final design and construction, several other tasks need to be completed, including the following:

- SFBR Pump Station and Pipeline NEPA and Right-of-Way. The County will need to complete the environmental studies associated with the pump station and first half mile of pipeline before construction can begin. The U.S. Forest Service will need to allocate resources to allow the County to complete this permitting process in a timely manner.
- Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Confirmation and Storage Allocation. Although the SFBR project can go forward with water right permit 63-34348 and potential annual rental of storage from Water District 63, having guaranteed access to storage water from the Anderson Dam raise project will significantly increase the feasibility of the SFBR project. The County continues to work with IWRB to obtain an allocation of 10,000 acre feet of storage space.
- Idaho Power Company. A substantial portion of the SFBR project cost is associated with extending power and constructing a substation. The County has been evaluating alternatives to decrease these costs. Long lead times are anticipated for transformers and other components, and orders will potentially need to be placed 2 years or more in advance of delivery.

- Project Construction and Operation Funding. A construction funding package must be secured for the project. The County will investigate multiple sources for construction funding, including both state and federal grants and bonding. Funding will also need to be obtained to operate the project. A district will likely be formed for long-term operation and ownership of the project as discussed in Section 3.5.

The County would like to have a shovel-ready project by 2028 to take advantage of any funding opportunities that occur and to complete construction activities within the reservoir pool concurrently with the water-level drawdown for the dam raise project.

3.2 Mountain Home Irrigation District Canal Repairs and Upgrades

As previously described, the MHID Canal delivers water from Little Camas Reservoir (within the South Fork Boise River watershed) into the East Fork of Long Tom Creek (within the Canyon Creek watershed). The conveyance is an excavated canal with 14 tunnel sections that were constructed in the early 1900s. MHID has experienced cave-ins in their tunnels and has been repairing them, as necessary, to put the canal back in service as quickly as possible. The repairs are typically isolated to the area of the cave-in and do not address full lengths of tunnels. These repairs reduce the cross-sectional area of the tunnels, which reduces hydraulic capacity. The tunnels are well over 100 years old and were not lined when originally constructed. Their age and lack of lining create a failure risk every irrigation season.

The MHID currently has secured an Aging Infrastructure Grant for rehabilitation of tunnels 1 through 8, 11, 12, and 14. The Grant also authorizes access improvements and flume repairs.

In 2026, the County would like to evaluate the canal and tunnel system to further optimize upgrades and repairs. A seepage study is needed to identify the canal reaches that are losing excess water to seepage that does not benefit the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer. With that knowledge, alternatives for reducing seepage losses can be developed. Alternatives for reducing tunnel failure risk would also be addressed. The County currently holds a proposed scope of work and cost estimate of $158,400 for this study in Appendix D. The County has not yet approved the contract and hopes to obtain funding assistance for the study from the IWRB.

Completion of the seepage and tunnel study would allow MHID to plan for currently unfunded system upgrades, including seeking funding from federal, state, and local agencies. These repairs and upgrades will complement the County's SFBR pump station and pipeline project and help to ensure that water for aquifer recharge and irrigation can continue to flow into the Mountain Home area.

3.3 Snake River Projects

3.3.1 Alternatives Study

The currently authorized point of diversion for Elmore County's 20-cfs Snake River water right permit 02-10535 is the MHAFB pump station site. This site was selected in 2017 when it appeared that there was potential for the County to share facilities with the IWRB project being developed to support MHAFB. A pipeline would have extended from MHAFB to the City of Mountain Home. That potential for infrastructure sharing no longer exists. Based on these changed circumstances, the previously proposed pump station and pipeline locations may not be the optimum locations. Instead,

a shorter, more cost-effective pipeline route extending from the Snake River north to Mountain Home may make more sense. Likely alternatives include sharing an existing pump station owned and operated by Clover Hollow Company and South Elmore Irrigation Company, or a new pump station near the Highway 51 bridge or near the mouth of Rattlesnake Creek. The pump station and pipeline would be the first phase of the County's Snake River development project.

The County also recognizes an opportunity to facilitate supply of Snake River water to groundwater irrigated farms located outside of MHID. In areas south and southwest of Mountain Home, more than 6,000 acres are irrigated exclusively from groundwater. If these lands could be irrigated from the Snake River, the groundwater deficit in the County could be reduced by up to 15,000 acre feet annually. The County would like to evaluate locations for a nominal 100-cfs pump station and pipeline to supply these lands and then apply for a permit for supplemental irrigation purposes. This pump station and pipeline would be a second phase of Snake River development project.

The County currently holds a proposed scope of work and cost estimate of $207,400 for this study in Appendix E. The County has not yet approved the contract and hopes to obtain funding assistance for the study from the IWRB. The studies would evaluate three potential pump station locations south of Mountain Home, with a capacity of 20 cfs for Phase 1 and an additional 100 cfs for Phase 2. For each alternative, the studies will describe the required facilities (pump size, pipeline diameter, routes, site improvements, power upgrades, etc.). The need for booster stations and storage ponds will be assessed and included if required. A conceptual level cost estimate (AACE Level 4) will be provided for each alternative, along with an estimate of operating costs per acre foot delivered. Pros and cons for each site will be discussed, including access issues, power supply, environmental permitting, and known easement issues. The conceptual descriptions will be adequate for the County to choose their preferred alternative(s). As part of this work, the County will provide initial liaison with existing pump station owners and with landowners in the southern portion of the Mountain Home Irrigation District.

3.3.2 Water Right Permit for Soft Conversions of Groundwater to Snake River Water Supplies

Phase 2 of the Snake River Alternative Study will evaluate potential pump station location and pipeline routing alternatives for a 100-cfs project to deliver Snake River water to irrigated agricultural lands located south and southwest of Mountain Home. Approximately 6,000 acres are currently groundwater irrigated within 8 miles of the Snake River in this area. These "soft conversions" allow groundwater users to switch to surface water as a primary water source, using Snake River supplies at such times when the water is available but maintaining the ability to pump groundwater if surface water is not available due to mechanical problems or priority curtailment. If successfully constructed and implemented, the project could reduce groundwater pumping by up to 15,000 acre feet annually and thereby stabilize and potentially begin recovering groundwater levels in the area around Mountain Home and MHAFB.

To implement such a project, a water right permit is required. The County could apply for the permit, with authorization from landowners that would receive water. The County would need to show how appropriation of Snake River trust water is in the public interest and conforms to the goals of the State Water Plan because it will:

(1) be regulated to fully respect and comply with minimum streamflow water rights at Murphy and Weiser,

(2) stabilize or recover aquifer levels and potentially stabilize or increase groundwater inflows to the Snake River;

(3) provide a supplemental source of water for irrigation of existing lands;

(4) conjunctively manage surface water and groundwater; and

(5) provide regional economic benefits.

Over the most recent 20-year period (2006-2025), the annual volume of water in excess of the minimum streamflow at Murphy has averaged 2.64 million acre feet (3,641 cfs average flow), with 1.14 million acre feet (1,577 cfs average flow) above the minimum flow during the lowest flow year (2022). These volumes demonstrate that there is a significant amount of water available for appropriation if applications meet the relatively narrow statutory, administrative, and policy requirements for Snake River appropriations.

3.3.3 Snake River Pump Station and Pipeline

Design, funding, construction, and operation of a 20-cfs pump station and pipeline to supply water right permit 02-10535 is Phase 1 of the Snake River project. If the County can obtain a Snake River water right for soft conversions of currently groundwater irrigated lands south of Mountain Home, this pump station or a separate pump station would provide an additional 100 cfs as Phase 2. Locations and sizing of the pump station(s) and pipelines will depend on the results of the currently proposed alternative study.

The schedule for implementing the Snake River pump station and pipeline project will depend on (1) results of the proposed alternatives study, and (2) whether a Phase 2 water right permit is approved. It is possible that the alternatives study will identify existing infrastructure that can be upgraded to supply permit 02-10535, in which case Phase 1 of the project can proceed within the next few years. Alternatively, Phase 2 may take more than 5 to 10 years to obtain a water right permit, followed by BLM right-of-way permit, design, funding, and construction.

3.4 Estimated Total Aquifer Benefits of Projects

The annual groundwater deficit on the Mountain Home Plateau has been estimated to be in the range of 30,000 to 40,000 acre feet. Areas of water level decline generally correlate with areas of high-volume pumping and associated deficit, and include Cinder Cone Butte, south-southwest of Mountain Home, west of MHAFB, MHAFB, and City of Mountain Home. The amount of water needed for aquifer stabilization in these areas will be better defined upon completion of the WeSPAM model. The currently operating and proposed recharge and conversion projects seek to eliminate the annual deficit and provide water for economic growth. Estimated benefits from the proposed projects are summarized in Table 1 below. A relative timeline of actions associated with these projects is provided as Figure 8.

Table 1. Estimated Total Aquifer Benefits of Existing and Proposed Projects

Project	Assumptions	Annual Benefit (af)	Annual Benefit (af) by Project	Cumulative Annual Benefit (af)
Canyon Creek Recharge	Canyon Creek flood water	1,100	1,100	1,100
MHAFB Sustainability	Snake River supply; based on 2010-2014 avg	1,630	1,630	2,730
SF Boise Diversion	SF Boise Flood water (50 cfs x 23 days avg avail)	2,300	7,800	5,030
	Anderson Dam Raise (10Kaf, fills 50% of years)	5,000		10,030
	Rental Pool - assumed available	500		10,530
Snake River Phase 1	Supplemental Irrigation (20 cfs x 60 days)	2,400	21,000	12,930
	Recharge (20 cfs x 90 days); MHID exchange	3,600		16,530
Snake River Phase 2	5000 acres S-SW of Mtn Home converted at 3 af/ac	15,000		31,530

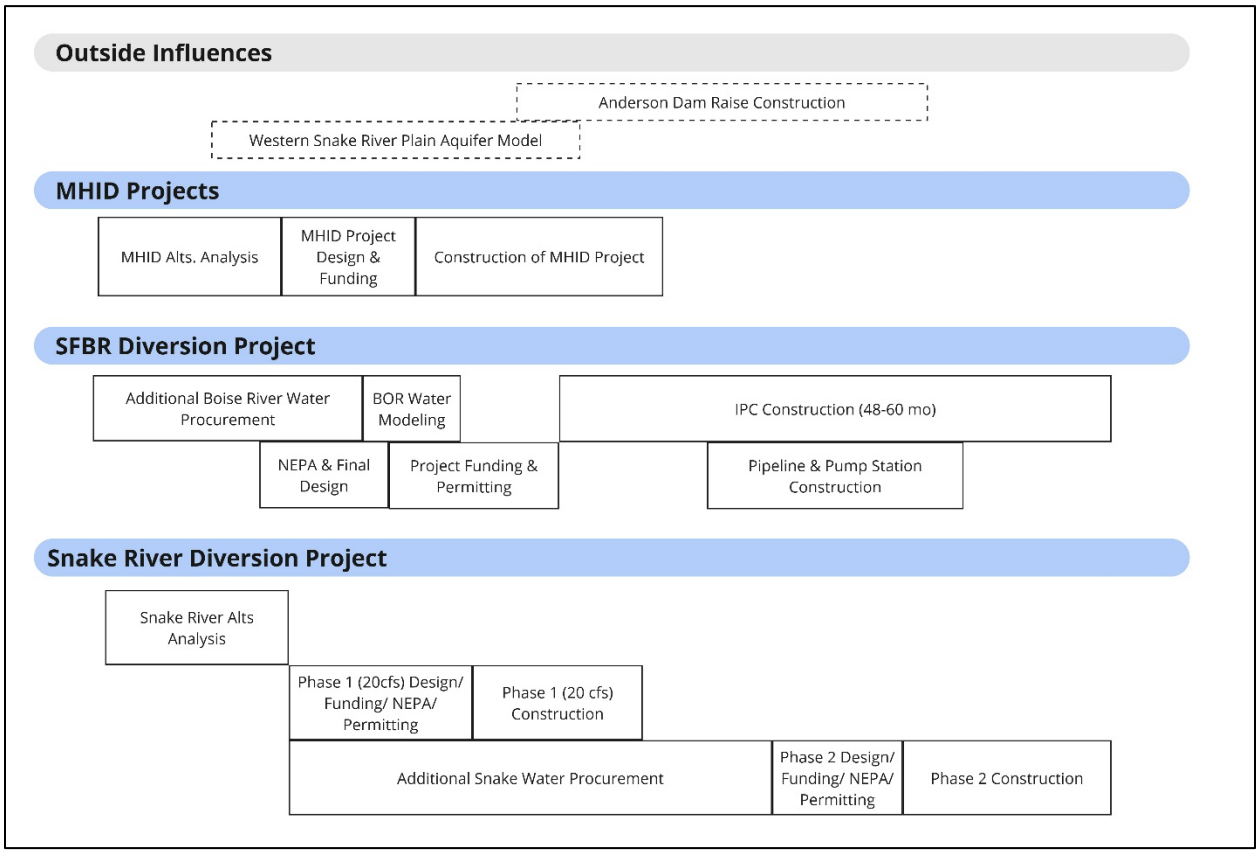


Figure 8. Relative timeline of project activities

3.5 Evaluation of Post-Construction Operation Entity such as a Groundwater District

IWRB has requested that a section of this report address the County's consideration of the entity that will ultimately own and operate these water projects post-construction. According to IWRB, it would be unusual for a county government to operate large water projects on an ongoing basis, and IWRB has suggested the County consider a groundwater district (GWD) as a possible operational entity.

The Elmore County Commissioners agree with IWRB's suggestion that post-construction, these water projects would ideally be owned and operated by one or more special purpose districts whose

members benefit from its projects. The County Commissioners anticipate assigning the County's water permits to one or more districts for that purpose at the appropriate time.

Before discussing IWRB's specific suggestion to consider a GWD, some historical context regarding the events leading up to Elmore County's taking ownership of this regional challenge will be helpful.

3.5.1 Historical Context

3.5.1.3 Mountain Home GWMA Advisory Committee

As previously referenced, IDWR created the MHGWMA in 1982. It also issued an order[17] establishing the Mountain Home Ground Water Area Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) in 1996. Membership in the Advisory Committee included representation from the City of Mountain Home, MHID, Elmore County, MHAFB, the well-drilling industry, the irrigation community, domestic water users, and industrial water users. Among other things, the Advisory Committee was established to:

> "Develop a draft groundwater management plan" for the area;
>
> "Develop and propose implementation of a groundwater recharge program;"
>
> "Serve as a forum for communication of water related issues with the community", and
>
> "[S]eek a consensus on solutions that are beneficial to all parties."

In 1997, the Advisory Committee filed application for permit no. 61-7731 for aquifer recharge from Canyon Creek. IDWR issued the water permit in 1998, and in that same year, BLM issued a right-of-way approval for use of federal lands associated with the proposed recharge activities. However, the Advisory Committee's activities effectively ceased in 2006. The Advisory Committee failed to pursue development of this permit, and it lapsed pursuant to IDWR order in 2008.

Elmore County began taking concrete steps to address the groundwater deficit in 2014-2015. In 2017, the Advisory Committee reconstituted itself for the specific purpose of assigning the Canyon Creek recharge permit to Elmore County. To the extent the Advisory Committee intended to resume its water supply improvement efforts that ceased in 2006, this would have been the natural time for it to do so. Instead, it actively chose to cede those activities to the County. In the formal permit assignment document, the Advisory Committee stated among other things, that:

> The Advisory Committee "has no interest in becoming an active Committee" and "does not intend to become active in the foreseeable future;" and
>
> Elmore County's expenditure of public funds to improve the groundwater supply "have served a genuine need" and are "in the best interests of the public of Elmore County…."

As a result, Elmore County acquired the lapsed permit and successfully reinstated it later in 2017. That permit has now been licensed and is one of the water rights pursuant to which the County engages in recharge activities when water is available, through infrastructure jointly funded by the County and IWRB.

[17] Order Establishing the Mountain Home Ground Water Area Advisory Committee | June 6, 1996 | idwr.idaho.gov

3.5.1.4 Unfulfilled 2004 Legislative Working Group Recommendations

In addition to the activities of the local Advisory Committee, in 2004, the Idaho Legislature's Expanded Natural Resources Interim Committee formed the Mountain Home Working Group (Working Group) in order to "hear local concerns, discuss groundwater conditions, and analyze strategies to address the [water supply] issues and concerns specific to the Mountain Home area." The Working Group's efforts culminated in the issuance of its "Final Report and Recommendations" on December 6, 2004. Those recommendations included:

> That the Advisory Committee "complete and submit to IDWR a recommended [ground water] management plan….;"
>
> That IDWR "reconsider the boundaries of the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area and the Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area, and redefine the boundaries of a [*sic*] areas for ground water management to match physical evidence of declining water levels and areas of water supply;"
>
> Adoption of "legislation that would authorize the creation of an umbrella aquifer management authority with broad authority for inclusion of ground water users, for implementing actions to address water shortages, and for equitably assessing all water users to finance the actions;" and
>
> Allocating funds "to IDWR for installation of dedicated monitoring wells…to provide valuable and accurate data for evaluating the aquifer conditions and changes."

Generally speaking, most of the Working Group's recommendations have thus far gone unfulfilled. To the best of the County Commissioners' knowledge, any attention the recommendations have received (such as installation of dedicated monitoring wells) has been a result of the more recent efforts by the County and IWRB—not efforts pursued in the immediate aftermath of the 2004 report. The County, however, recently (i.e., March 19, 2026) learned that a draft management plan was submitted to IDWR in 2006, but no evidence has been found that the plan was approved by the Director.

In short, the County Commissioners began taking ownership of the regional water supply deficit in 2014 to fill the void created by the dissolution of the Advisory Committee and the lack of concrete responses to the Working Group's 2004 report. This historical context is an important predicate to the County's consideration of appropriate operational mechanisms.

3.5.1.5 GWD Formation on the ESPA and Local Groundwater Model Development

It is also worth recognizing that, to the County's knowledge, all of the existing GWDs within the State of Idaho have been formed in response to existing or imminent delivery call actions seeking to curtail junior groundwater diversions. The history of GWD formation within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) and its tributary basins demonstrates that, if a delivery call action is filed on the Mountain Home Plateau, a grass roots effort to form a GWD or other appropriate special purpose district is a likely outcome. So, from the County's perspective, the question posed by IWRB at this time relates to how to approach the operational question for as long as the current situation remains the status quo (*i.e.*, in which there is a known annual groundwater deficit that lowers the local groundwater table each year, but the lack of any formal requests for water right administration has not yet prompted the formation of such a district).

Another factor worth recognizing is the fact that the groundwater model for the area is currently under development. According to the most recent update from IDWR staff of which the County is

aware, model development activities are expected to continue through the end of 2028. Until the model is complete, specifically identifying the lands benefiting from these projects and, hence, who should finance their operations on an ongoing basis, is difficult. The Working Group specifically recognized this in their recommendation to "reconsider…and redefine the boundaries…for ground water management" to more closely align with tangible benefits.

3.5.2 Discussion of GWDs and Other Operational Options

Subject to the above reminders, at IWRB's suggestion, the County Commissioners have studied the GWD Act in Title 42, Chapter 52 of the Idaho Code. GWDs have clearly been an effective tool for operating aquifer recharge projects and surface supply projects replacing groundwater withdrawals on the ESPA, and it appears to the County Commissioners that a GWD could be helpful on the Mountain Home Plateau, as well.

Candidly, the County Commissioners' primary concern about GWDs as they are currently established under Idaho law relates to how they allocate expenses for operating water projects. As the County understands, the GWD Act currently places the primary financial responsibility for ongoing operational costs on groundwater "irrigators." *See* Idaho Code § 42-5214(1). While there are mechanisms for non-irrigators to "opt in" to a GWD, *see* Idaho Code § 42-5210(3), history demonstrates that participation is much more likely to occur in response to an active or imminent delivery call.

The County Commissioners believe the costs for these regional water supply projects should be borne by a broader group of stakeholders than just groundwater irrigators. The Working Group specifically recognized this concern in its 2004 report recommendation for legislation that would create "an umbrella aquifer management authority…for equitably assessing all water users to finance the actions" necessary to address the groundwater deficit. Similarly, a draft goal presented in a recent Elmore County Water Supply workshop (February 13, 2026) was to "ensure that the costs of aquifer stabilization and surface water development are shared equitably among all beneficiaries of improved groundwater supply reliability, in a manner that reflects economic benefits while avoiding subsidy and disproportionate financial burden on any one economic sector."

While there are irrigation components to both of the County's current water permits, there are also aquifer recharge components that will directly or indirectly benefit everyone in the region. Clearly, landowners who receive water from the City of Mountain Home's municipal wells or from their own individual wells will benefit from improved aquifer conditions.

In addition, a significant impetus for the County to continue its water supply development efforts is to verify there is a viable economy and community to support the needs of the MHAFB. The MHAFB is a critical engine of the regional economy, and its superior airspace and buffer from urban development make it a coveted military installation that is important to national security. As the Working Group recognized in 2004, these unique considerations mean that solutions that have worked elsewhere in the state may need to be tweaked to equitably and sustainably allocate costs for water supply projects on the Mountain Home Plateau.

Idaho law already establishes other types of special purpose districts that could be part of the solution. For example:

- Irrigation districts may exercise the same authorities as GWDs. See Idaho Code § 42-5275. There is already an existing irrigation district in the Mountain Home area.

- Aquifer protection districts may charge fees to landowners whose lands benefit from improved aquifer conditions. See Idaho Code § 39-508(2).
- Drainage districts also provide an example of a framework for allocating costs to lands benefiting from a district and its projects. See Idaho Code §§ 42-2903, 42-2914.
- Neighboring states such as Utah have created other types of special purpose districts, such as water conservancy districts, that could inform this process. See Utah Code Ann. §§ 17B-2a-1001, et seq.

The County has established ongoing relationships with government relations firm Primus Policy Group and governmental financial advisory firm Clearwater Financial. While the state continues to develop the local groundwater model, the County intends to continue to work with its legal and financial advisors and its legislative delegation to further evaluate these options and whether updates to existing Idaho law would be helpful for equitably allocating operational costs for projects on the Mountain Home Plateau.

3.6 Ground Water Management Plan

At a recent (March 18, 2026) meeting with IWRB staff, it was suggested that the County consider completing and implementing a Ground Water Management Plan (GWMP). A GWMP is described in Idaho Code § 42-233b as follows:

> *When a ground water management area is designated by the director of the department of water resources, or at any time thereafter during the existence of the designation, the director may approve a ground water management plan for the area. The ground water management plan shall provide for managing the effects of ground water withdrawals on the aquifer from which withdrawals are made and on any other hydraulically connected sources of water.*

Establishment of a GWMP will require reconstituting the MHGWA Advisory Committee as described in the 1996 order. The draft plan that was submitted in 2006 could be reviewed, updated, and submitted to the Director for approval. An approved GWMP could then be used as the formal guidance document for actions seeking to stabilize ground water levels within the MHGWMA.

The attendees of the current quarterly WAG meetings led by the County have a composition similar to that of the Advisory Committee mandated by the 1996 order. Several of those attendees would likely agree to serve on a new MHGWA Advisory Committee. The County could present to the IDWR Director a list of representatives for the Advisory Committee. Following Director approval, the Advisory Committee could work with IWRB to develop a GWMP as part of a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program.

Chapter 4 Summary

A 2017 study of water supply within the Mountain Home Plateau was jointly funded by Elmore County and the IWRB. The study found groundwater levels were declining within the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer at rates ranging from 0 to more than 2 feet per year. Declines were occurring in areas of concentrated pumping, including CCBCGWA, east and west of MHAFB, and on the south side of Mountain Home. Groundwater levels were largely stable in other areas, including north of

Mountain Home and in the Mayfield area, because of local recharge or minimal groundwater pumping in those areas.

The declining water table prevents new groundwater development and associated economic growth and also presents a threat of future water right curtailment with severe economic impacts. The 2017 study determined that groundwater levels could be stabilized by converting existing groundwater uses to surface water sources and by aquifer recharge. Both actions would require importation of water supplies from the Boise River or Snake River. Infrastructure alternatives for water importation were presented.

Since 2017, Elmore County has actively sought to improve the regional water supply at a cost of approximately $3M. These actions include

1. obtaining water right permits for recharge and supplemental irrigation purposes from South Fork Boise River, Snake River, and Canyon Creek
2. Canyon Creek aquifer recharge site improvements and operation
3. South Fork Boise River pump station and pipeline initial design and permitting
4. MHID canal and tunnel improvements
5. seeking allocation of 10,000 acre feet of storage space as part of the Anderson Ranch Dam raise project
6. petitioning the IWRB for creation of a numerical model to evaluate water management actions on the Mountain Home Plateau,
7. community outreach activities including (1) a survey of residents to determine water resource awareness, (2) creation of a county water resources webpage to disseminate information about local water resources, and (3) formation of a local water advisory group,
8. economic study to determine the impacts of potential water right curtailment,
9. historical research to provide context for current county water resource improvement efforts
10. ongoing legislative presence to monitor water legislation and to provide guidance for future legislative activities.

Currently proposed actions include the following:

1. Develop the SFBR water supply, including (1) acquisition of Anderson Ranch Reservoir storage and (2) pump station and pipeline final design, permitting, funding, and construction.
2. Improve the MHID canal and tunnel system, including (1) ongoing infrastructure repair projects and (2) a canal and tunnel study to (a) determine areas of seepage loss, (b) define projects to stabilize the canal and tunnels, and (c) minimize canal losses outside of the Mountain Home Plateau aquifer watershed.
3. Develop Snake River water supplies by (1) an alternative study to determine optimum locations for pump stations and pipelines to supply the County’s existing 20-cfs water right permit and a future permit for large scale conversion of groundwater irrigated lands to the Snake River source, (2) application for a Snake River water right permit for soft conversion of groundwater irrigated lands, and (3) design, permitting, funding, and construction of pump

stations and pipelines to supply Snake River water for recharge and groundwater to surface water conversions.

4. Form one or more districts (groundwater district or similar entity) to own and operate water supply improvement projects.
5. Reconstitute the MHGWA Advisory Committee and complete a GWMP for the MHGWMA. Upon approval of the plan by the IDWR Director, the GWMP could serve as a guidance document for a Mountain Home Plateau Water Sustainability Program.

Appendix A. Water Rights Obtained Since 2017

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Water Right License

WATER RIGHT NO. 61-07731

PRIORITY: June 12, 2017

Maximum Diversion Rate: 22.68 CFS
Maximum Diversion Volume: 962.0 AF

It is hereby certified that:

ELMORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ELMORE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
150 S 4TH E STE 3 MOUNTAIN HOME ID 83647

has complied with the terms and conditions of the permit, issued pursuant to Application for Permit dated March 21, 1997, and has submitted Proof of Beneficial Use on June 12, 2017. An examination confirms water is diverted from:

SOURCE:
CANYON CREEK

TRIBUTARY:
SNAKE RIVER

and a water right has been established as follows:

BENEFICIAL USE	PERIOD OF USE	DIVERSION RATE	ANNUAL DIVERSION VOLUME
GROUND WATER RECHARGE	01/01 to 12/31	22.68 CFS	962.0 AF

LOCATION OF POINT(S) OF DIVERSION:
CANYON CREEK SE¼NW¼ Sec. 10, Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M. ELMORE County
CANYON CREEK NE¼NE¼ Sec. 10, Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M. ELMORE County

PLACE OF USE: GROUND WATER RECHARGE

			NE				NW				SW				SE				
Twp	Rge	Sec	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	Totals
03S	06E	10	X			X						X							

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. Prior to the diversion and use of water under this approval, the right holder shall comply with applicable water quality monitoring and/or permitting requirements administered by the Department of Environmental Quality or the Department of Agriculture.

2. Use of water under this right may be regulated by a watermaster with responsibility for the distribution of water among appropriators within a water district. At the time of this approval, this water right is within State Water District No. 61A.

3. After specific notification by the Department, the right holder shall install a suitable measuring device or shall enter into an agreement with the Department to use power records to determine the amount of water diverted and shall annually report the information to the Department.

4. Pursuant to Section 42-234(3), Idaho Code, the Director may reduce the amount of water that may be diverted for recharge purposes under this right even though there is sufficient water to supply the entire amount authorized for appropriation under this right.

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Water Right License

WATER RIGHT NO. 61-07731

5. This right is not an authorization for the described recharge effort to be used as mitigation or credit for any other purpose. The sufficiency of the recharge effort authorized under this right for mitigation or credit for some other purpose may be determined by the Department upon proper submission of a mitigation plan pursuant to the Department's Rules of Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources, a mitigation plan to offset depletion in association with a water right application, a Management Program pursuant to Idaho Code Section 42-1416B, or any other proposal to utilize credit for the recharge effort.

6. Seepage from Canyon Creek incidental to or coincident with delivery of water to the recharge sites shall not be considered ground water recharge under this right.

7. This right is subject to all prior water rights, including those water rights for power purposes that may otherwise be subordinated by contract entered into by the governor and Idaho Power Company on October 25, 1984, and ratified by the legislature pursuant to section 42-203B, Idaho Code.

8. This right is for the use of trust water, and it is subject to review 20 years after date of permit approval to re-evaluate the availability of trust water for the authorized use and to re-evaluate the public interest criteria for reallocating trust water.

9. When the minimum stream flow water rights in the Snake River at Murphy Gage are not being satisfied, the right holder shall cease diverting water for the uses authorized by this right.

10. The diversion and use of water described in this right may be subject to additional conditions and limitations agreed to by the protestant and the right holder under a separate agreement to which the Department is not a party. Because the Department is not a party, the Department is not responsible for enforcement of any aspect of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions herein. Enforcement of those portions of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions shall be the responsibility of the protestant and the water right holder.

11. This right does not grant any right-of-way or easement across the land of another.

This license is issued pursuant to the provisions of Section 42-219, Idaho Code. The water right confirmed by this license is subject to all prior water rights and shall be used in accordance with Idaho law and applicable rules of the Department of Water Resources.

Signed this 20th day of February, 2018.

Shelley W. Keen

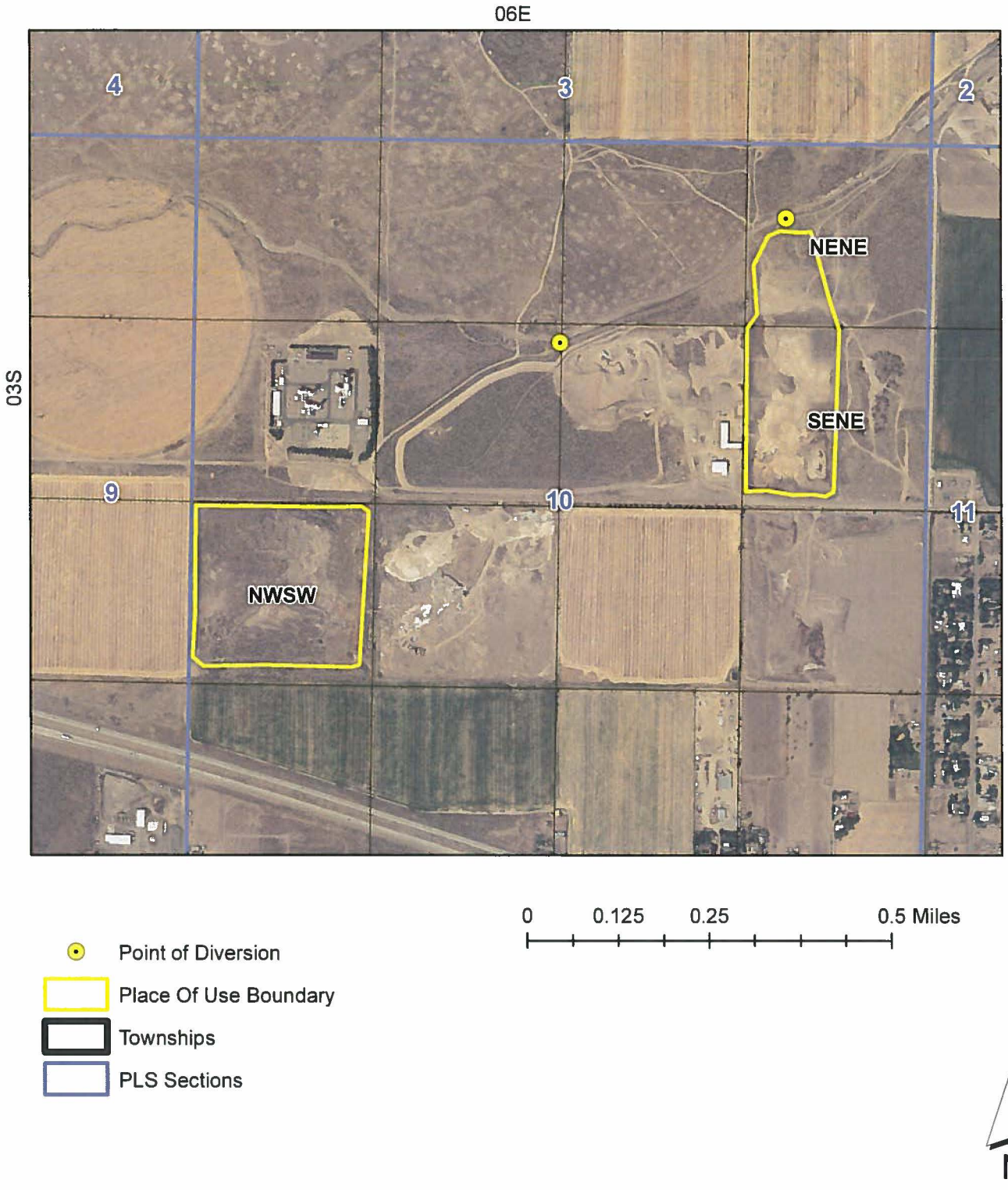
SHELLEY W. KEEN
Water Rights Section Manager

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Attachment to Water Right License

61-7731

This map depicts the GROUND WATER RECHARGE place of use boundary for this water right at the time of this approval and is attached to the approval document solely for illustrative purposes.



State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 61-12314

Priority: March 03, 2017 **Maximum Diversion Rate:** 200 CFS

This is to certify that

ELMORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ELMORE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
150 S 4TH E STE 3
MOUNTAIN HOME, ID 83647

has applied for a permit to appropriate water from:

Source : CANYON CREEK **Tributary:** SNAKE RIVER

and a permit is APPROVED for development of water as follows:

Beneficial Use	Period of Use	Rate of Diversion
GROUND WATER RECHARGE	01/01 to 12/31	200 CFS

Location of Point(s) of Diversion

CANYON CREEK	SW¼ NE¼,	Sec. 10,	Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M.	ELMORE County
CANYON CREEK	SW¼ SW¼,	Sec. 2,	Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M.	ELMORE County
CANYON CREEK	NE¼ NE¼,	Sec. 10,	Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M.	ELMORE County
CANYON CREEK	SE¼ NW¼,	Sec. 10,	Twp 03S, Rge 06E, B.M.	ELMORE County

Place of Use: GROUND WATER RECHARGE

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE				Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	
03S	06E	2											X						
03S	06E	10	X			X						X			X				
03S	06E	11						X											

Conditions of Approval

1. Proof of application of water to beneficial use shall be submitted on or before **May 01, 2024.**
2. Subject to all prior water rights.
3. Prior to the diversion and use of water under this approval, the right holder shall comply with applicable water quality monitoring and/or permitting requirements administered by the Department of Environmental Quality or the Department of Agriculture.
4. Use of water under this right may be regulated by a watermaster with responsibility for the distribution of water among appropriators within a water district. At the time of this approval, this water right is within State Water District No. 61A.
5. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(3), the Director may reduce the amount of water that may be diverted for recharge purposes under this right even though there is sufficient water to supply the entire amount authorized for appropriation under this right.
6. This right is not an authorization for the described recharge effort to be used as mitigation or credit for

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 61-12314

any other purpose. The sufficiency of the recharge effort authorized under this right for mitigation or credit for some other purpose may be determined by the Department upon proper submission of a mitigation plan pursuant to the Department's Rules of Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources, a mitigation plan to offset depletion in association with a water right application, a Management Program pursuant to Idaho Code Idaho Code § 42-1416B, or any other proposal to utilize credit for the recharge effort.

7. This right is for the use of trust water, and it is subject to review 5 years after its initial approval (date of permit approval) to re-evaluate the availability of trust water for the authorized use and to re-evaluate the public interest criteria for reallocating trust water.
8. When the minimum stream flow water rights in the Snake River at Murphy Gage are not being satisfied, the right holder shall cease diverting water for the consumptive uses authorized by this right. The minimum stream flow water rights are for 3,900 cfs from April 1 through October 31 and 5,600 cfs from November 1 through March 31 consistent with IDAPA 37.03.08.030.
9. This right does not grant any right-of-way or easement across the land of another.
10. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(4), to ensure that other water rights are not injured by the operations of the recharge project authorized by this right, the Director has authority to approve, disapprove, or require alterations in the methods employed to achieve ground water recharge.
11. This approval does not constitute approval by the Idaho Water Resource Board, which may also be required pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-1737.
12. The right holder shall record the daily quantity of water diverted for ground water recharge and shall report the diversion data for the prior calendar year to the Department by February 1 each year. Reporting shall occur in the manner specified by the Department, consistent with Idaho Code § 42-701. To facilitate this reporting requirement, the right holder shall install and maintain a totalizing measuring device approved by the Department at each point of diversion and at each point where water is delivered from the conveyance system into a designated recharge site.
13. Prior to diversion and use of water on federal land under this approval, the right holder shall obtain Bureau of Land Management authorization necessary to access the point of diversion or place of use or to convey water across federal land.
14. The diversion and use of water described in this right may be subject to additional conditions and limitations agreed to by the protestant and the right holder under a separate agreement to which the Department is not a party. Because the Department is not a party, the Department is not responsible for enforcement of any aspect of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions herein. Enforcement of those portions of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions shall be the responsibility of the protestant and the water right holder.
15. The Director retains jurisdiction to require the right holder to provide purchased or leased natural flow or stored water to offset depletion of Lower Snake River flows if needed for salmon migration purposes. The amount of water required to be released into the Snake River or a tributary, if needed for this purpose, will be determined by the Director based upon the reduction in flow caused by the use of water pursuant to this permit.
16. Project construction shall commence within one year from the date of permit issuance and shall proceed diligently to completion unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Director of the Department of Water Resources that delays were due to circumstances over which the permit holder had no control.

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 61-12314

This permit is issued pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code § 42-204.

Signed this 9th day of May, 2019.

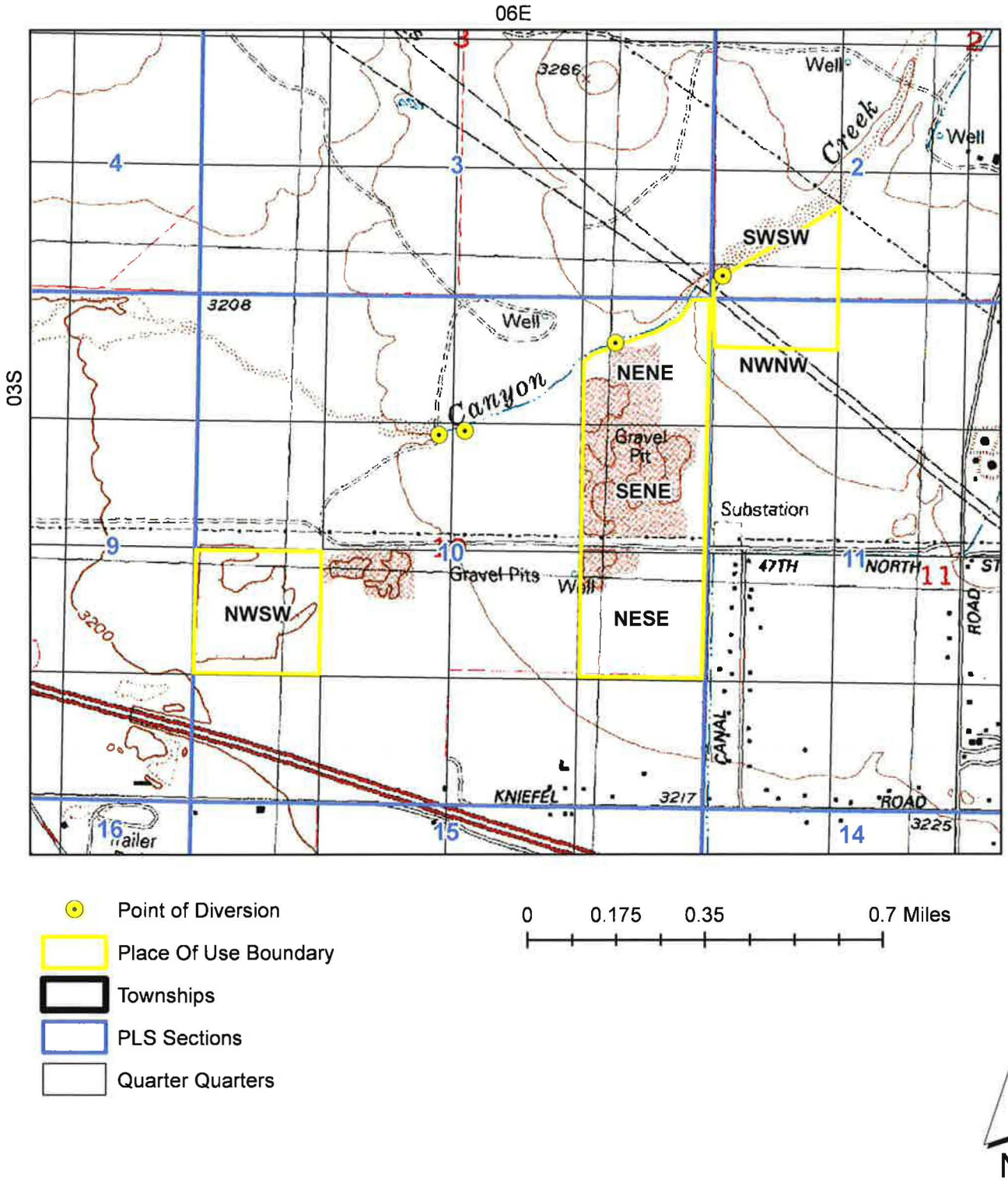
NICK MILLER
Engineer, Manager 2

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

61-12314

March 18, 2019



State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

Priority: March 03, 2017 **Maximum Diversion Rate:** 200.00 CFS

This is to certify that

ELMORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ELMORE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
150 S 4TH E STE 3 MOUNTAIN HOME ID 83647

has applied for a permit to appropriate water from:

Source : SOUTH FORK BOISE RIVER **Tributary:** BOISE RIVER

and a permit is APPROVED for development of water as follows:

Beneficial Use	Period of Use	Rate of Diversion	Annual Volume
GROUND WATER RECHARGE STORAGE	01/01 to 12/31		10,000.0 AF
IRRIGATION	03/15 to 11/15	100.00 CFS	
IRRIGATION STORAGE	01/01 to 12/31		5,000.0 AF
IRRIGATION FROM STORAGE	03/15 to 11/15		5,000.0 AF
GROUND WATER RECHARGE	01/01 to 12/31	100.00 CFS	
GROUND WATER RECHARGE FROM STORAGE	01/01 to 12/31		10,000.0 AF
DIVERSION TO STORAGE	01/01 to 12/31	200.00 CFS	

Location of Point(s) of Diversion

SOUTH FORK BOISE RIVER L1 (NW¼ NW¼), Sec. 7, Twp 01S, Rge 09E, B.M. ELMORE County

Place of Use: IRRIGATION

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE					Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	No QQ	
02S	06E	35													40.0			40.0		80.0
02S	06E	36									40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						160.0
03S	06E	1					0.1 L3	40.0 L4												40.1
03S	06E	2	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0						0.4		40.0	40.0		40.0	40.0			280.4
03S	06E	9	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0			40.0	40.0				40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		440.0
03S	06E	10							0.6	0.2	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.2	40.0	40.0	40.0		281.0
03S	06E	11		40.0	40.0		40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		560.0
03S	06E	12									40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						160.0
03S	06E	13					40.0	40.0												80.0
03S	06E	14					40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						320.0
03S	06E	15	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.3	0.3	40.0					40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		400.6
03S	06E	22	0.5	0.4																0.9
03S	06E	23			40.0		40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	40.0		0.3	40.0		40.0	40.0	40.0		399.3
03S	06E	24											40.0	40.0			40.0	40.0		160.0
03S	06E	25	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		640.0
03S	06E	26	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.1	0.1	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		560.2
03S	06E	27	0.3			0.1														0.4
03S	06E	36	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		640.0

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

03S	07E	19					0.1					40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0						120.1
03S	07E	30					40.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	40.0	40.0	41.0 L3	41.0 L4	40.0			40.0			364.0
03S	07E	31		40.0	40.0		40.0	42.0 L1	42.0 L2	40.0	40.0	43.0 L3	43.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		570.0
04S	06E	1	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.5	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		600.5
04S	06E	11	0.3																	0.3
04S	06E	12	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.7	0.5		0.3	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		481.5
04S	06E	13	0.9	0.4																1.3
04S	06E	24	0.1	0.2											0.3					0.6
04S	06E	25	0.5			0.6									0.7			0.8		2.6
04S	07E	5											40.0	0.1						40.1
04S	07E	6	39.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	43.0 L4	42.0 L5	39.0	39.0	42.0 L6	41.0 L7	39.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	41.0		647.0
04S	07E	7	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	39.0	40.0	41.0 L3	41.0 L4	40.0	41.0	41.0	40.0	41.0		645.0
04S	07E	8					39.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	39.0			39.0			358.0
04S	07E	16							39.0	38.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		39.0	40.0			316.0
04S	07E	17	39.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		639.0
04S	07E	18	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	40.0	0.7	0.7 L3		0.2	40.0	0.6	39.0	40.0		443.2
04S	07E	19	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	1.5 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		601.5
04S	07E	20	1.4	1.0			40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0		39.0	40.0			405.4
04S	07E	21		40.0	0.6		40.0	40.0	1.0	0.8										122.4
04S	07E	28					6.9	39.0	40.0	28.0						0.3				114.2
04S	07E	29	39.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3				398.9
04S	07E	30	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	38.0		638.0
04S	07E	31	0.1	0.1																0.2

Right Acre Limit:7,420.2
Total Acres: 12,712.7

Place of Use: IRRIGATION FROM STORAGE

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE					Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	No QQ	
02S	06E	35													40.0			40.0		80.0
02S	06E	36									40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						160.0
03S	06E	1					0.1 L3	40.0 L4												40.1
03S	06E	2	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0						0.4		40.0	40.0		40.0	40.0			280.4
03S	06E	9	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0			40.0	40.0				40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		440.0
03S	06E	10							0.6	0.2	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.2	40.0	40.0	40.0		281.0
03S	06E	11		40.0	40.0		40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		560.0
03S	06E	12									40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						160.0
03S	06E	13					40.0	40.0												80.0
03S	06E	14					40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0						320.0
03S	06E	15	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.3	0.3	40.0					40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		400.6
03S	06E	22	0.5	0.4																0.9
03S	06E	23			40.0		40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	40.0		0.3	40.0		40.0	40.0	40.0		399.3
03S	06E	24											40.0	40.0			40.0	40.0		160.0
03S	06E	25	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		640.0
03S	06E	26	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.1	0.1	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		560.2
03S	06E	27	0.3			0.1														0.4
03S	06E	36	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		640.0

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

03S	07E	19									0.1	40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0						120.1
03S	07E	30					40.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	40.0	40.0	41.0 L3	41.0 L4	40.0			40.0			364.0
03S	07E	31		40.0	40.0		40.0	42.0 L1	42.0 L2	40.0	40.0	43.0 L3	43.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		570.0
04S	06E	1	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.5	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		600.5
04S	06E	11	0.3																	0.3
04S	06E	12	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	0.7	0.5		0.3	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		481.5
04S	06E	13	0.9	0.4																1.3
04S	06E	24	0.1			0.2									0.3					0.6
04S	06E	25	0.5			0.6									0.7			0.8		2.6
04S	07E	5											40.0	0.1						40.1
04S	07E	6	39.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	43.0 L4	42.0 L5	39.0	39.0	42.0 L6	41.0 L7	39.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	41.0		647.0
04S	07E	7	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	39.0	40.0	41.0 L3	41.0 L4	40.0	41.0	41.0	40.0	41.0		645.0
04S	07E	8					39.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	40.0			39.0			359.0
04S	07E	16							39.0	38.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		39.0	40.0			316.0
04S	07E	17	38.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		638.0
04S	07E	18	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	41.0 L1	41.0 L2	40.0	0.7	0.7 L3		0.2	40.0	0.6	39.0	40.0		443.2
04S	07E	19	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	1.5 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0		601.5
04S	07E	20	1.4	1.0			40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0		39.0	40.0			405.4
04S	07E	21		40.0	0.6		40.0	40.0	1.0	0.8										122.4
04S	07E	28					6.9	39.0	40.0	28.0		0.3								114.2
04S	07E	29	39.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	39.0	40.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3				398.9
04S	07E	30	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0 L1	40.0 L2	40.0	40.0	40.0 L3	40.0 L4	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	38.0		638.0
04S	07E	31	0.1	0.1																0.2

Right Acre Limit:7,420.2
Total Acres: 12,712.7

Place of Use: GROUND WATER RECHARGE

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE					Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	No QQ	
03S	06E	2											X							
03S	06E	10	X			X														
03S	06E	11						X												

Place of Use: GROUND WATER RECHARGE FROM STORAGE

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE					Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	No QQ	
03S	06E	2											X							
03S	06E	10	X			X														
03S	06E	11						X												

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

Conditions of Approval

1. Proof of application of water to beneficial use shall be submitted on or before **April 01, 2024.**
2. Subject to all prior water rights.
3. This right when combined with all other rights shall provide no more than 0.02 cfs per acre nor more than 4.0 afa per acre at the field headgate for irrigation of the place of use.
4. This right when combined with all other rights shall provide no more than 5.0 afa per acre for irrigation storage and irrigation from storage for the place of use.
5. Rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139 and 63-34348 when combined shall not exceed the irrigation of 7,420.2 acres within the boundaries of the Mountain Home Irrigation District.
6. In any given year, water diverted for irrigation from storage and irrigation shall not exceed 50 percent of the total volume of water diverted for all uses described by the right.
7. The storage of water under this right occurs in the storage facilities for the Mountain Home Irrigation District: Little Camas Reservoir, Long Tom Reservoir, and Mountain Home Reservoir.
8. In any given year, this right may only be used for irrigation from storage and irrigation on the same lands irrigated within the Mountain Home Irrigation District service area with Rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139 and 63-34348.
9. Water shall only be used for irrigation from storage and irrigation to supplement existing rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139 and 63-34348.
10. Diversion of water under this right will be regulated by a watermaster with responsibility for the distribution of water among appropriators within a water district. At the time of this approval, the source of water and point of diversion for this right is within Water District No. 63.
11. Prior to diversion of water under this right, the right holder shall install a lockable device, subject to the approval of the Department, in a manner that will provide the watermaster suitable control of the diversion.
12. Prior to diversion of water under this right, the right holder shall develop a plan acceptable to the watermaster(s) and the Department that includes the installation of measuring devices as necessary to understand and monitor water use under this right. The Department may require modification of the plan, now and in the future, as required.
13. The watermasters of Water Districts 63, 63C, and 61A shall coordinate administration of this right to ensure beneficial use occurs in a manner consistent with the limitations and conditions of the right.
14. This right is subordinated to the capture and retention of water in existing on-stream storage reservoirs operated for storage and flood control purposes during and following flood control operations until the date of allocation.
15. The right holder must mitigate for diversions out of Anderson Ranch Reservoir that occur when water is not being released for flood control purposes as authorized by this right.
16. If measured or calculated Boise River flows immediately downstream of the New York Canal diversion are less than 240 cfs during the period beginning June 16 and ending February 29, water shall not be diverted pursuant to this right. If measured or calculated Boise River flows immediately downstream of the New York Canal diversion are less than 1,100 cfs during the period beginning March 1 and ending May 31, water shall not be diverted pursuant to this water right. If the benchmark stream maintenance flows of 240 cfs (from June 16 to February 29) and 1,100 cfs (From March 1 to May 31) subsequently change, then the diversion of South Fork Boise River flows under this right will be limited to provide for the new benchmark flows.
17. If measured or calculated South Fork Boise River flows downstream from Anderson Ranch Dam are less than 800 cfs, water shall not be diverted pursuant to this right.
18. The right holder shall exercise this right only when authorized by the District 63 watermaster when the

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

Boise River is on flood release below Anderson Ranch dam/outlet and when the Boise River is on flood release below Lucky Peak dam. Flood releases shall be determined based upon the Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Army and the Department of Interior for Flood Control Operations of Boise River Reservoirs, dated November 20, 1953, contracts with Reclamation contract holders in the Boise River Reservoirs, the Water Control Manual for Boise River Reservoirs, dated April 1985, and any modifications adopted pursuant to the procedures required in these documents and federal laws. The right holder shall not seek, directly or indirectly, any change to the flood control operations of the 1985 Water Control Manual for Boise River reservoirs. This water right may not be used to divert water released from storage to augment lower Snake River flows during the migration of Snake River salmon as authorized under Idaho law.

19. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(4), to ensure that other water rights are not injured by the operations of the recharge project authorized by this right, the Director has authority to approve, disapprove, or require alterations in the methods employed to achieve ground water recharge.
20. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(3), the Director may reduce the amount of water that may be diverted for recharge purposes under this right even though there is sufficient water to supply the entire amount authorized for appropriation under this right.
21. This approval does not constitute approval by the Idaho Water Resource Board, which may also be required pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-1737.
22. This right is not an authorization for the described recharge effort to be used as mitigation or credit for any other purpose. The sufficiency of the recharge effort authorized under this right for mitigation or credit for some other purpose may be determined by the Department upon proper submission of a mitigation plan pursuant to the Department's Rules of Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources, a mitigation plan to offset depletion in association with a water right application, a Management Program pursuant to Idaho Code Idaho Code § 42-1416B, or any other proposal to utilize credit for the recharge effort.
23. This right does not grant any right-of-way or easement across the land of another.
24. Prior to the diversion and use of water under this approval, the right holder shall comply with applicable water quality monitoring and/or permitting requirements administered by the Department of Environmental Quality or the Department of Agriculture.
25. Prior to diversion and use of water under this approval, the right holder shall obtain authorization from United States agencies necessary to access the point of diversion or place of use or to convey water across federal land.
26. Project construction shall commence within one year from the date of permit issuance and shall proceed diligently to completion unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Director of the Department of Water Resources that delays were due to circumstances over which the permit holder had no control.
27. The Director retains jurisdiction to require the right holder to provide purchased or leased natural flow or stored water to offset depletion of Lower Snake River flows if needed for salmon migration purposes. The amount of water required to be released into the Snake River or a tributary, if needed for this purpose, will be determined by the Director based upon the reduction in flow caused by the use of water pursuant to this permit.

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 63-34348

This permit is issued pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code § 42-204.

Signed this 13th day of August, 2019.

Gary Spackman

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

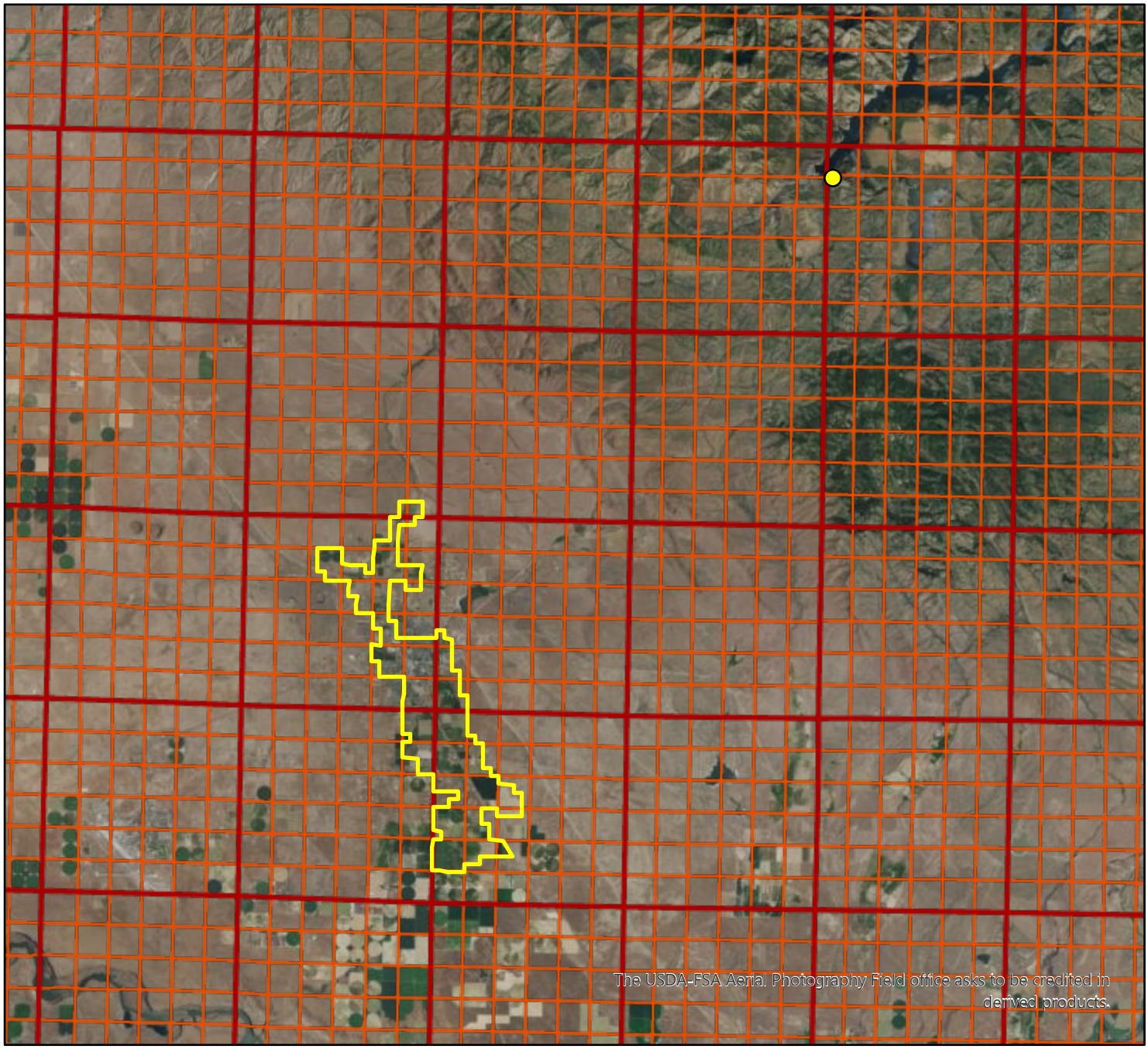
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

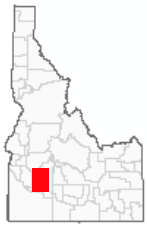
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

IRRIGATION

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 1.5 3 6 9 12
Miles

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary
- Point of Diversion

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

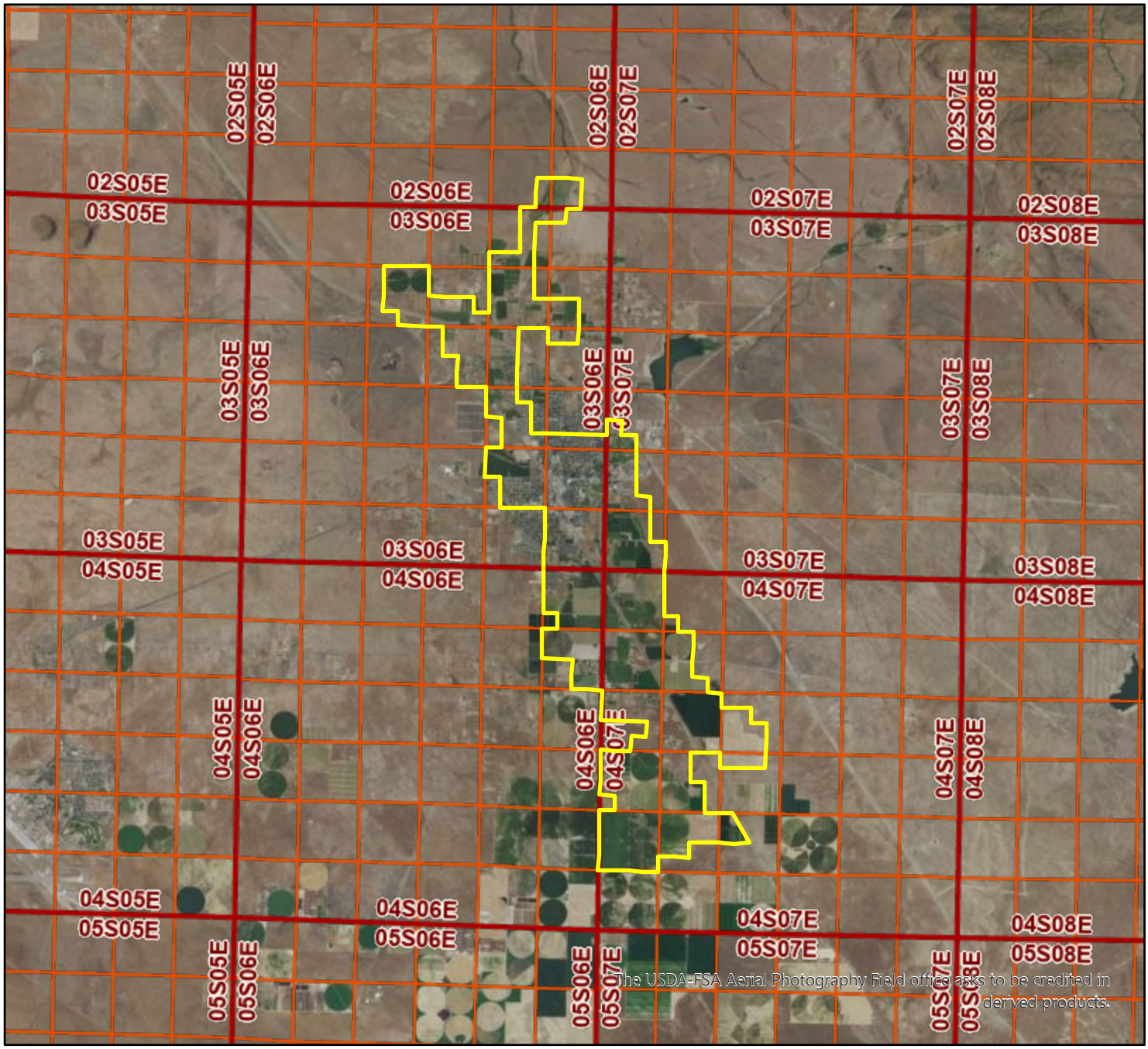
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

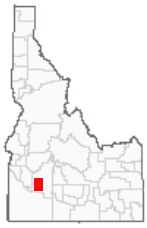
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

IRRIGATION

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6
Miles

Date created: 3/9/2026

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary

N

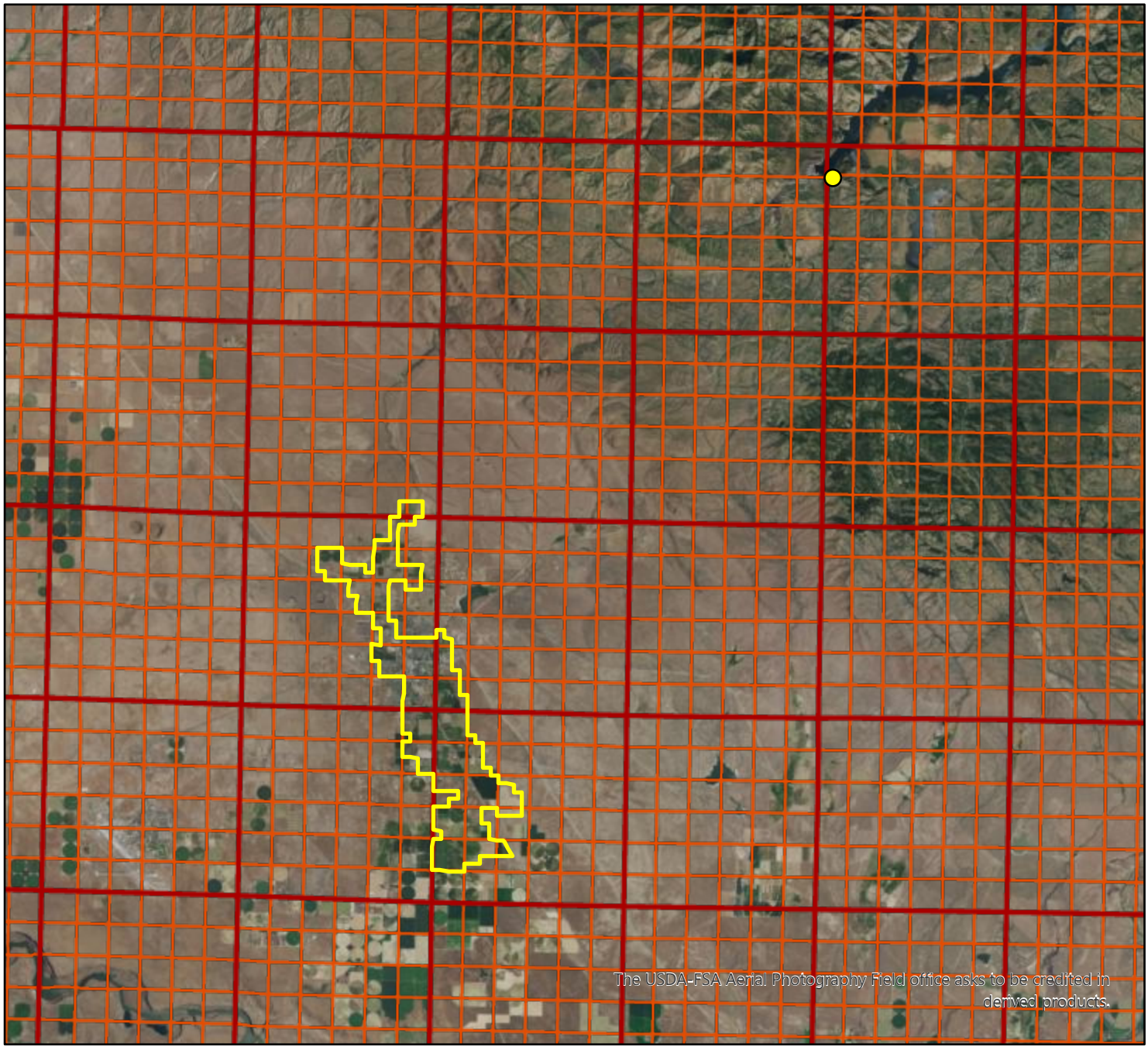
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

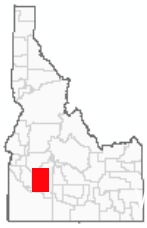
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

IRRIGATION FROM STORAGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 1.5 3 6 9 12
Miles

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary
- Point of Diversion

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

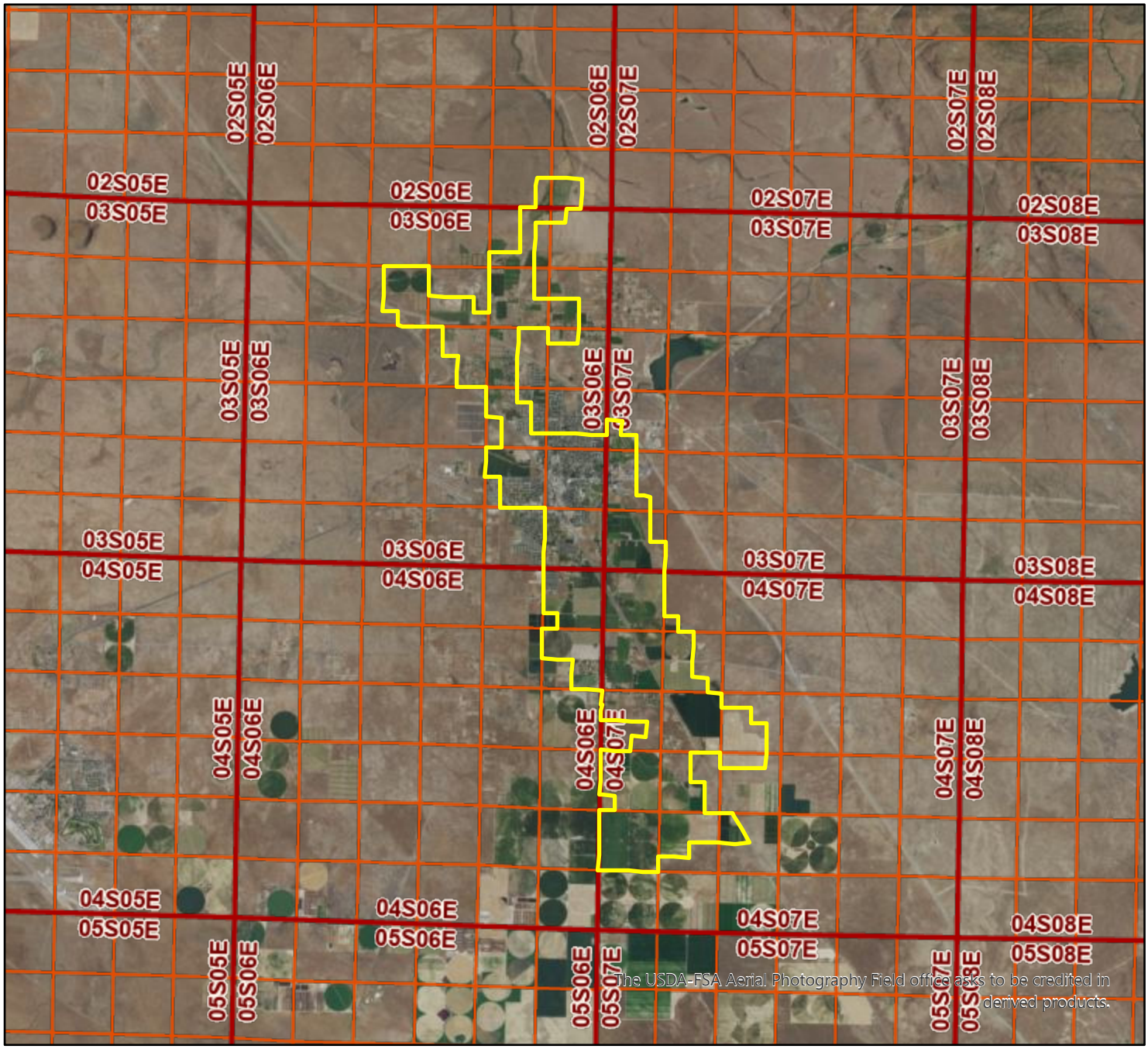
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

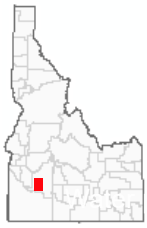
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

IRRIGATION FROM STORAGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6
Miles

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

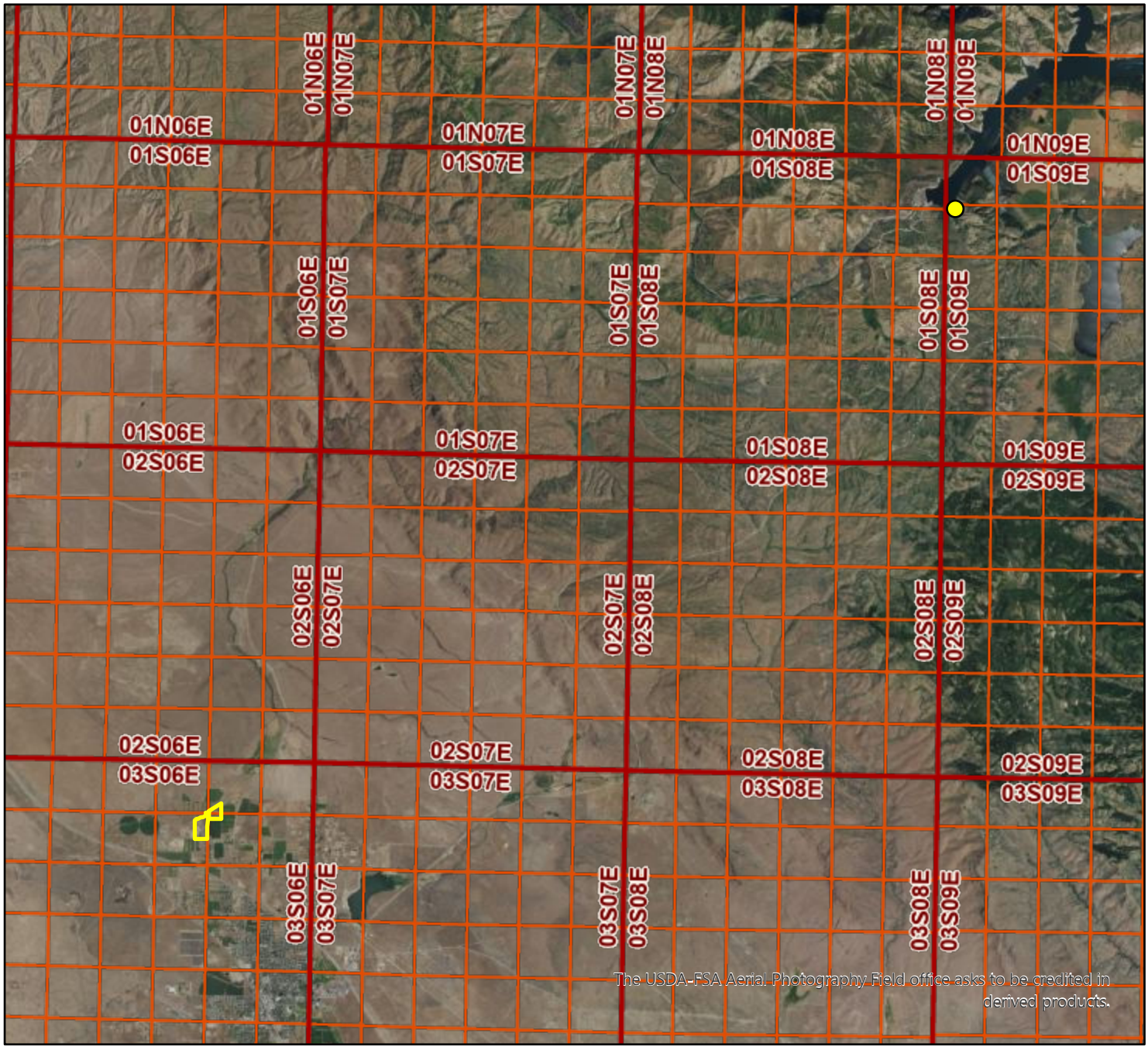
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

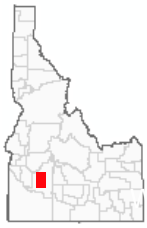
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

GROUND WATER RECHARGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 1 2 4 6 8
Miles

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary
- Point of Diversion

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

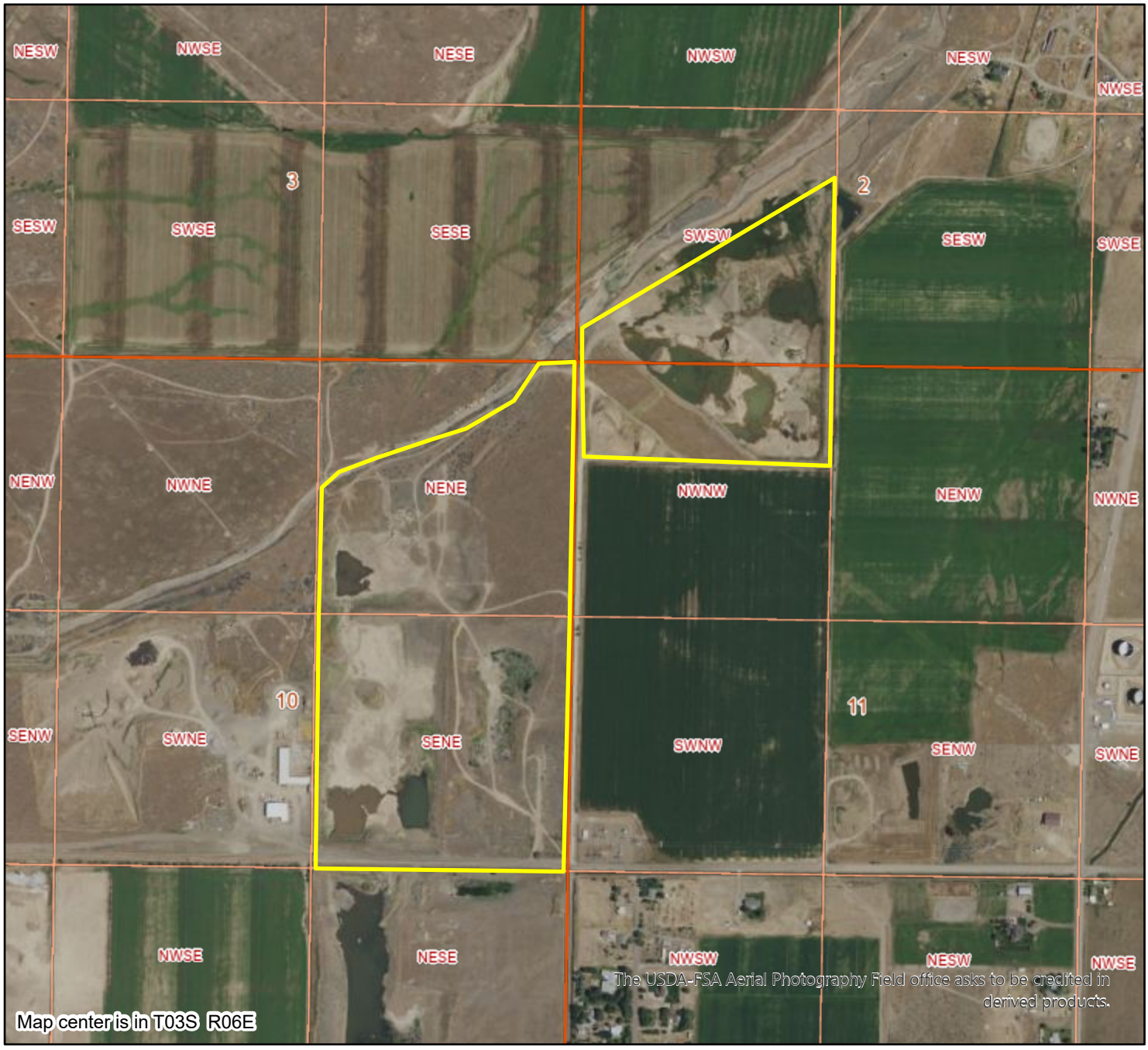
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

GROUND WATER RECHARGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4
Miles

Legend
- Quarter Quarters
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

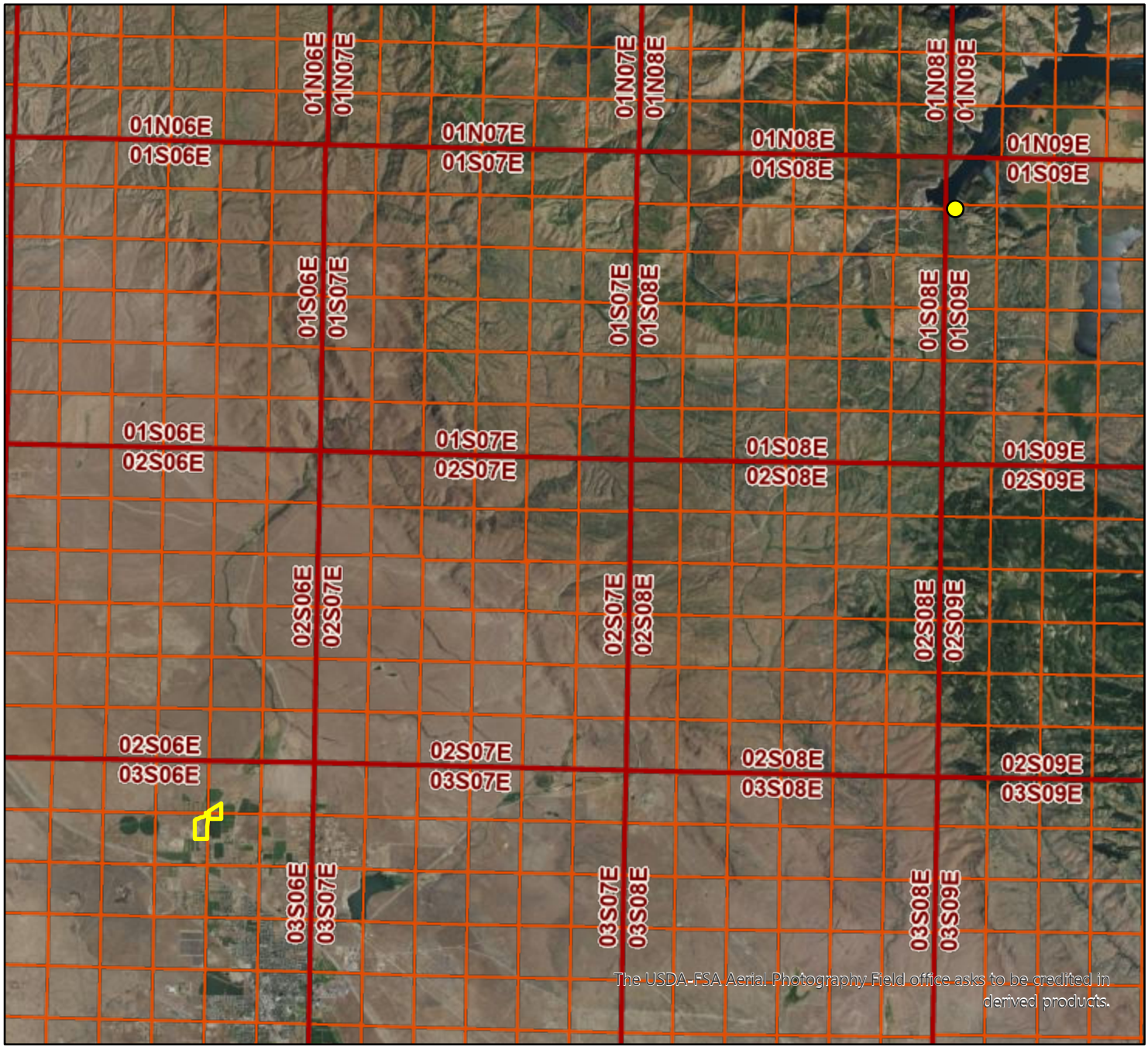
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

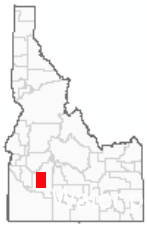
Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

GROUND WATER RECHARGE FROM STORAGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.





0 1 2 4 6 8
Miles

Legend
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary
- Point of Diversion

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

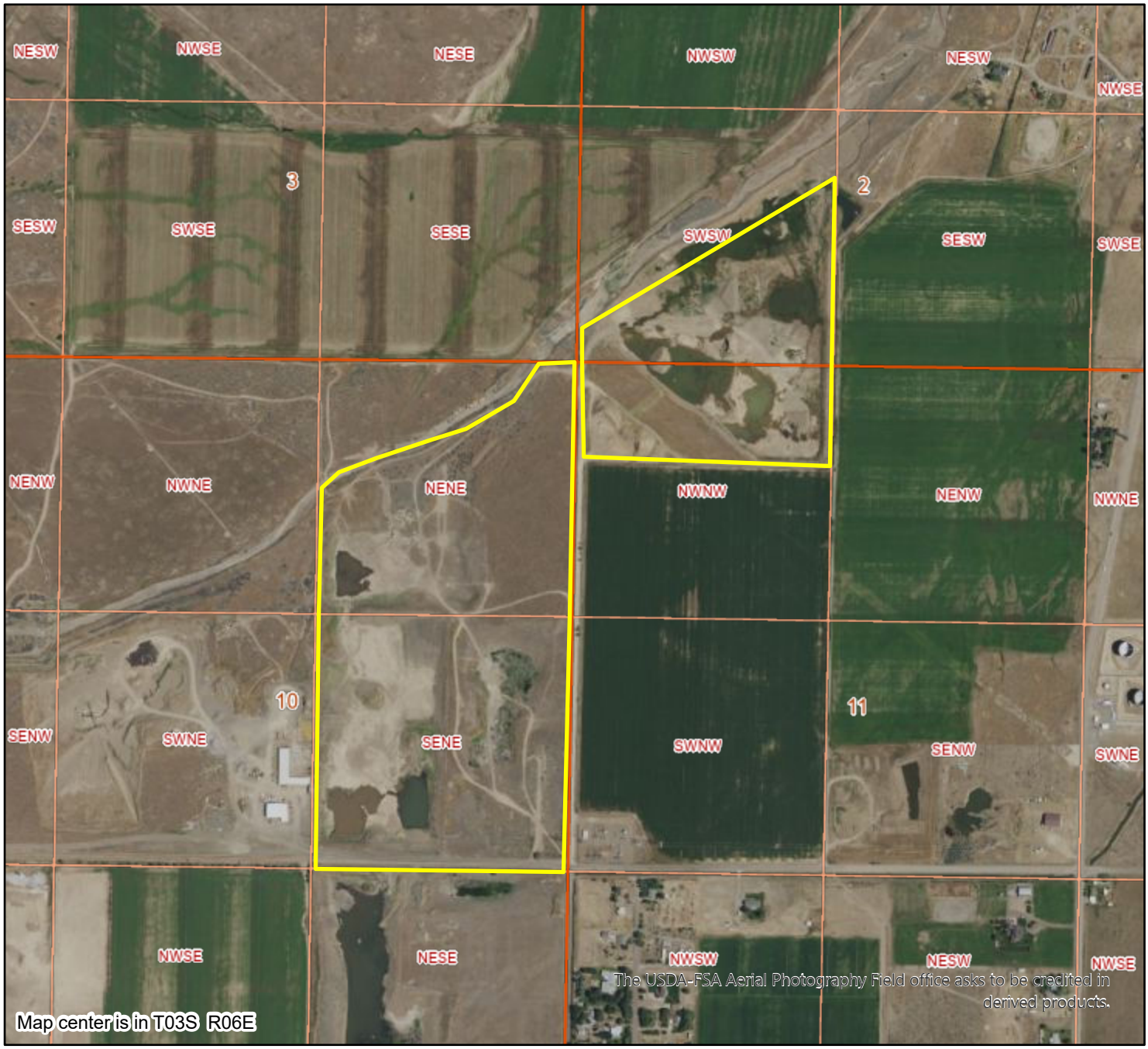
State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

63-34348

GROUND WATER RECHARGE FROM STORAGE

The map depicts the place of use for the water use listed above and point(s) of diversion of this right as currently derived from interpretations of the paper records and is used solely for illustrative purposes. Discrepancies between the computer representation and the permanent document file will be resolved in favor of the actual water right documents in the water right file.



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4
Miles

Legend
- Quarter Quarters
- PLS Sections
- Townships
- Place of Use Boundary

N

Date created: 3/9/2026

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 2-10535

Priority: March 27, 2017 **Maximum Diversion Rate:** 20.0 CFS

This is to certify that

ELMORE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 150 S 4TH E MOUNTAIN HOME ID 83647-3060

has applied for a permit to appropriate water from:

Source : SNAKE RIVER **Tributary:** COLUMBIA RIVER

and a permit is APPROVED for development of water as follows:

Beneficial Use	Period of Use	Rate of Diversion
GROUND WATER RECHARGE	01/01 to 12/31	20.0 CFS
IRRIGATION	03/15 to 11/15	20.0 CFS

Location of Point(s) of Diversion

SNAKE RIVER L4 (SW¼ SW¼), Sec. 22, Twp 05S, Rge 04E, B.M. ELMORE County

Place of Use: GROUND WATER RECHARGE

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE				Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	
03S	06E	10	X			X													
03S	06E	11						X											
03S	06E	2											X						

Place of Use: IRRIGATION

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE				Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	
03S	06E	1	40 L1	40 L2	40	40	40 L3	40 L4	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40		600.0
03S	06E	2	40 L1	40 L2	40	40				40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	520
03S	06E	9	40	40	40	40	40			40	40			0.1	40	40	40	40	440.1
03S	06E	15	40	40	40	40	40	0.3	0.3	40					40	40	40	40	400.6
03S	06E	22	0.5	0.4															0.9
03S	06E	25	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	640
03S	06E	26	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	0.1	0.1	40	40	40	40	40	560.2
03S	06E	27	0.2			40													40.2
03S	06E	36	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	640
04S	06E	1	40 L1	40 L2	40	40	40 L3	40 L4	40	40	40	40	0.5	40	40	40	40	40	600.5
04S	06E	11	0.3			0.1													0.4
04S	06E	12	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	0.7	0.5		0.3	40	40	40	40	481.5
03S	06E	11		40	40		40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	560.0
03S	06E	12		40			40	40			40	40	40	40		40	20		340
03S	06E	13		0.1			40	40											80.1
03S	07E	31		40	40		40	42 L1	42 L2	40	40	43 L3	43 L4	40	40	40	40	40	570.0

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 2-10535

04S	06E	13	40	0.6		0.3													40.9
04S	06E	24	0.1			0.2									0.3				0.6
04S	06E	25	0.5			0.6									0.7			0.8	2.6
04S	07E	6	39 L1	40 L2	40	40	40 L3	43 L4	42 L5	39	39	42 L6	41 L7	39	40	41	41	41	647.0
04S	07E	7	40	40	40	40	39	41 L1	41 L2	39	40	41 L3	41 L4	40	41	41	40	41	645
04S	07E	17	38	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	638
04S	07E	18	40	40	40	40	40	41 L1	41 L2	40	0.7	0.7 L3	0.2 L4	40	40	0.6	40	40	484.2
04S	07E	19	40	40	40	40	40	40 L1	40 L2	40	40	40 L3	1.5 L4	40	40	40	40	40	601.5
04S	07E	20	1.4	1.0			40	40	40	40	41	41	41	41		39	40		405.4
04S	07E	29	39	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	39	40	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3			398.9
04S	07E	30	40	40	40	40	40	40 L1	40 L2	40	40	40 L3	40 L4	40	40	40	40	38	638
04S	07E	31	0.1	0.1			0.1	0.1 L1											0.4
03S	06E	3				41									40	41	40	40	202.0
03S	06E	10			0.1			24	16	0.2	40	40	40	40	0.2	40	40	40	320.5
03S	06E	14					40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40					320
03S	06E	23			40		40	40	39	40	40		0.3	40		40	40	40	399.3
03S	07E	30					40	41 L1	41 L2	40	40	41 L3	41 L4	40			40		364.0
04S	07E	21		40	0.6		40	40	1.0	0.8									122.4
02S	06E	35													40		40	40	120
02S	06E	36									40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	320
04S	07E	8					39	40	40	39	40	41	41	40			39		359.0
04S	07E	16							39	38	40	40	40	40		39	40		316.0
04S	07E	28					6.9	39	40	28		0.3							114.2
03S	06E	4																0.1	0.1
03S	06E	24											40	40			40	40	160.0
03S	07E	19									40	40 L3	40 L4	40			40		200.0
04S	07E	5											40	40					80.0

Right Acre Limit:7,420.2
Total Acres: 14,374.5

Conditions of Approval

1. Proof of application of water to beneficial use shall be submitted on or before **September 01, 2030.**
2. Subject to all prior water rights.
3. Rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139, 63-34348, and 2-10535 when combined shall not exceed the irrigation of 7,420.2 acres within the boundaries of the Mountain Home Irrigation District.
4. In any given year, this right may only be used for irrigation on the same lands irrigated within the Mountain Home Irrigation District service area with Rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139 and 63-34348.
5. Water shall only be used for irrigation to supplement existing rights 61-263, 61-264, 61-266, 61-363, 61-10417, 61-10419, 61-10421, 63-19893, 63-2188, 63-2214, 63-20139 and 63-34348.
6. This right when combined with all other rights shall provide no more than 0.02 cfs per acre nor more than 4.0 afa per acre at the field headgate for irrigation of the place of use.
7. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(4), to ensure that other water rights are not injured by the

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 2-10535

operations of the recharge project authorized by this right, the Director has authority to approve, disapprove, or require alterations in the methods employed to achieve ground water recharge.

8. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-234(3), the Director may reduce the amount of water that may be diverted for recharge purposes under this right even though there is sufficient water to supply the entire amount authorized for appropriation under this right.
9. This approval does not constitute approval by the Idaho Water Resource Board, which may also be required pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-1737.
10. The right holder shall record the daily quantity of water diverted for ground water recharge and shall report the diversion data for the prior calendar year to the Department by February 1 each year. Reporting shall occur in the manner specified by the Department, consistent with Idaho Code § 42-701. To facilitate this reporting requirement, the right holder shall install and maintain a totalizing measuring device approved by the Department at each point of diversion and at each point where water is delivered from the conveyance system into a designated recharge site.
11. Consistent with Idaho Code § 42-234(5), seepage from canals incidental to or coincident with delivery of water pursuant to water rights for any other beneficial use shall not be considered ground water recharge under this right. Canal seepage will be considered to be ground water recharge only when the canals are not conveying water for irrigation or other beneficial uses.
12. This right is not an authorization for the described recharge effort to be used as mitigation or credit for any other purpose. The sufficiency of the recharge effort authorized under this right for mitigation or credit for some other purpose may be determined by the Department upon proper submission of a mitigation plan pursuant to the Department's Rules of Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources, a mitigation plan to offset depletion in association with a water right application, a Management Program pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-1416B, or any other proposal to utilize credit for the recharge effort.
13. This right is for the use of trust water, and it is subject to review 5 years after its initial approval (date of permit approval) to re-evaluate the availability of trust water for the authorized use and to re-evaluate the public interest criteria for reallocating trust water.
14. When the minimum stream flow water rights in the Snake River at Murphy Gage are not being satisfied, the right holder shall cease diverting water for the uses authorized by this right. The minimum stream flow water rights are for 3,900 cfs from April 1 through October 31 and 5,600 cfs from November 1 through March 31.
15. Use of water under this right may be regulated by a watermaster with responsibility for the distribution of water among appropriators within a water district. At the time of this approval, this water right is within State Water District No. 02.
16. Prior to the diversion and use of water under this approval, the right holder shall comply with applicable water quality monitoring and/or permitting requirements administered by the Department of Environmental Quality or the Department of Agriculture.
17. Irrigation place of use is within the area served by Mountain Home Irrigation District.
18. The boundary encompassing the irrigation place of use for this water right is described with a digital boundary as authorized by Idaho law. The data comprising the digital boundary are stored in the electronic document management system of the Department and are incorporated into this approval by this reference. A map depicting the place of use is attached to this approval document to illustrate the place of use described by the digital boundary.
19. The Director retains jurisdiction to require the right holder to provide purchased or leased natural flow or stored water to offset depletion of Lower Snake River flows if needed for salmon migration purposes. The amount of water required to be released into the Snake River or a tributary, if needed for this purpose, will be determined by the Director based upon the reduction in flow caused by the use of water pursuant to this permit.
20. This right does not grant any right-of-way or easement across the land of another.
21. The diversion and use of water described in this right may be subject to additional conditions and

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Permit to Appropriate Water

No. 2-10535

limitations agreed to by the protestant and the right holder under a separate agreement to which the Department is not a party. Because the Department is not a party, the Department is not responsible for enforcement of any aspect of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions herein. Enforcement of those portions of the agreement not specifically addressed in other conditions shall be the responsibility of the protestant and the water right holder.

This permit is issued pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code § 42-204.

Signed this 12th day of September, 2025

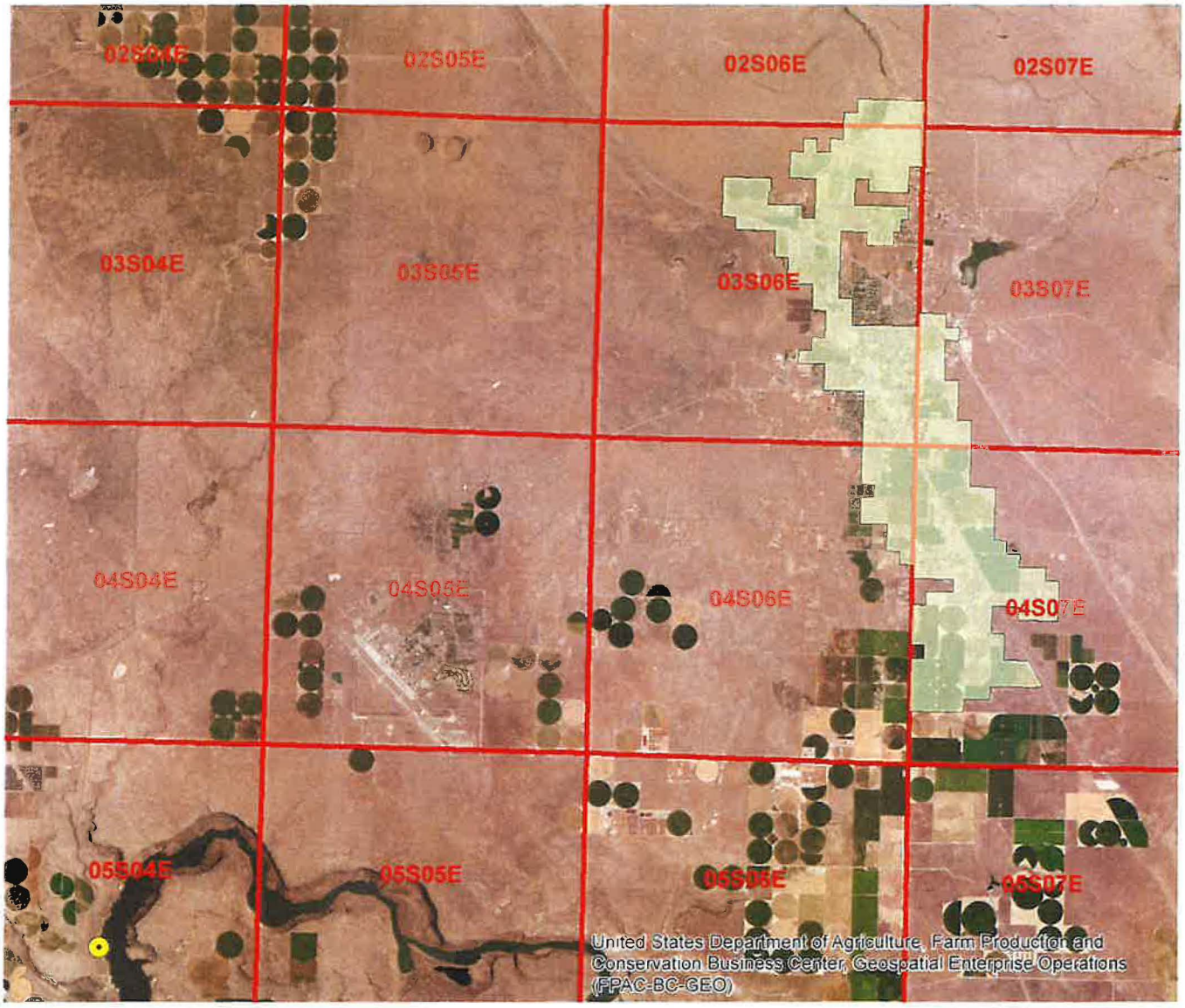
Cody Parker
Water Resources Supervisor

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Attachment to Permit to Appropriate Water

2-10535

This map depicts the IRRIGATION place of use boundary for this water right at the time of this approval and is attached to the approval document solely for illustrative purposes.



0 2 4 8 Miles

Water Permit POD

IRRIGATION

Township/Range

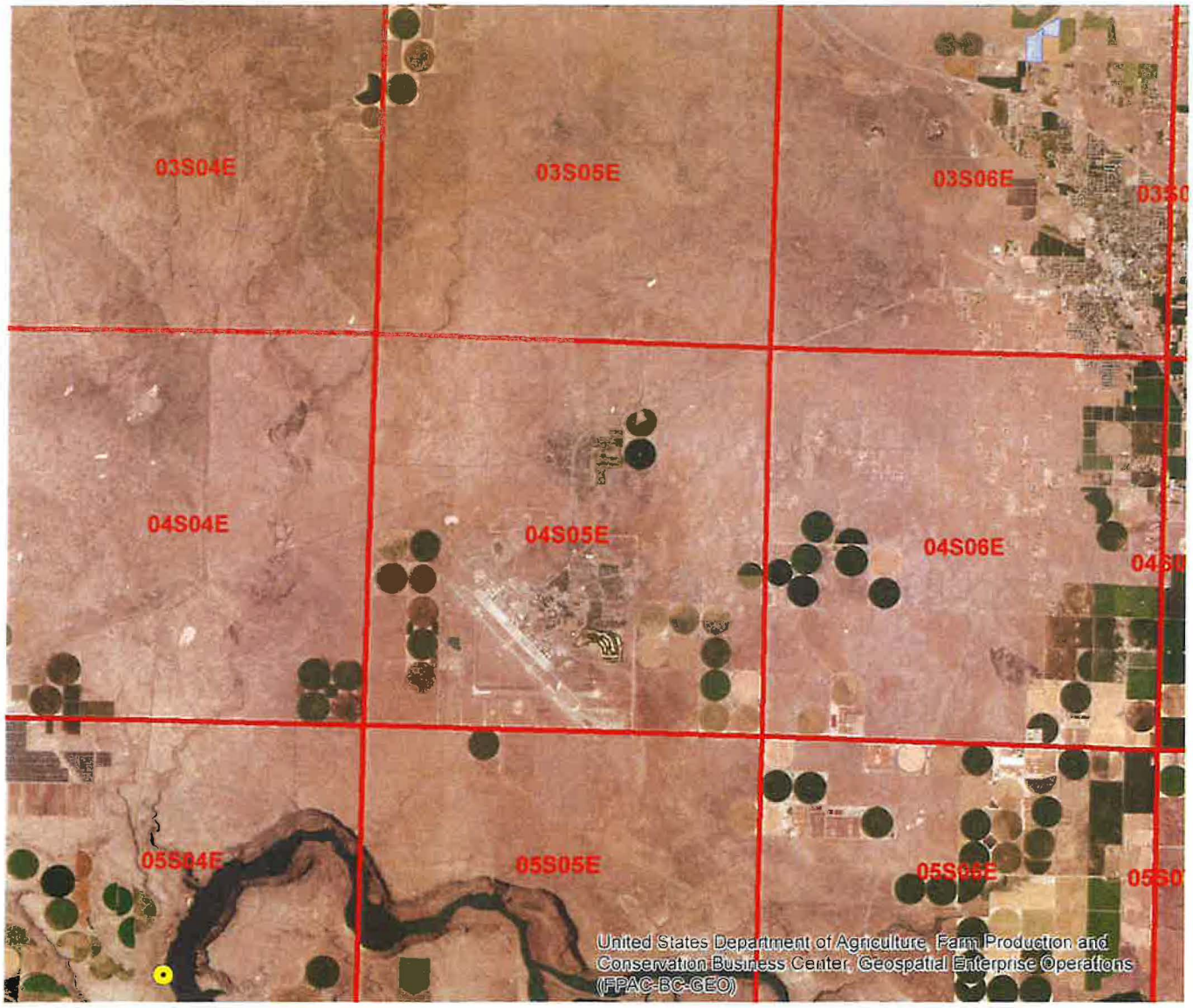
N

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

Attachment to Permit to Appropriate Water

2-10535

This map depicts the GROUND WATER RECHARGE place of use boundary for this water right at the time of this approval and is attached to the approval document solely for illustrative purposes.



0 1.5 3 6 Miles

Water Permit POD

GROUND WATER RECHARGE

Township/Range

N

Appendix B. Groundwater Recharge System Improvements

SPF WATER ENGINEERING

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 8, 2019

TO: Roger Chase – Chairman, Idaho Water Resources Board

FROM: Terry Scanlan, P.E., P.G. – SPF Water Engineering

CC: Bud Corbus – Elmore County Commissioner
Scott Campbell – Elmore County Water Attorney

RE: Elmore County - Canyon Creek Aquifer Recharge Project Update

---

The Elmore County Board of Commissioners has completed diversion system improvements at Canyon Creek for purposes of aquifer recharge northwest of the City of Mountain Home. The improvements were accomplished using financial assistance from the Idaho Water Resources Board under Contract No. CON001251.

The construction work included diversion system upgrades or new diversion systems at three sites. The three sites are gravel pits owned by JR Simplot Company, Calvin Ireland, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The project included installation of check structures, headgates, culverts, and measurement weirs. Construction began in December 2018 and was completed in February 2019.

Also included in the work was preparation of water quality monitoring plans for each recharge site. The water-quality monitoring plans were approved by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in October 2018. Pre-recharge water-quality sampling events were conducted in late February and early March 2019 at 16 wells, followed by a during-recharge sampling event in April 2019. A post-recharge sampling event is scheduled for late May 2019.

Recharge activities in 2019 commenced on March 25 and were concluded on April 25. Approximately 1403 acre feet of recharge water was diverted and measured through the constructed recharge facilities in spring 2019. All flow in Canyon Creek passing the Mountain Home Irrigation District diversion dam during 2019 was either diverted into the recharge facilities or infiltrated directly into the bed of Canyon Creek upstream of I-84.

The recharge site construction is complete with the exception of (1) installation of a culvert under Mashburn Road to connect the BLM pit with an Idaho Department of Transportation pit and (2) breaching of a berm between the currently utilized BLM pit and an adjacent BLM pit. These items cannot be completed until an expanded right-of-way is granted by the BLM. The right-of-way application and associated NEPA work have been completed by the County, but the BLM has not completed their processing. Elmore County has obtained a license agreement for use of the ITD pit for recharge purposes.

Figure 1 shows the location of the recharge facilities. Figures 2 through 6 show the typical completed recharge facility improvements.

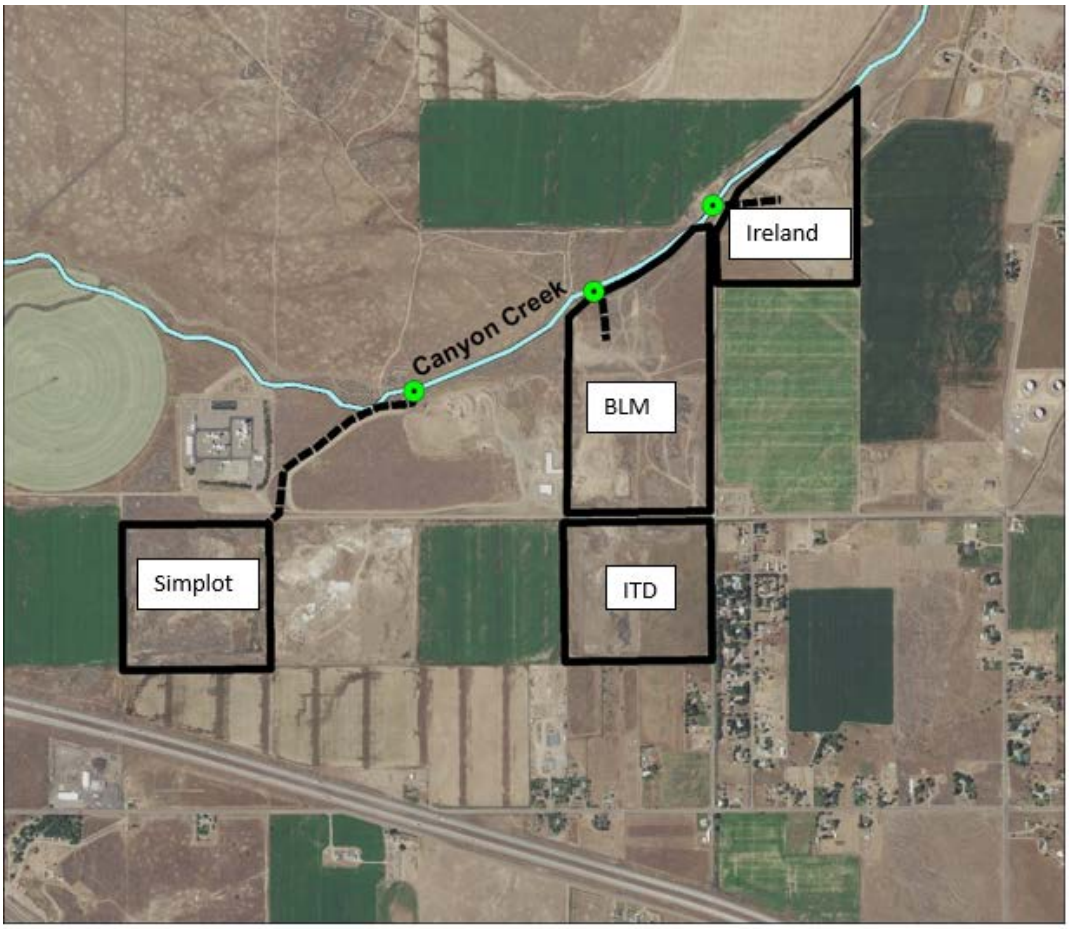


Figure 1. Recharge Pit Locations (approximately 2 miles NW of Mountain Home)

Figure 2. BLM Pit check structure and headgates on Canyon creek

Figure 3. Check structure on Canyon Creek at BLM Pit. Removable ecology blocks are placed on concrete sill to raise the water level at the headgates.

Figure 4. Stilling pool upstream of weir at BLM Pit

Figure 5. 8-foot suppressed weir at BLM Pit

Figure 6. Culverts to Simplot Pit at Mashburn Road

Appendix C. South Fork Boise River Pump Station and Pipeline – 60% Design Plan and Profile

60% Design Report

Elmore County

South Fork Boise River Diversion

Idaho

December 19, 2025

Contents

60% Design Report

Background and Introduction

A 2017 Elmore County Water Alternatives Study estimated an annual groundwater pumping deficit on the Mountain Home Plateau of 40,000 acre-feet. The three recharge source alternatives explored during the study were Canyon Creek, Snake River, and the South Fork of the Boise River (SFBR). Previously, [1]HDR created a preliminary design and cost estimate memorandum dated August 2, 2018, for the SFBRD alternative that included a proposed pump station location and pipeline alignment. Elmore County has since been tentatively approved of their 200 cubic feet per second water right from the SFBR by the Idaho Department of Water Resources and been presented by a more refined 30% and 60% design drawings of the proposed pump station and pipeline.

The pump station design consists of an electrical and control building, initially implementing five 1,500 hp horizontal submersible pumps capable of flowing up to 50 cubic feet per second , and a crane and winch system to pull pumps and piping during maintenance. The pump station will host seven pump casings allowing for two future pumps that will allow flow of up to 70 cfs at final buildout. The pipeline design proposes a diameter of 48-inches. Pipeline materials are mainly composed of epoxy lined and coated steel and fiberglass reinforced plastic (RFP) pipe. Delivery points are anticipated to be at the Mountain Home Irrigation District (MHID) lateral and at the end of the pipeline into Little Camas Reservoir.

The following Report includes summaries of progress made thus far from the previous design phase from all disciplines including civil, mechanical, electrical and controls, and structural engineering. The 60% Design Plans are included in Appendix A.

An Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC) has also been created for this phase of design. The level of accuracy and sources used to compile the OPCC are detailed in the following sections of the report. It is anticipated to include another more reliable OPCC for the next 90% phase of design.

Design Progress

Civil
Civil engineering design efforts have continued to advance since the County Commissioners selected the current submersible pump alternative during the 30% design phase. Grading and drainage design for the pump station access road has progressed, including refinement of

[1] SPF Water Engineering was acquisitioned by HDR in 2022. The same project management team is still in place for the project.

roadway elevations, stormwater conveyance features, and integration with overall site grading requirements to ensure reliable access under expected operating and weather conditions.

Final selection of the pump station alternative has enabled the establishment of the facility footprint, allowing for coordinated site layout development, utility planning, and integration of structural, mechanical, and electrical requirements within the project site.

Completion of the surge (transient) analysis has provided critical information for the advancement of the pipeline profile and alignment. See Appendix B for full analysis. The results have informed adjustments to pipeline elevations, appurtenance locations, surge tower dimensions, and final grading to accommodate hydraulic performance requirements and system protection measures.

The location of the pipeline drains have been finalized, and associated design details—including structural, hydraulic, and access considerations—have been developed to support constructability and long-term maintenance. The first point will be at the pump station near the systems manifold. The second point will be in a saddle near the middle of the alignment in a tributary that flows to Little Camas Creek.

Additionally, the delivery locations for water within the system have been solidified, and corresponding details have been prepared to ensure appropriate tie-in configurations, operational functionality, and hydraulic compatibility.

Overall, civil design elements for the pump station and pipeline are progressing in alignment with project objectives and provide a coordinated foundation for continued detailed design in the upcoming phases.

Mechanical

Mechanical engineering design for the pump station and pipeline system has achieved significant milestones during the current reporting period, advancing from 0% to a 60% design level. The system-wide transient (surge) analysis has been completed, establishing maximum surge pressures throughout the pipeline network and identifying the mitigation measures required to ensure safe and reliable system performance under both normal and upset operating conditions.

Pump sizing has been finalized based on hydraulic performance requirements, resulting in the determination of the corresponding power draw and electrical load necessary to support pump operations. This information has been coordinated with the electrical and structural disciplines to inform equipment selection, building sizing, and power distribution design. All of which will be coordinated with Idaho Power.

The mechanical layout of the pump station has progressed with the design and selection of the pump station intake, manifold configuration, process piping, including associated valves, fittings, and appurtenances. These designs reflect hydraulic performance needs, operational accessibility, maintenance requirements, and integration with structural and civil site constraints.

Winch and bridge crane loading requirements have been established to ensure safe lifting, removal, and maintenance of the pumps and associated mechanical components. These load requirements support structural design of crane supports and will be used to inform future operations and maintenance personnel.

It is also noted that the project has incorporated a surge tower in lieu of a traditional surge tank system. Unlike typical surge tanks that require high-cost air compressors reliant on continuous electrical or backup power, the surge tower design employs simple hydraulic principles to absorb and mitigate surge events. This solution reduces mechanical and electrical complexity while enhancing system reliability by eliminating the need for powered equipment to manage surge conditions.

Overall, mechanical design efforts continue to progress in coordination with other engineering disciplines and form a robust foundation for advancing detailed design in the next project phase.

Electrical

Substantial progress has been made in the electrical design for the project during the 60% design phase. Pump sizes and corresponding power demands have been finalized by the mechanical team, thereby establishing a solid preliminary electrical load profile for the facility and enabling progression into detailed equipment sizing and layout. There will be ancillary loads that will be included in the design as the 90% design effort moves forward. The power source and delivery point are in coordination with Idaho Power Company (IPCO), and some adjustments are likely to the exterior transformers once final layout is approved by IPCO.

The transformer pad designs have been further developed, with refinement of the pad dimensions, loading requirements i.e. transformers, and integration with site grading. Additionally, two alternative electrical equipment configurations have been prepared, each based on the specifications of different manufacturers offering equivalent performance. These alternatives incorporate variations in switchgear arrangement, protective devices, equipment clearances, and spatial requirements, and have assisted in establishing the size and footprint of the electrical and control building that will accommodate either manufacturer‘s electrical distribution configuration. This selection provides a stable basis for ongoing coordination with the structural disciplines and for continued advancement of the detailed electrical layout.

Overall, the electrical design is advancing and is well positioned for continued development in the subsequent design phase.

CONTROLS

Controls engineering activities for the pump station have advanced as well during the 60% design phase. Development of the process and instrumentation (P&ID) for the pump station system has progressed, with major process flows, instrumentation points, control valves, sensing devices, interlocks, and system monitoring interfaces now defined. The P&ID reflects coordination with mechanical and electrical to get accurate representation of process functionality, safety requirements, and control logic needs. A network diagram showcasing point-to-point network connections has been constructed; conduit runs and tags are shown in the drawings for implementation in the field.

In parallel, the electrical one-line diagrams have been developed to a level that establishes the overall control system architecture, including power distribution to control panels, instrumentation circuits, motor control centers, and integration points with supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems. These diagrams incorporate finalized pump sizes, control equipment requirements, and communication pathways essential for system automation and monitoring.

Collectively, these design advances provide a coordinated basis for continued development of detailed control logic, I/O assignments, control panel layouts, and SCADA integration during the next design phase.

Structural
Considerable advancement has been made in the structural design for the pump station and associated pipeline facilities during the current design phase. The structural floor plan for the pump station's electrical building has been developed. The foundation and framing requirements necessary to support the finalized architectural layout and electrical equipment loads have also been established.

The structural foundation and framing plans for the pump station's bridge crane have been developed. These plans define the structural support system for the 10-ton bridge crane rails, associated beams, and load-transferring elements required to accommodate the operational lifting capacities and maintenance functions of the facility.

Design of the pump and pipe maintenance winch system have been advanced. This includes the structural support components and access platform required to safely sustain lifting and handling loads associated with pump extraction and pipe maintenance operations.

Further progress includes the design of multiple cast-in-place concrete vaults intended to house process mechanical piping and appurtenances. These vaults have been configured to meet structural loading requirements, access needs, and integration with site grading and pipeline alignments.

In addition, both horizontal and vertical thrust blocks are being designed for the pipeline system based on recent geotechnical field measurements. Final sizing will be determined during the 90% design phase. These designs address operational hydraulic forces, soil conditions, and alignment constraints to ensure long-term stability and performance of the pressurized pipeline network.

Overall, structural design activities are progressing in alignment with project milestones and provide a solid basis for continued detailed design and interdisciplinary coordination.

Opinion of Probable Construction Cost

Current cost opinions were obtained with two methods; 1) development of a 60% OPCC and 2) an Idaho Power Company provided estimate.

The current 60% OPCC was classified as Class 2 per the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering (AACE). This cost opinion summarizes costs with a -15% on the low side and +20% on the high side due to level of design and available pricing information at the time of OPCC development. The total construction cost for the 60% OPCC is 53,149,000. Table 1 below summarizes the OPCC with high and low ranges specified.

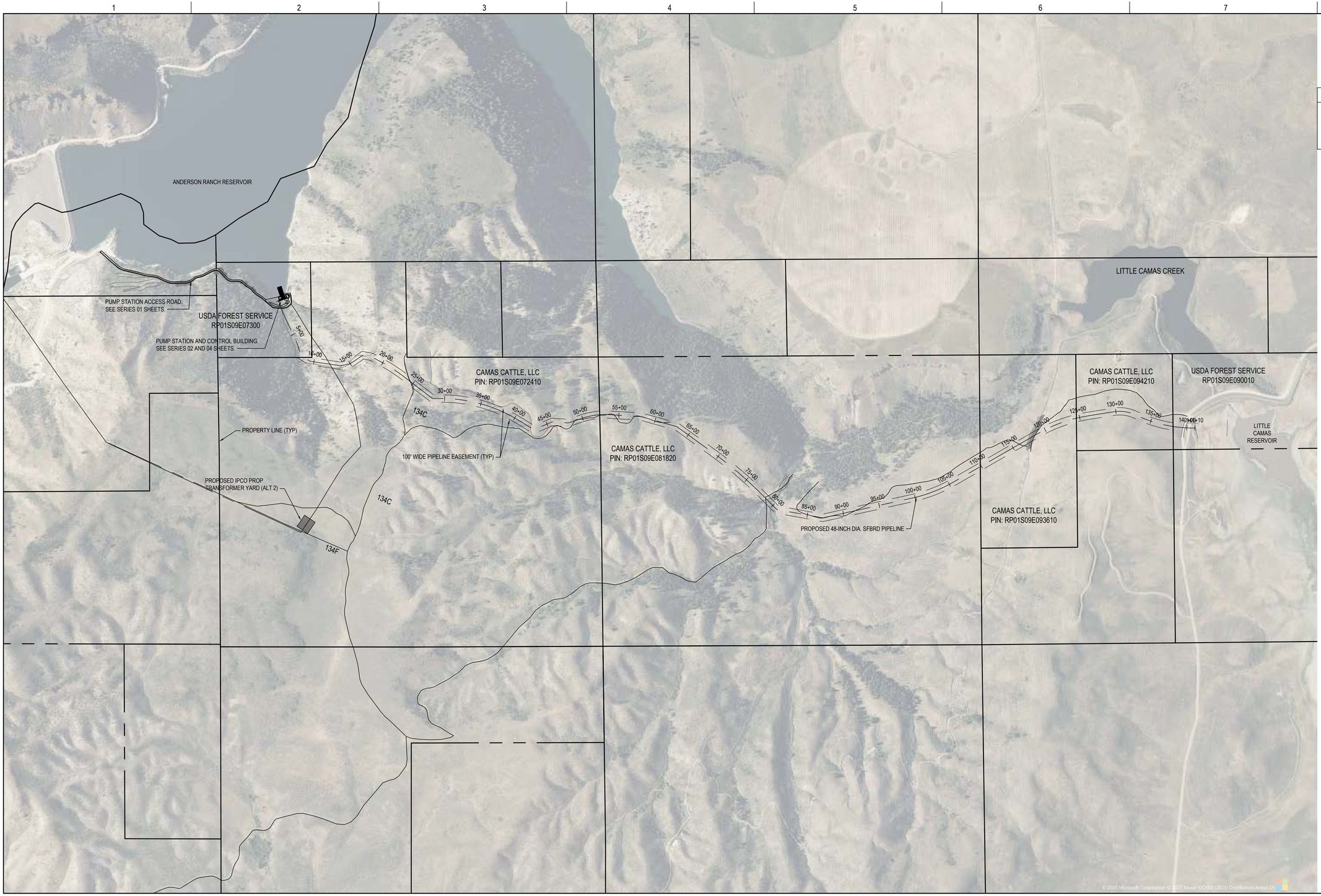
Table 1. Summary of 60% OPCC

High Range		Low Range
+20%	Construction Cost	-15%
$63,779,000	$53,149,000	$45,177,000

Additional cost opinions were obtained through an Idaho Power Company provided Engineering Assessment. “Option #2: Point of Delivery at Pumping Facility (Overhead Down Canyon Rim)” was the selected option. The Idaho Power Company Option 2 total is $19,759,578. The Idaho Power Company cost opinion in included in the Appendix.
The Idaho Power Option 2 and 60% OPCC combined cost opinions yield $72,908,578 for total construction costs. Table 2 below summarizes the combined opinion of costs. Note the Idaho power estimate did not include high and low range as part of their cost opinion, this is reflected in the table below. Therefore with the +20/-15% certainty on the 60% OPCC combined with the Idaho Power singular cost, the range of construction costs are estimate at approximately $65M on the low to $83M on the high end.

Table 2. Combined Cost Opinions

	High Range		Low Range
	+20%	Construction Cost	-15%
60% OPCC	$63,779,000	$53,149,000	$45,177,000
Idaho Power	$19,759,578	$19,759,578	$19,759,578
Total	**$83,558,578**	**$72,908**,578	**$64,936,578**



NOT TO SCALE

GENERAL NOTES

1. AERIAL IMAGERY IS APPROXIMATE FROM CAD.

C:\USERS\DBRANDS\DOCACCDOCS\HDR\10355030_ELMORE_COUNTY_SFBRD_FY23_2024\PROJECT FILES\HDR\DRAWING FILES\00C-101.DWG
03/08/2024 10:57:56 AM

ISSUE	DATE	DESCRIPTION
C	12/16/2025	60% ISSUED FOR REVIEW
B	07/28/2025	45% ISSUED FOR REVIEW
A	04/10/2023	30% DRAFT

PROJECT MANAGER	M. BOECK
CIVIL	H. WHITE
STRUCTURAL	R. MANSKE
PROCESS/MECH	J. JUSTICE
ELECTRICAL AND I&C	G. CHIN
DESIGNED BY	D. BRANDS
DRAWN BY	D. BRANDS
CHECKED BY	
PROJECT NUMBER	10355030

PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR
CONSTRUCTION OR
RECORDING

ELMORE COUNTY SFBRD PUMP STATION AND PIPELINE

GENERAL
CIVIL
EXISTING SITE PLAN, CONSTRUCTION ACCESS, AND STAGING

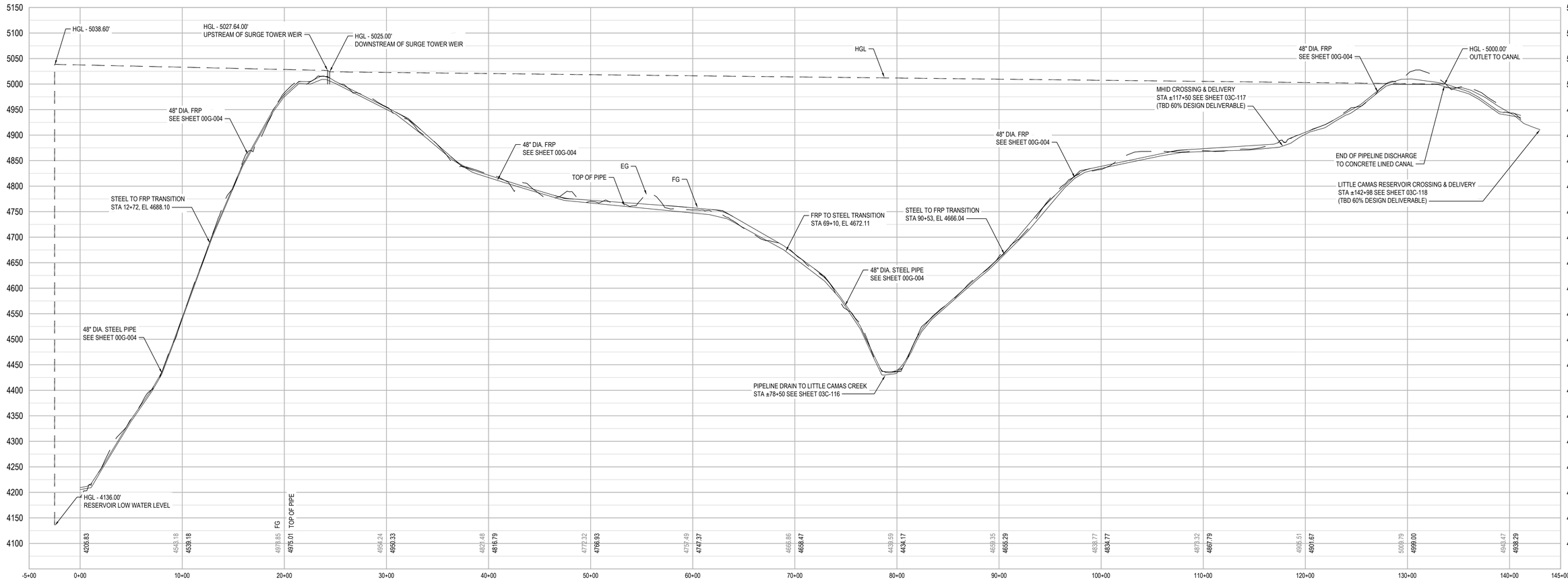
FILENAME 00C-101.DWG
SCALE AS NOTED
0 1" 2"

SHEET
00C-101

500 0 500 1000
SCALE IN FEET VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 100'

GENERAL NOTES

1. HYDRAULIC GRADE LINE (HGL) ASSUMES HAZEN-WILLIAMS COEFFICIENT, C = 120, AND FLOW THROUGH SYSTEM Q = 70 CFS.
2. MAX WORKING PRESSURE OF FRP ASSUMED TO BE 150 PSI.



C:\USERS\DBRAND5\DOCACCDOCS\HDR\10355030_ELMORE_COUNTY_SFBRD_FY23_2024\PROJECT FILES\HDR\DRAWING FILES\00D-002.DWG
03/08/2024 10:57:56 AM

ISSUE	DATE	DESCRIPTION
C	12/16/2025	60% ISSUED FOR REVIEW
B	07/28/2025	45% ISSUED FOR REVIEW
A	04/10/2023	30% DRAFT

PROJECT MANAGER	M. BOECK
CIVIL	H. WHITE
STRUCTURAL	R. MANSKE
PROCESS/MECH	J. JUSTICE
ELECTRICAL AND I&C	G. CHIN
DESIGNED BY	J. JUSTICE
DRAWN BY	H. WHITE
CHECKED BY	
PROJECT NUMBER	10355030

PRELIMINARY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION OR RECORDING

ELMORE COUNTY SFBRD PUMP STATION AND PIPELINE

GENERAL PROCESS HYDRAULIC PROFILE

FILENAME 00D-002.DWG
SCALE AS NOTED
0 1" 2"

SHEET 00D-002

Appendix D. MHID Canal Analysis Proposal 10/10/2025

October 10, 2025

Bud Corbus, Commissioner
Shondi Lott, Attorney
Elmore County Board of Commissioners
150 South 4th East
Mountain Home, ID 83647
via email: budcorbus@gmail.com
slott@elmorecounty.org

Subject: Proposal for MHID Canal Improvement Analysis

Dear Bud and Shondi,

HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) is pleased to provide the following scope of work and cost estimate to identify alternatives to improve the efficiency and reliability of MHID's canal from Little Camas Reservoir to Long Tom Creek.

Background

The Mountain Home Irrigation District canal is a 13-mile conveyance that delivers water from Little Camas Reservoir into the East Fork Long Tom Creek. The conveyance is an excavated canal with 14 tunnel sections, which were constructed in the early 1900s. Water discharged to East Fork Long Tom Creek can then flow downstream through Canyon Creek to provide irrigation to lands within the Mountain Home Irrigation District (MHID).

MHID has experienced cave-ins in their tunnels and has been repairing them as necessary to put the canal back in service as quickly as possible. The repairs are typically isolated to the area of the cave-in and do not address full lengths of tunnels. These repairs reduce the cross-sectional area of the tunnels, which reduces hydraulic capacity. The tunnels are well over 100 years old and were not lined when originally construction. Their age and lack of lining creates a failure risk every irrigation season.

The excavated canal has experienced historical failures, but MHID staff can typically make repairs within days to the canal bank. There is evidence the canal does leak along its alignment, but it is unknown if the seepage losses are excessive.

Previous work on the MHID canal has been completed by SPF Water Engineering and HDR over the past seven years. HDR staff have historical data and first-hand knowledge that will provide a foundational background to perform additional analysis. A seepage study is needed to identify the canal reaches that are losing excess water to seepage. With that knowledge, alternatives for reducing seepage can be developed. Alternatives for reducing tunnel failure risk will also be addressed within the following scope of work.

Scope of Work

HDR proposes the following tasks.

Task 1 – Canal Flow Measurement

HDR will utilize their open-channel flow measurement equipment to measure discharge at up to fifteen (15) locations along the length of the MHID canal system beginning near the concrete flume at the Little Camas Reservoir discharge, ending at the Cipolletti Weir 13.2 miles downstream at the Long Tom Creek discharge, and at reasonable intervals in-between. The "in-between" measurement sites will focus on areas with visible groundwater discharge occurring downslope of the canal. We recommend doing three measurement events in approximately June, July, and August. These measurements will help to determine if there are stretches of the canal that have excessive leakage and determine how much loss occurs over the length of the system. During each event, the canal will be visually inspected to confirm that there are no areas of overflow or other non-seepage losses.

The schedule for the three measurement events will be adjusted as appropriate based on water supply and weather. For example, in the event of a drought year with limited water supply, measurements will likely be accelerated to start in May so that three events can be conducted before water supplies are depleted. Similarly, if water supplies are good, the first event may be postponed so that runoff from the watershed above the canal is not adding flow into the canal during the event.

In addition to the field measurements, HDR will pursue installation of level instruments at the Little Camas flume and Long Tom Creek weir. If installations are feasible, the data collected from the instruments will provide accurate time-stamped flowrates at the inlet and outlet so overall canal losses can be calculated at different flow rates over most of the season.

We assume that MHID staff will be available to assist in the seepage study. At a minimum, MHID will maintain a steady release from Little Camas Reservoir during each measurement event and for approximately 24 hours proceeding the event. The MHID Water Master will also log when adjustments to the canal flow are manually made throughout the season.

Task 2 – Canal Improvement Alternatives

HDR will evaluate up to three (3) canal lining alternatives for the open channel to reduce seepage losses. The information from Task 1 will be used to identify the locations along the canal that have the highest seepage losses that may be good candidates for lining.

Task 3 – Tunnel Analysis and Improvement Alternatives

HDR will review the videos MHID has taken of the 14 tunnels in the past 3 seasons, to get a general understanding of the conditions and document where repairs have occurred. HDR will perform a desktop analysis using the information gained from the videos and discussions with MHID staff to rank the conditions of the tunnels. HDR will select up to 5 tunnels to gain additional information on existing conditions that may negatively influence hydraulic capacity and the viability of rehabilitation. Additional information on existing conditions can be obtained by MHID making manual measurements and HDR using additional video and LiDAR survey equipment. An

allowance has been included in the budget for equipment use and staff to obtain additional information.

HDR will select up to three (3) options to improve the integrity of the tunnels, improve hydraulic capacity where possible, and increase reliability. HDR staff are not planning on entering any of the tunnels.

DELIVERABLES

A technical memorandum will be developed summarizing the work from each task. The canal profile drawing previously created will be updated with flow data at each measurement location. Recommendations for canal lining and tunnel improvements will be made, and high-level probability of costs will be included for the recommended improvements.

SCOPE OF WORK ASSUMPTIONS

- In providing opinions of probable construction cost, HDR has no control over cost or price of labor and materials, unknown or latent conditions of existing equipment or structures that might affect operation or maintenance costs, competitive bidding procedures and market conditions, time or quality of performance by operating personnel or third parties, and other economic and operational factors that might materially affect the ultimate project construction cost or schedule. HDR, therefore, will not warranty that project costs will not vary from their opinions, analyses, projections, or estimates.
- HDR can access the canal and the tunnels using on-road vehicles and existing roads. Any coordination with property owners will be done by MHID or Elmore County.
- We have included two days of field survey by JJ Howard to supplement historical topographical data on file.
- Instruments placed in the field will be retrieved during the last field measurement.
- MHID will be available to assist HDR staff with their field work. Depending on equipment used within the tunnels, the tunnel floors may need to be cleared of large debris and equipment may need to be retrieved by MHID staff.
- Advanced design, permitting, legal entitlements, and easements are not included.

Schedule

HDR anticipates needing approximately 4 months to complete Task 1 while the canal is flowing. Task 3 will require approximately one month when the canal is not flowing. It is anticipated a Notice to Proceed (NTP) will be received before March 2026 and all services will be performed by November 30, 2026.

Estimated Costs

HDR proposes performing this work on a time and materials basis with an estimated budget of $158,400.

Estimated Costs by Task	
Task 1 – Canal Flow Measurement	$51,400
Task 2 – Canal Improvement Alternatives	$27,100
Task 3 – Tunnel Analysis and Improvement Alternatives	$37,900
Allowance – LiDAR Equipment and Field Staff	$42,000
Total	$158,400

The work shall be conducted under the attached Elmore County approved standard terms and conditions and HDR's standard hourly rates, which are based on a raw labor multiplier of 3.23. The estimated budget includes labor, equipment, and expenses.

Please return a signed copy to our office. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Respectfully submitted,

HDR ENGINEERING, INC

By _____
Robert R. Hardgrove
Vice President

By _____
Jon Osier
Vice President & Idaho Area Manager

ELMORE COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Idaho

By _____
Franklin L. Corbus, Chairperson

By _____
Crystal Rodgers, Commissioner

By _____
Albert Hofer, Commissioner

ATTEST:

By _____
Shelley Essl, Elmore County Clerk

Date: _____

Appendix E. Snake River Alternatives Analysis Proposal 10/7/2025

October 7, 2025

Bud Corbus, Commissioner
Shondi Lott, Attorney
Elmore County Board of Commissioners
150 South 4th East
Mountain Home, ID 83647
via email: budcorbus@gmail.com
slott@elmorecounty.org

Subject: Proposal for Snake River Alternatives Study

Dear Bud and Shondi,

HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) is pleased to provide the following scope of work and cost estimate to conduct a study of various alternative pump station and pipeline locations to supply Snake River water to lands in the Mountain Home vicinity.

Background

Groundwater levels in the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer have been declining for more than 40 years. Water levels are declining because groundwater withdrawals exceed recharge rates. A 2017 water supply study estimated that average annual pumping volumes exceed annual recharge volumes by approximately 40,000 acre feet. Since completion of that water study, the Elmore County Board of Commissioners have sought ways to increase recharge rates and decrease groundwater pumping to stabilize aquifer water levels. One method that has been considered is importing water from the Snake River to replace groundwater that is pumped for irrigation purposes. Snake River water could also be used for groundwater recharge when not needed for irrigation.

In 2017, the Elmore County Board of Commissioners (County) applied for a water right permit from the Snake River seeking 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) for groundwater recharge, supplemental irrigation within Mountain Home Irrigation District, and municipal purposes in the City of Mountain Home. The application proposed pumping Snake River water from CJ Strike Reservoir through a pipeline extending north along Strike Dam Road and east along State Highway 67/167 (Airbase Road) to Mountain Home. The pipeline would have shared an easement, and potentially facilities, with a pipeline proposed to be constructed from the same pump station site to Mountain Home Air Force Base. At that time, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) - the proponent of the Air Force Base project - was actively inviting such proposals to share infrastructure. This is the reason the County's permit application identifies a point of diversion on CJ Strike Reservoir.

Protests to the County's water right permit application were resolved in 2019, but since that time, the application had been held for various reasons without formal decision by the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). In the meantime, it became clear sharing infrastructure with IWRB and the Air Force was no longer a possibility, and construction of the Air Force Base pipeline proceeded on that basis without accommodations for the County's project. IDWR

approved the County's 20 cfs permit application, for the recharge and irrigation uses only, on September 12, 2025.

Based on these changed circumstances, the previously proposed pump station and pipeline locations may not be the optimum locations. Instead, a shorter, more cost-effective pipeline route extending from the Snake River north to Mountain Home may now make more sense. The County would like to evaluate alternative locations for the pump station and pipeline before selecting a final, definitive location for further permitting, planning, and design. This pump station and pipeline would be the first phase of the County's Snake River development project.

The County also recognizes an opportunity to facilitate supply of Snake River water to groundwater irrigated farms located outside of Mountain Home Irrigation District. In areas south of Mountain Home, approximately 6,000 acres are irrigated exclusively from groundwater. If these lands could be irrigated from the Snake River, the groundwater deficit in the County could be reduced by 15,000 to 20,000 acre feet annually. The County would like to evaluate locations for a nominal 100 cfs pump station and pipeline to supply these lands and then submit an application for permit for supplemental irrigation purposes. This pump station and pipeline would be a second phase of Snake River development project. HDR will explore alternatives to accommodate an economically sound expansion of Phase 1 pumpstation and pipeline and associated infrastructure

Scope of Work

HDR proposes the following tasks.

Task 1 – Phase 1 Pump Station and Pipeline Routing Evaluation

HDR will evaluate three alternatives for Phase 1 that will supply up to 20 cfs to the Mountain Home Irrigation District and to recharge sites near Mountain Home. The three sites listed below are initially proposed, although these sites may require adjustment based on preliminary investigations.

- Existing Clover Hollow Pump Station and Pipeline. Clover Hollow Company and South Elmore Irrigation Company have adjacent pump stations located in Lot 2 (NESW) of Section 28, T5S, R7E. This pump station location is approximately seven miles upstream of the Highway 51 bridge (i.e., Loveridge Bridge). Clover Hollow representatives have expressed willingness to work with the County on sharing their facilities, and the Clover Hollow delivery infrastructure extends to the southern boundary of the Mountain Home Irrigation District. An additional pipeline would need to extend north to supply recharge water to the County's recharge sites north of I-84, and capacity upgrades or winterization upgrades may be needed.
- A new facility upstream of Loveridge Bridge. The County could construct a new pump station and pipeline at a location upstream of Loveridge Bridge. It is possible that the new pump station could share access and intake with Clover Hollow and South Elmore or be constructed at a location closer to the Bridge. The Clover Hollow/South Elmore site would likely include a pipeline adjacent to the Clover Hollow pipeline. The location closer to the bridge could include a pipeline extending up Highway 51 or potentially another direct route, such as Powerline Road.

- A new facility downstream of Loveridge Bridge. A potential pump station location would be at the mouth of Rattlesnake Creek, approximately 3 miles downstream of Loveridge Bridge. An existing pump station (Gingrich/Shetler/Hamilton) is at this location and the County will need to determine if sharing of access is possible. A pipeline from this location could cross open BLM land for approximately ½ mile and then follow Gravel Pit Road to Highway 51.

For each of the above alternatives, HDR will briefly describe the required facilities (pump size, pipeline diameter, routes, site improvements, power upgrades, etc.). The need for booster stations and storage ponds will be assessed and included if required. A conceptual level cost estimate (AACE Level 4) will be provided for each alternative, along with an estimate of operating costs per acre foot delivered. Pros and cons for each site will be discussed, including access issues, power supply, environmental permitting, and known easement issues. Because a watermaster actively regulates diversions from the Snake River in priority, we do not believe it is necessary for this effort to include evaluation of potential injury to other water rights arising from changing the proposed point of diversion. The conceptual descriptions should be adequate for the County to choose their preferred alternative. The County will then proceed to permitting, funding, design, and easement acquisition under separate contracts.

As part of this Task, the County will provide initial liaison with existing pump station owners and with landowners in the southern portion of the Mountain Home Irrigation District. Approximately six meetings are anticipated. Meetings with landowners in Mountain Home Irrigation District will include identification of water delivery locations and water delivery requirements (rates and pressures).

DELIVERABLES

- Phase 1 Alternative Evaluation Report (PDF).

Task 2 – Phase 2 Pump Station and Pipeline Routing Evaluation

HDR will evaluate three alternatives for Phase 2 that could supply approximately 100 cfs to groundwater-irrigated lands located south of Mountain Home. The three alternative pump locations will be the same locations evaluated in Phase 1, but pipeline routes may be different because different lands will be served.

As a first step, HDR will identify groundwater irrigated lands in this area. The County will then make initial contact with the landowners to gage interest in the project. Interested landowners will then meet with HDR to discuss water needs and existing infrastructure. HDR will then create a map of lands requesting supply and their proposed delivery rate.

As with Phase 1, HDR will briefly describe the required facilities (pump size, pipeline diameter and routes, site improvements, power upgrades, etc.) for each alternative. The need for booster stations and storage ponds will be assessed and included if required. A conceptual level cost estimate (AACE Level 4) will be provided for each alternative, along with an estimate of operating costs per acre foot delivered. Pros and cons for each site will be discussed, including access issues, power supply, environmental permitting, and known easement issues. The conceptual

descriptions should be adequate for the County to choose their preferred alternative. The County will then prepare a water right permit application under a separate contract.

DELIVERABLES

- Phase 2 Alternative Evaluation Report (PDF).

Task 3 - Project Management

OBJECTIVE

HDR will provide project management, coordination and administrative activities through completion of deliverable.

APPROACH

- HDR will provide day-to-day management of the Task Order (TO), including general communication with status updates to the Owner as requested at meetings.
- HDR will provide oversight of project meetings, monthly invoicing, progress reporting, and quality assurance.

DELIVERABLES

- Monthly invoices and narrative status reports (PDF).

OVERALL SCOPE OF WORK ASSUMPTIONS

- This is generally a desktop exercise with limited in-field investigations.
- In providing opinions of probable construction cost, HDR has no control over cost or price of labor and materials, unknown or latent conditions of existing equipment or structures that might affect operation or maintenance costs, competitive bidding procedures and market conditions, time or quality of performance by operating personnel or third parties, and other economic and operational factors that might materially affect the ultimate project construction cost or schedule. HDR, therefore, will not warranty that project costs will not vary from their opinions, analyses, projections, or estimates.
- Direct contact with permitting entities is not included.
- Idaho Power Company will be contacted for high-level, no-cost input regarding the feasibility of supplying power to the sites. Idaho Power work orders and design fees are not included.
- Location and alignment maps will be ArcGIS generated; survey is not included.
- Advanced design, permitting, legal entitlements, and easements are not included.

Schedule

HDR anticipates needing approximately 4 months to complete Task 1 after Notice to Proceed (NTP) and Elmore County's initial contact with appropriate landowners. It assumes an NTP on or before December 1, 2025. If Task 2 is part of the initial contract, it will add a month to the overall schedule. If Task 2 NTP is delayed, the budget and timeframe will be reevaluated at that time.

Estimated Costs

HDR proposes to conduct this work on a time and materials basis with an estimated budget of $207,400.

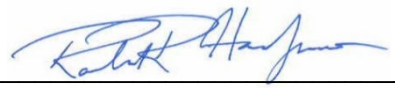
Estimated Costs by Task	
1 – Phase 1 Investigation & Report	$129,200
2 – Phase 2 Investigation & Report	$67,300
3 – Support/Project Management	$10,900
Total	$207,400

The work shall be conducted under the attached Elmore County approved standard terms and conditions and HDR's standard hourly rates, which are based on a raw labor multiplier of 3.23. The estimated budget includes labor, equipment, and expenses.

Please return a signed copy to our office. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Respectfully submitted,

HDR ENGINEERING, INC

By 
Robert R. Hardgrove
Vice President

By 
Jon Osier
Vice President & Idaho Area Manager

ELMORE COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Idaho

By _____
Franklin L. Corbus, Chairperson

By _____
Crystal Rodgers, Commissioner

By _____
Albert Hofer, Commissioner

ATTEST:

By _____
Shelley Essl, Elmore County Clerk

Date: _____

Idaho Water Resource Board
Aquifer Stabilization Committee

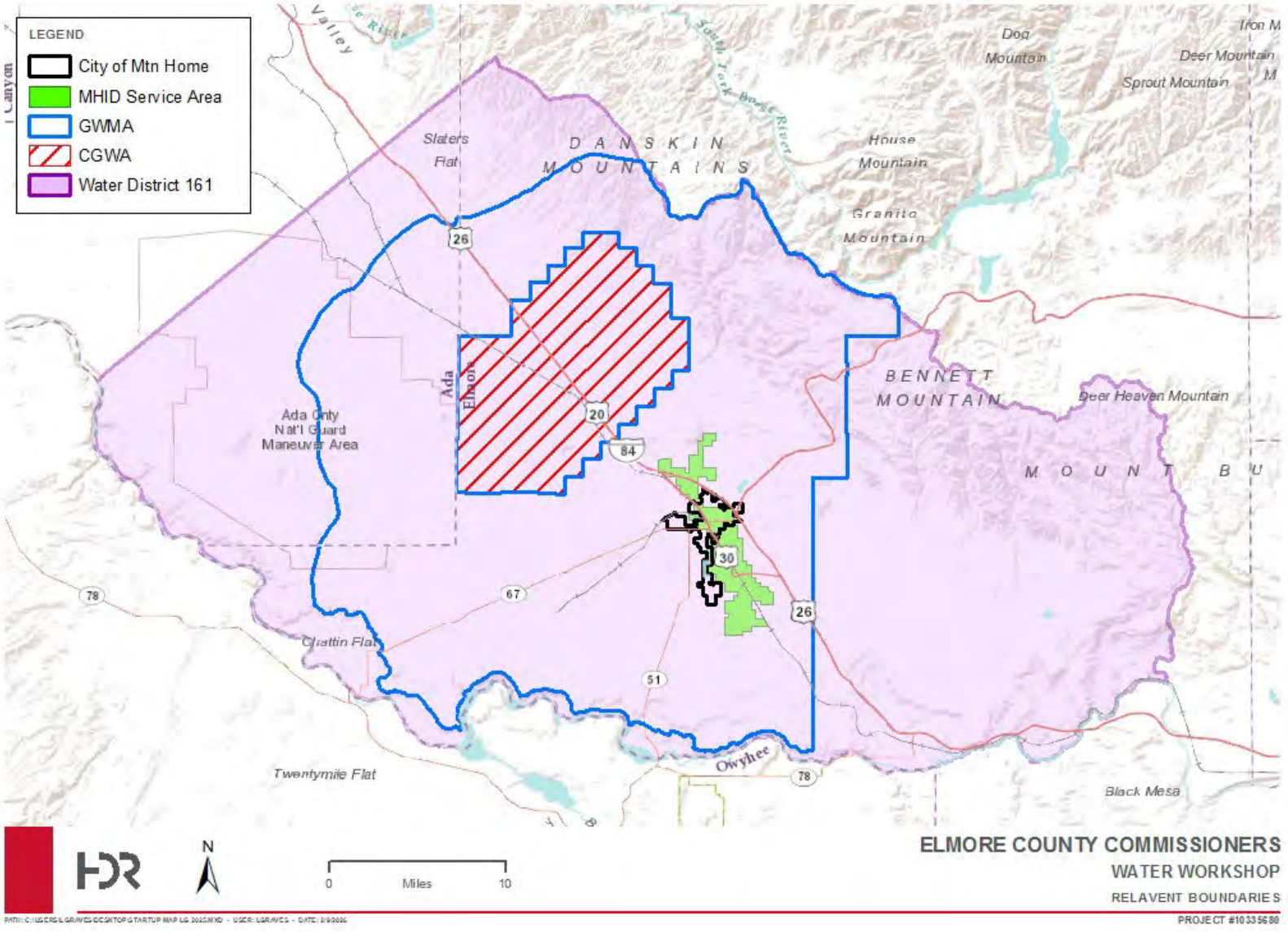
Elmore County's request to create

The Mountain Home Plateau Regional Water Sustainability Program

March 26, 2026

Statement of the Problem

- *Groundwater pumping exceeds annual rate of recharge by 30,000 to 40,000 acre feet annually on the Mountain Home Plateau*
- *Water levels are declining in areas of intense pumping*
- *Significant economic impacts will occur if no action is taken*



County Goals Related to Water

- **Stop water-level decline in the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer**
- **Avoid curtailment of existing groundwater rights and associated beneficial uses**
- **Develop new water supplies to support municipal, industrial, commercial, and domestic growth**
- **Support long-term viability of MHAFB**

Methods to Achieve County Water Goals

A 30KAF to 40KAF annual reduction will stabilize aquifer water levels. Additional reductions in net groundwater pumping volume can support economic growth

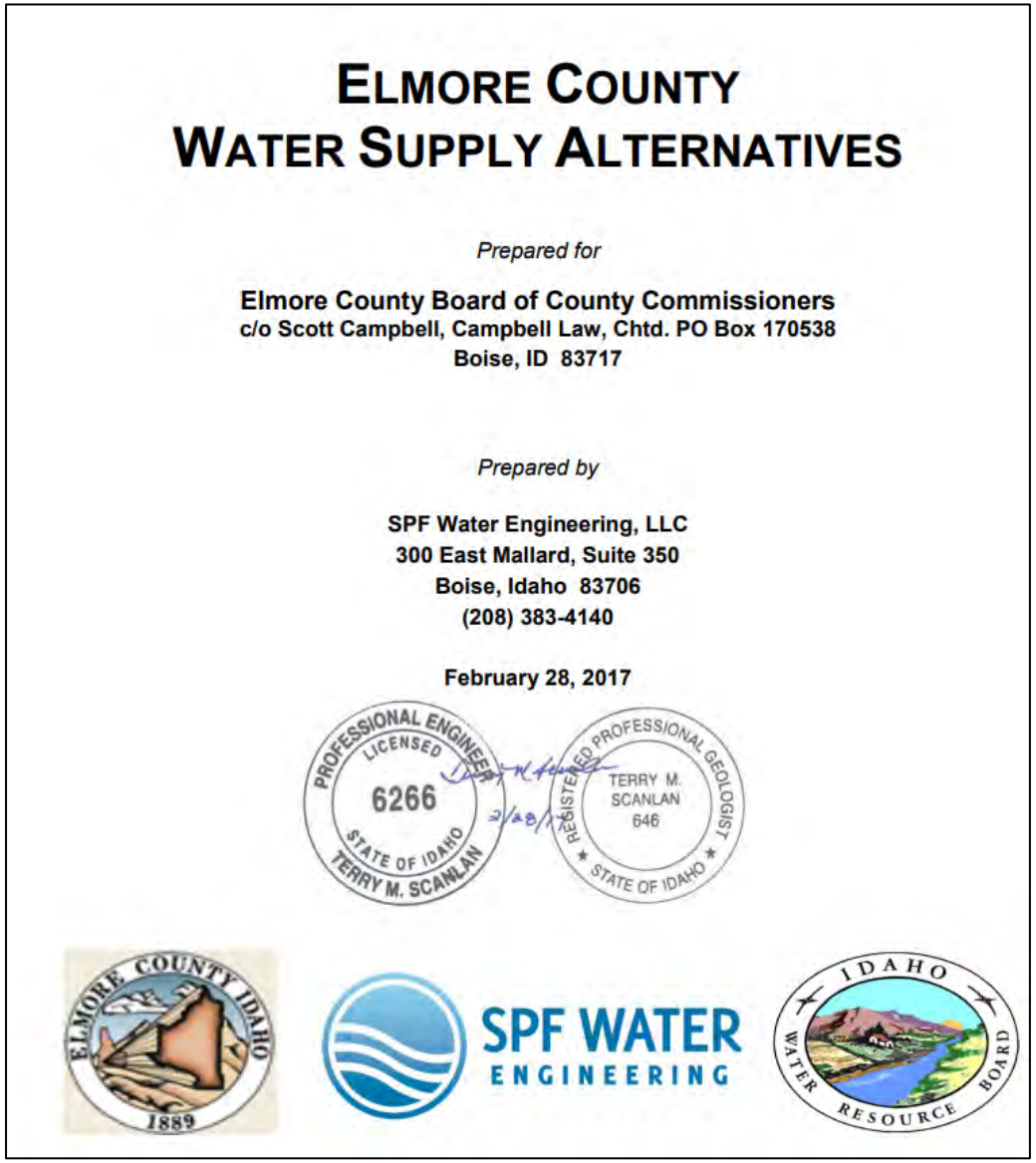
Reduce net groundwater extraction from the aquifer through:

- **Aquifer recharge**
- **Conversion of groundwater uses to surface water sources**

These actions will require

- **Acquisition of deliverable surface water rights to accomplish recharge and conversions**
- **Funding assistance for construction and operation of facilities to import and deliver surface water**

2017 Elmore County Water Alternatives Report – 2026 Update



ELMORE COUNTY
WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES

Prepared for

Elmore County Board of County Commissioners
c/o Scott Campbell, Campbell Law, Chtd. PO Box 170538
Boise, ID 83717

Prepared by

SPF Water Engineering, LLC
300 East Mallard, Suite 350
Boise, Idaho 83706
(208) 383-4140

February 28, 2017

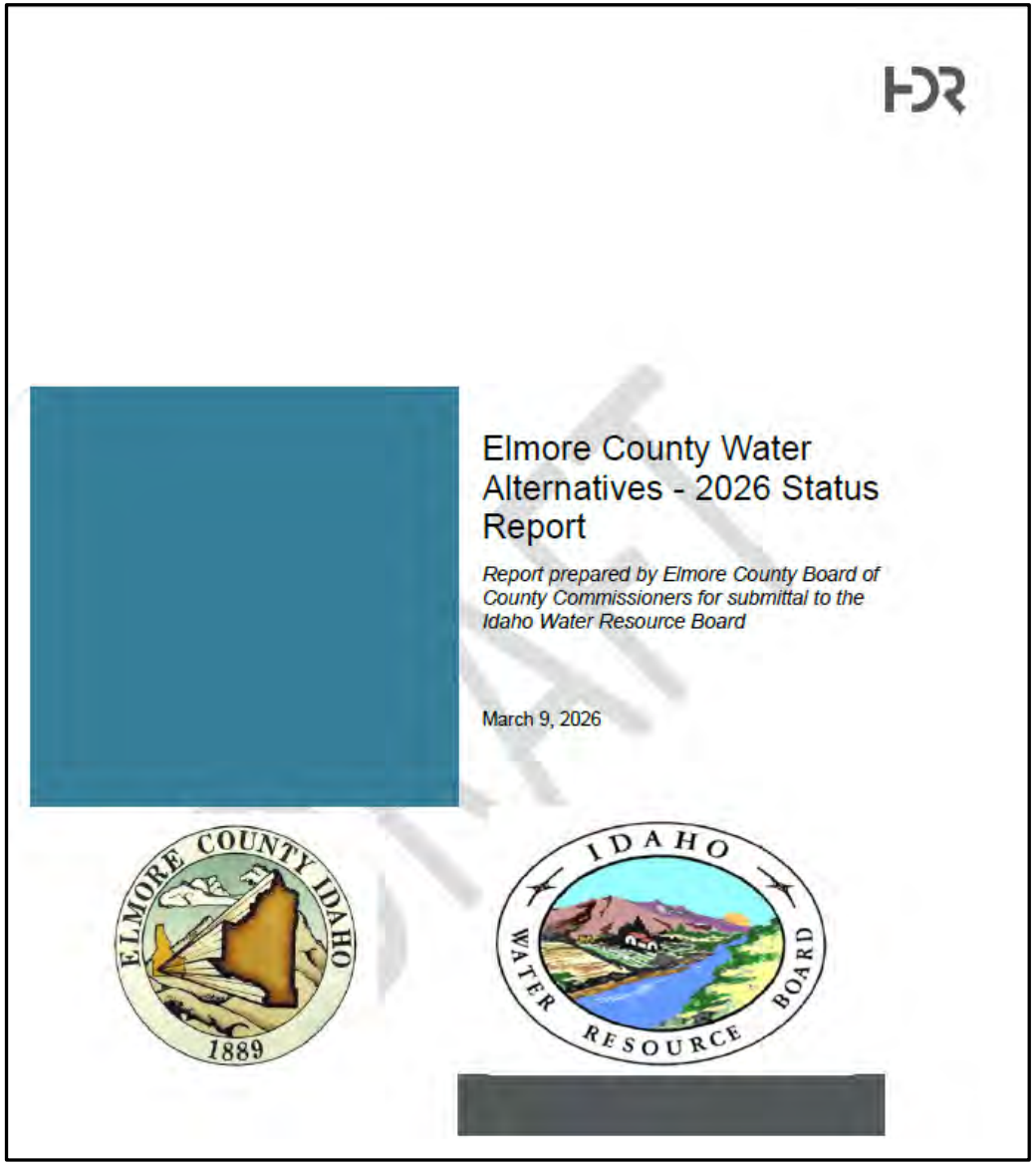
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSED 6266 STATE OF IDAHO TERRY M. SCANLAN

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST TERRY M. SCANLAN 646 STATE OF IDAHO

ELMORE COUNTY IDAHO 1889

SPF WATER ENGINEERING

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD



HDR

Elmore County Water Alternatives - 2026 Status Report

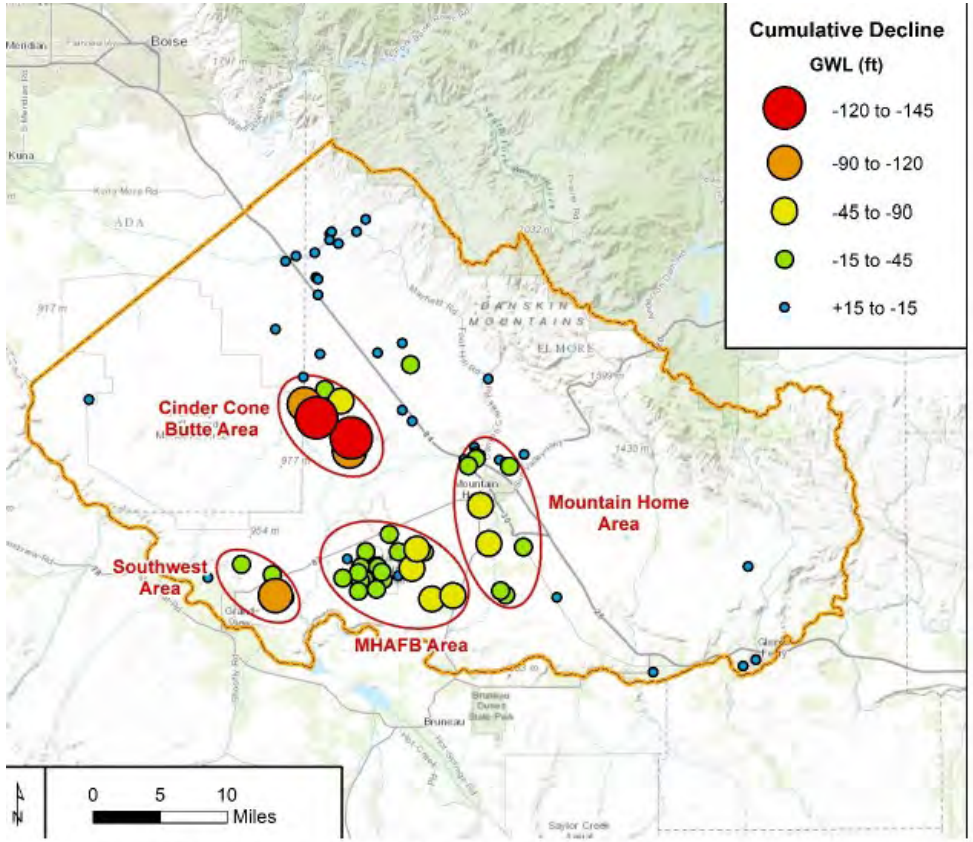
Report prepared by Elmore County Board of County Commissioners for submittal to the Idaho Water Resource Board

March 9, 2026

ELMORE COUNTY IDAHO 1889

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

2017 Report Findings



Composite groundwater-level trends (1960 – 2016).

1. Water levels
2. Pumping deficit
3. Methods to achieve groundwater-level stabilization
4. Sources of alternative water supplies
5. Infrastructure for water importation

2017 Report Recommendations

1. Snake River appropriation for supplemental irrigation, aquifer recharge, and municipal purposes
2. Snake River to Mountain Home Value Engineering Study
3. Snake River to Cinder Cone Butte Value Engineering Study
4. Boise River Reservoir Storage Space Acquisition
5. Canyon Creek Recharge Improvements

Actions taken by County since 2017

Water Rights

- Canyon Creek Recharge Water Rights
  - Licensing of lapsed permit 61-7731 – 22.68 cfs / 962 afa
  - Permit 61-12314 – 200 cfs
- South Fork Boise River Permit 63-34348
  - 200 cfs and 10,000 af storage (Little Camas Reservoir) –supplemental irrigation in MHID and recharge
- Snake River Permit 02-10535
  - 20 cfs supplemental irrigation in MHID and recharge

Actions taken by County since 2017

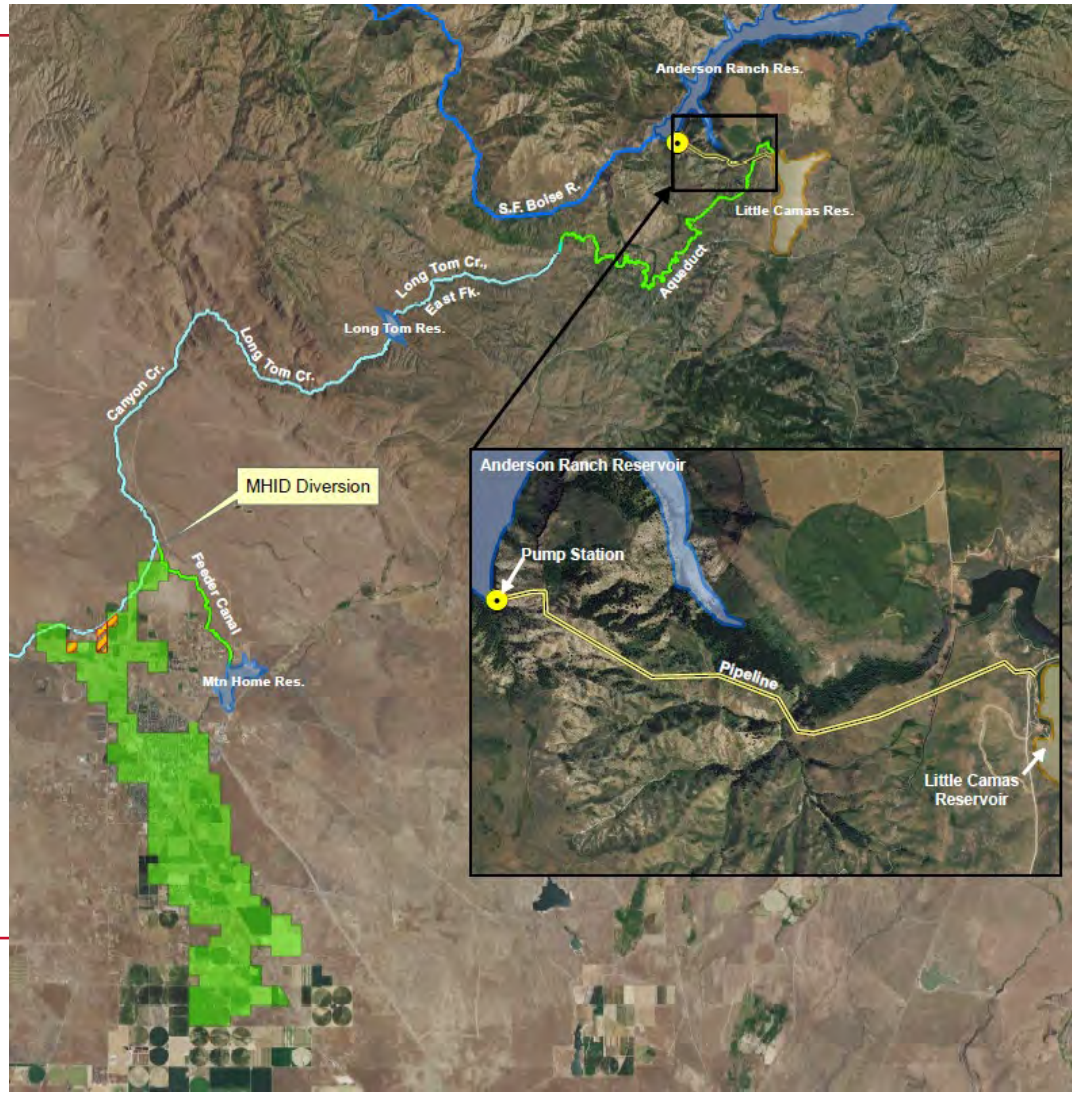
Canyon Creek Recharge

- Measurement weirs, check structures
- Water quality monitoring
- 1100 af annual average since 2017
- No water available in 2020, 21, 22, and 26

Actions taken by County since 2017

South Fork Boise River diversion project design and permitting

- 60% design complete
- 50 cfs pump station, expandable to 70 cfs
- 48-inch FRP pipe
- Pipeline easement from Camas Cattle Co.
- $73M Project Estimate
- 10,000 af/yr nominal project capacity
- Storage water sought



Actions taken by County since 2017

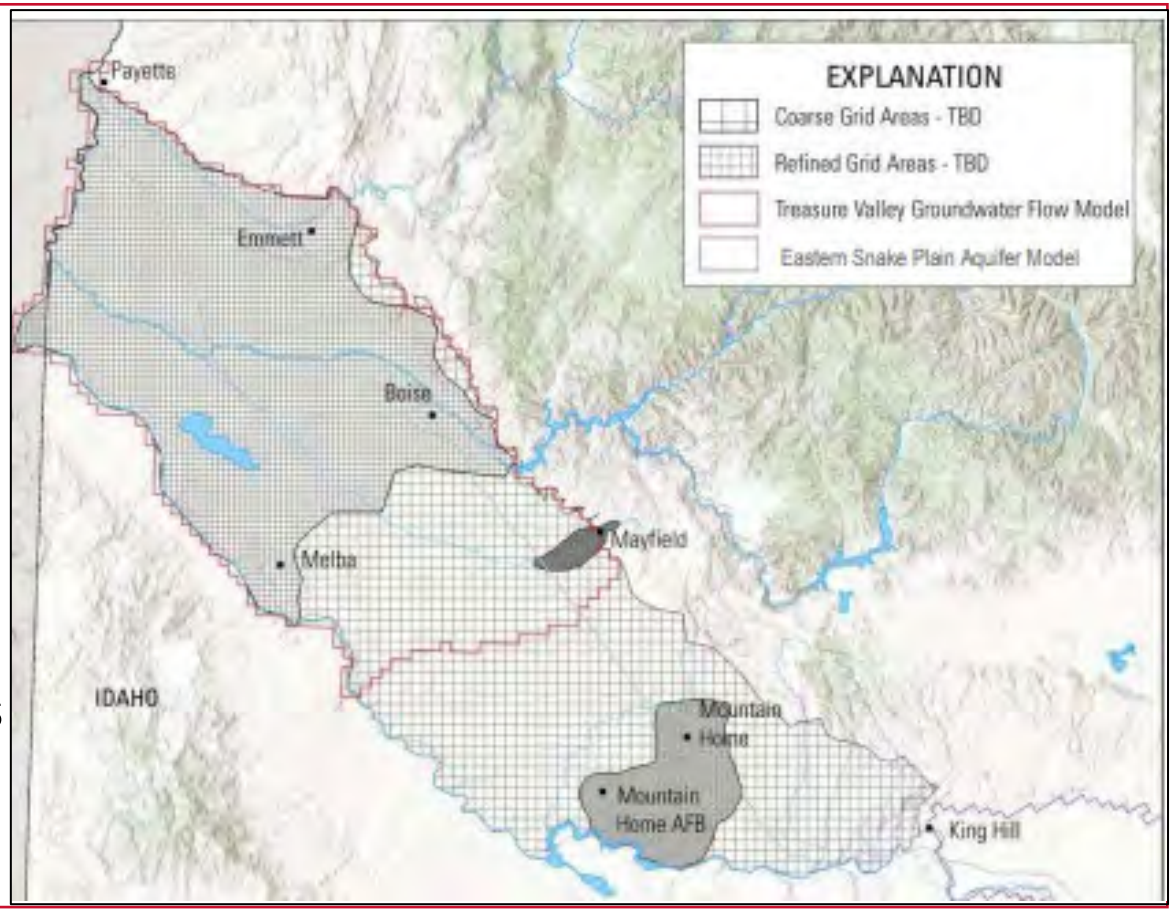
MHID Canal and Tunnel Repairs

- Tunnel 9 repair – IWRB grant
- Tunnels 10, 13, & 15 repair – IWRB grant
- Contributions from Elmore County and City of Mountain Home

Actions taken by County since 2017

Western Snake Plain Aquifer Model (WeSPAM)

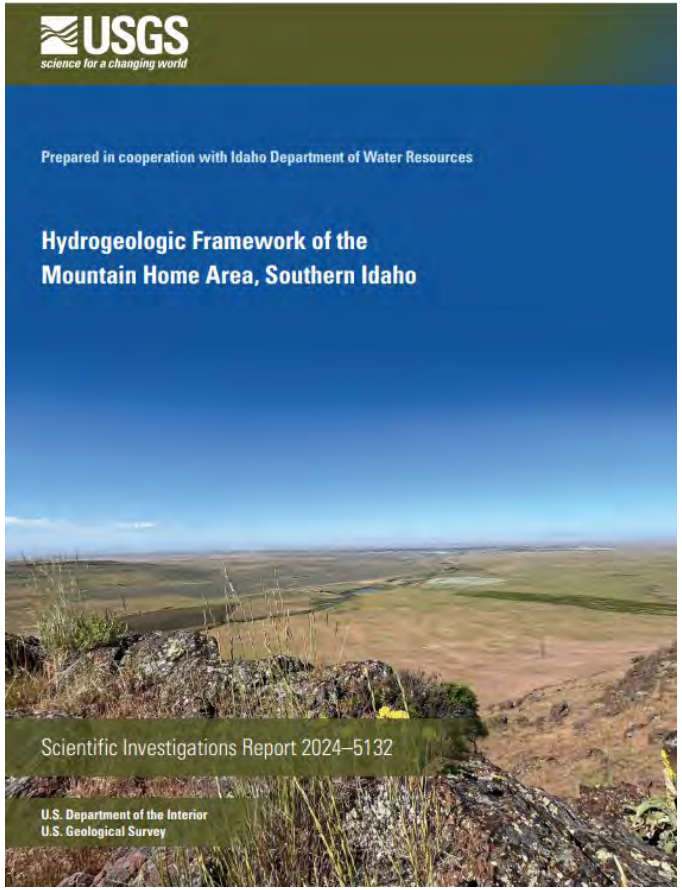
- Requested by Elmore County
- Joint USGS and IDWR effort
- IWRB funding
- Numerical model will allow determination of impacts and benefits of water management actions
- 2028 completion date



Actions taken by County since 2017

WeSPAM Associated Activities

- 5 monitoring wells constructed and equipped with transducers
- USGS published hydrogeologic framework report in 2025
- IDWR released an update of groundwater conditions in the Mountain Home GWMA and Cinder Cone Butte CGWA
- Model Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) meetings August 2025 and March 2026



Actions taken by County since 2017

Community Outreach Activities

- Water Resource Survey – 2023
  - 1,145 responses
  - High awareness of county groundwater challenges
- Elmore County Water Resources Webpage
  - links to news, current water projects, and past studies
- Water Advisory Group
  - Meets quarterly +/- with updates of water efforts
  - Attended by consultants, MHID, WD161, County Commissioner, MHAFB, ESWCD, City

Actions taken by County since 2017

Economic Study

- *Economic Impacts of Elmore County Water Supply Alternatives* - Triple Point Consulting, December 2024
- Evaluated economic impact of a 40,000 af delivery call
  - >2000 jobs lost, $424M loss in output
- Simulated 5 water supply improvement scenarios following curtailment

Actions taken by County since 2017

Historical Research

- *The History of Reclamation Efforts on the Mountain Home Plateau* - Historical Research Associates, April 2025
  - Community Water Development Advocacy Proposal, 1870s to 1920s
  - Federal Interest in Reclaiming Mountain Home, 1918 to 1960s, including Anderson Ranch Reservoir
  - Joint-Venture Plan of Development: The Swan Falls – Guffey Project

Proposed Future Actions

- South Fork Boise River water supply development – Anderson Ranch Reservoir pump station and pipeline to Little Camas Reservoir
- Mountain Home Irrigation District – canal and tunnel system upgrades
- Snake River water supply development – pump station(s) and pipeline(s)
- Project funding
- District formation – one or more districts to own and operate water supply improvement projects
- Revisit Groundwater Management Plan

Benefits of Current and Proposed Projects

Project	Assumptions	Project Annual Benefit (af)	Source Annual Benefit (af)	Cumulative Annual Benefit (af)
Canyon Creek Recharge	Canyon Creek flood water	1,100	1,100	1,100
MHAFB Sustainability	Snake River supply; based on 2010-2014 avg	1,630	1,630	2,730
SF Boise Diversion	SF Boise Flood water (50 cfs x 23 days avg avail)	2,300	7,800	5,030
	Anderson Dam Raise (10Kaf, fills 50% of years)	5,000		10,030
	Rental Pool - assumed available	500		10,530
Snake River Phase 1	Supplemental Irrigation (20 cfs x 60 days)	2,400	21,000	12,930
	Recharge (20 cfs x 90 days); MHID exchange	3,600		16,530
Snake River Phase 2	5000 acres S-SW of Mtn Home converted at 3 af/ac	15,000		31,530

Outside Influences

Anderson Dam Raise Construction

Western Snake River Plain Aquifer Model

MHID Projects

MHID Alts. Analysis	MHID Project Design & Funding	Construction of MHID Project

SFBR Diversion Project

Additional Boise River Water Procurement	BOR Water Modeling	IPC Construction (48-60 mo)	
	NEPA & Final Design	Project Funding & Permitting	Pipeline & Pump Station Construction

Snake River Diversion Project

Snake River Alts Analysis				
	Phase 1 (20cfs) Design/ Funding/ NEPA/ Permitting	Phase 1 (20 cfs) Construction		
	Additional Snake Water Procurement		Phase 2 Design/ Funding/ NEPA/ Permitting	Phase 2 Construction

Prerequisites and challenges for project development

MHID Canal And Tunnel Improvements

- Alternatives Analysis
- Design
- Funding

Prerequisites and challenges for project development

SF Boise River Diversion Project

- Anderson Dam Raise Storage Allocation
- Funding for construction and O&M
  - Bonding or district creation
- MHID Canal Improvements
- NEPA
- Power Supply
- Dam raise construction conflicts and schedule
- Reclamation water modeling
- Final design

Prerequisites and challenges for project development

Snake River Project

- Alternatives Analysis
- Combine or split phases 1 and 2?
- Water right permitting for additional supply
- NEPA and design
- Funding for construction
- Funding for O&M
- Bonding or district creation

Funding

- Elmore County - >$3M since 2015
- City of Mountain Home - >$200K to MHID for maintenance
- IWRB
  - Grants to County for 2017 Study and aquifer recharge site improvements
  - Aging Infrastructure Grants to MHID
  - Potential future funding through Water Sustainability Program
- NRCS
  - Potential future funding through Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Department of Defense
  - Potential future funding through Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) and Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC)

O&M Entity Options

Goal Statement

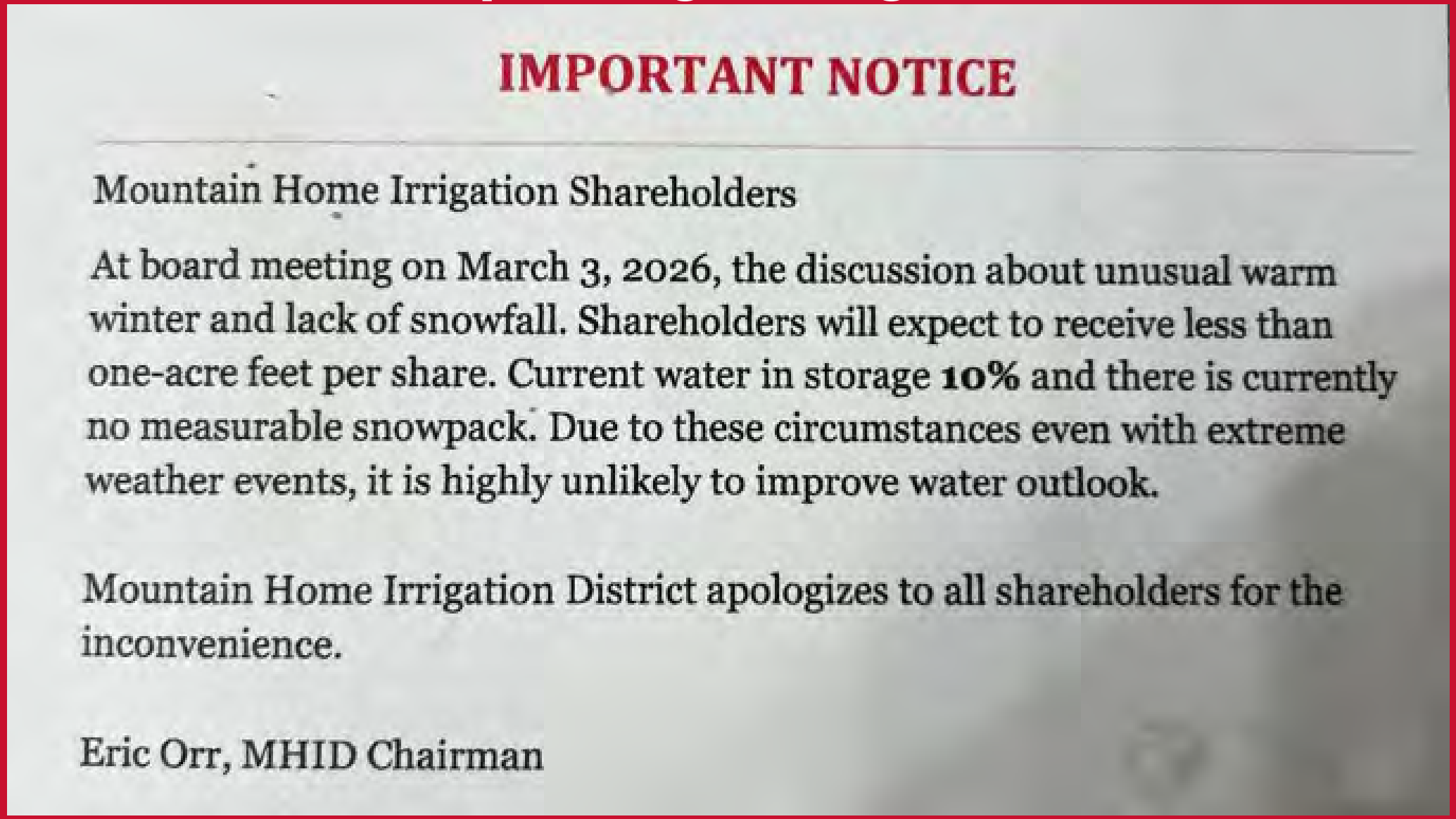
"Ensure that the costs of aquifer stabilization and surface water development are shared equitably among all beneficiaries of improved groundwater supply reliability, in a manner that reflects economic benefits while avoiding subsidy and disproportionate financial burden on any one economic sector"

County is evaluating options

- Groundwater District
- Aquifer Protection District
- Aquifer Recharge District
- Irrigation District
- Utah-style Water Conservancy District

No perfect fit. Legislation will likely be needed.

A parting thought…



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Mountain Home Irrigation Shareholders

At board meeting on March 3, 2026, the discussion about unusual warm winter and lack of snowfall. Shareholders will expect to receive less than one-acre feet per share. Current water in storage **10%** and there is currently no measurable snowpack. Due to these circumstances even with extreme weather events, it is highly unlikely to improve water outlook.

Mountain Home Irrigation District apologizes to all shareholders for the inconvenience.

Eric Orr, MHID Chairman

MEMO

To: Idaho Water Resource Board Aquifer Stabilization Committee (Committee)

From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff

Date: March 20, 2026

Subject: Other Items

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

This item is included to allow the Committee an opportunity to bring forward and discuss any other matters.

Attachments:

- *None*