



AGENDA

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Aquifer Stabilization No. 2-26

Thursday, March 26, 2026

1:00 p.m. (MT) / 12:00 p.m. (PT)

Brad Little
Governor

Jeff Raybould
Chairman
St. Anthony
At Large

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen
Vice Chair
Lewiston
At Large

Dean Stevenson
Secretary
Paul
District 3

Dale Van Stone
Hope
District 1

Albert Barker
Boise
District 2

Brian Olmstead
Twin Falls
At Large

Marcus Gibbs
Grace
District 4

Patrick McMahon
Sun Valley
At Large

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

Livestream available at <https://www.youtube.com/@iwrp>

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 (IWRB) Finance Committee
From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff
Date: March 20, 2026
Subject: IDWR Budget Update

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Deputy Director Brian Patton will provide the Finance Committee with an update on the Idaho Department of Water Resources Budget.

Attachments:

- *None*

MEMO



To: Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) Finance Committee
From: Justin Ferguson
Date: March 23, 2026
Subject: Anderson Ranch Dam Raise – Project Budget Update

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider adjustments to the existing Water Management Spending Plan

Project Background

The IWRB partnered with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) on the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Project (Project). The proposal includes a 6-foot raise of the existing dam structure and associated improvements around the reservoir rim to capture an additional 29,000 acre-feet of storage capacity.

Reclamation has reached 90% design completion for the dam raise portion of the project and 100% completion for the reservoir rim projects. As updated design milestones have been reached, Reclamation has updated project cost estimates.

Project Funding Update

Reclamation provided the most current estimates to the IWRB's Storage Committee on March 4, 2026. In response to questions received, Reclamation is prepared to discuss the project costs at the March 26, 2026, Finance Committee. The Finance Committee to discuss options for addressing and budgeting for the estimated cost increases.

MEMO



To: Idaho Water Resource Board Finance Committee (Committee)
From: Cynthia Bridge Clark
Date: March 23, 2026
Subject: Proposed Amendments Water Manage Account and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Spending Plans

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider proposals and resolutions to amend spending plans for the Fiscal Year 2026 Water Management Account and ARPA funds.

Background:

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) manages three accounts to fund programs and provides financial assistance for water development projects: the Revolving Development Account (RDA), Water Management Account (WMA), and the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management and Implementation Fund (Secondary Fund). Since 2019, the Idaho Legislature has appropriated a total of \$362.4 million to the IWRB’s Water Management Account (WMA) to support water project development and water sustainability programs. In addition, the 2022 Idaho Legislature allocated approximately \$250 million of the State’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support IWRB-approved projects.

The RDA funds specific programs and projects, including loans for water development projects. The IWRB approves annual budgets and spending plans for the Secondary Fund and WMA respectively to direct funding to regional water sustainability projects, grants, loans, and other IWRB-approved projects.

To help guide investment in projects that support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin-wide, or statewide scale in accordance with legislative direction, the IWRB maintains a list of priority projects: Regional Water Sustainability Projects Priority List (RWSP Priority List). The IWRB also implements grant programs that target aging infrastructure, flood management, groundwater to surface water conversion projects, measurement and monitoring activities, and water delivery system efficiency.

Finance Committee Meeting:

The IWRB passed a Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 spending plan for the WMA on May 23, 2025 (Resolution No. 19-2025) which incorporated the \$30 million ongoing appropriation authorized under House Bill 445, enacted during the 2025 legislative session. The plan was amended on September 12, 2025 (Resolution No. 34-2025) and on November 21, 2025 (Resolution No. 51-2025) to reflect IWRB new IWRB funding obligations.

The IWRB adopted a spending plan for ARPA funds on July 1, 2024 (Resolution No. 31-2024).

On March 26, 2026, the Committee will consider additional amendments to the WMA and ARPA

spending plans to address current cost estimates for the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise, new funding proposals, and reallocation of available ARPA funding. Draft resolutions proposing assignment of ARPA funds are attached. An amended WMA spending plan resolution will be presented at the Finance Committee meeting.

Staff will present any Committee recommendations to the full IWRB at the March 27, 2026, Board meeting.

Attachment(s):

- *WMA FY2026 Spending Plan – Amended by IWRB Resolution(s) through January 23, 2026, based on balances as of February 28, 2026*
- *ARPA Spending Plan – Adopted by the IWRB July 1, 2024, with Proposed Changes for IWRB Consideration*
- *Draft Resolution – Resolution to Approve Funds from the Water Management Account for ESPA Recharge Infrastructure*
- *Draft Resolution – Resolution to Modify the IWRB’s ARPA Funding Spending Plan and Provide Spending Authorization*

Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
FY 2026 Spending Plan
Amended by IWRB Resolution(s) through January 23, 2026

Appropriations for Regional Water Sustainability Projects, Loans, Aging Infrastructure & Other Grants

FY 2020 (HB 285, Sec 1, Leg 2019)	\$20,000,000
FY 2022 (SB 1121, Sec 1, Leg 2021)	\$50,000,000
FY 2023 (HB 769, Sec 6, Leg 2022 - 1/3 or \$25M to be used for AI Grants)	\$75,000,000
FY 2024 (HB 361, Sec 1, Leg 2023 - 1/3 or \$50M to be used for AI Grants)	\$150,000,000
FY 2025 (SB 1411, Sec 3, Leg 2024)	\$30,000,000
FY 2026 (HB 445, Sec 4, Leg 2025)	\$30,000,000
Flood Management Grant Appropriations (FY 2019 - FY 2026)	\$7,400,000
Water Quality Collection Program Appropriation (FY 2020 - FY 2022)	\$600,000
Interest Earned State Treasury (as of Feb 28, 2026)	\$38,379,481
Water Project Loan Interest (as of Feb 28, 2026)	\$5,276
Water Project Loan Repayments (as of Feb 28, 2026)	\$346,074
Misc Revenue	\$4,350,000
	\$406,080,831

STATEWIDE REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS & OTHER LARGE PROJECTS <i>(Projects listed in alphabetical order)</i>	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
Anderson Ranch Dam Raise **	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000 *
Bear Lake Additional Storage	\$2,000,000	\$1,200,000 *
City of Gooding - Little Wood River Channel Flood Control Project	\$5,197,000	\$5,197,000
City of Nampa Wastewater-to-Irrigation Reuse	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Dworshak/Clearwater Pipeline (Governor's Initiative) & Other Statewide Special Projects	\$60,000,000	\$60,000,000 *
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project **	\$1,287,000	\$1,287,000
Lost Valley Reservoir Enlargement - Planning	\$560,000	\$560,000
Milner Dam Rehabilitation Project	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project **	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000 *
Nampa Meridian Irrigation District Ridenbaugh Canal Diversion Modernization Project	\$9,169,047	\$9,169,047
North Fremont Canal Systems Phase 5 Pipeline Project	\$7,811,056	\$7,811,056
Palouse Basin Aquifer Water Supply Planning	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000 *
Priest Lake Water Management Project	\$5,420,000	\$5,420,000
Priest Lake Outlet Dam Litigation	\$2,748,000	\$2,748,000
Raft River Pipeline Project	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000 *
Statewide Recharge Infrastructure	\$14,493,000	\$14,493,000 *
Thousand Springs Area Water Subordination Agreements	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000 *
Treasure Valley Water Supply Assessment Project (WD 63)	\$474,320	\$474,320
Upper Snake River Basin Study	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000 *
Upper Payette Basin Storage Water Project	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000 *
Total:	\$161,659,423	\$160,859,423

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of project plan. ** Eligible for ARPA Funding.

Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
Amended FY 2026 Spending Plan
Amended by IWRB Resolution(s) through January 23, 2026

	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
ESPA REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM		
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Improvement Projects	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000 *
Near Blackfoot to Minidoka Reach Gain Improvements Projects	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000 *
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure **	\$21,506,587	\$21,506,587
ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Projects Grants	\$38,621,296	\$38,621,296
Surface Water Coalition Operational Efficiencies Program (AFRD2 & TFCC Project)	\$27,332,574	\$27,332,574
Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant	\$815,102	\$815,102
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	\$100,000	\$100,000
ESPA Groundwater Measurement Database	\$500,000	\$500,000 *
IDWR Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program Support	\$500,000	\$500,000 *
ESPA Regional Sustainability Program Total:	\$99,375,559	\$99,375,559

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of project plan. ** Eligible for ARPA Funding.

*** FY 2026 \$30M Earmark: IWRB Districts 3 & 4 each must receive 50% of FY 2026 appropriation (HB 445, FY 2026). More than \$93M has been

	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
STATEWIDE AGING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS ^		
FY 2023 (Approp. \$25M)	\$10,679,352	\$10,679,352
FY 2023 (Supplemental Round)	\$13,889,175	\$13,889,175
FY 2024 (Approp. \$50M)	\$9,033,074	\$9,033,074
FY 2024 (Supplemental Round)	\$6,843,940	\$6,843,940
FY 2025	\$9,823,523	\$9,823,523
FY 2026	\$22,919,008	\$22,919,008
FY 2027 (scheduled)	\$26,240,428	\$26,240,428 *
Total:	\$99,428,500	\$99,428,500

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution and through appropriations in HB 769 and HB 361 but remain subject to IWRB approval of the project plan.

^ Additional funding has been committed to the AIG program, supplementing the initial \$75 million appropriated under HB 769 and HB 361.

Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
Amended FY 2026 Spending Plan
Amended by IWRB Resolution(s) through January 23, 2026

	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
STATEWIDE FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANTS		
FY 2019 (Approp. \$1M)	\$901,678	\$901,678
FY 2020 (Approp. \$800K)	\$624,251	\$624,251
FY 2021 (Approp. \$800K)	\$688,743	\$688,743
FY 2022 (Approp. \$800K)	\$893,346	\$893,346
FY 2023 (Approp. \$1M)	\$529,274	\$529,274
FY 2024 (Approp. \$1M)	\$831,015	\$831,015
FY 2025 (Approp. \$1M)	\$695,517	\$695,517
FY 2026 (Approp. \$1M)	\$460,646	\$460,646
FY 2026 - Supplemental Round	\$559,358	\$559,358
Carry Forward for Future Rounds	\$1,216,172	\$1,216,172 *
Total:	\$7,400,000	\$7,400,000

* Funds are obligated pursuant to the Flood Management Grant appropriation but remain contingent upon IWRB approval of individual grant

	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
STATEWIDE LOANS, GRANTS, & OTHER POTENTIAL NEEDS ^		
Lost Valley Reservoir Company Loan (total authorized \$13,246,500)	\$13,246,500	\$13,246,500 *
Magic Valley Groundwater District Loan	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
North Side Pumping Co Loan	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Raft River Recharge Group Loan	\$14,111,000	\$14,111,000
Total:	\$38,557,500	\$38,557,500

* Loan may be funded from the WMA or RDA.

^ Funds obligated for loans will be available for reallocation upon repayment.

	Budgeted Amount	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 1/23/2026)
WATER QUALITY COLLECTION PROGRAM		
DOI-USGS Agreement FY 2020 - Mid-Snake River (HB 285, Sec 3, 2019)	\$200,000	\$200,000
DOI-USGS Agreement FY 2021 - Mid-Snake River (HB 646, 2020)	\$200,000	\$200,000
DOI-USGS Agreement FY 2022 - Mid-Snake River (HB 646, Sec 5, 2021)	\$200,000	\$200,000
Total:	\$600,000	\$600,000

Grand Total:	\$407,020,982	\$406,220,982
Remainder Available:	(\$940,151)	

Idaho Water Resource Board
American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA) Spending Plan & Expenditures *
Adopted by the IWRB July 1, 2024 with Proposed Changes for IWRB Consideration

Legislative Appropriations	Appropriations
FY 2023 (HB 769, Sec 8, Leg 2022)	\$100,000,000
FY 2024 (SB 1181, Sec 6; Leg 2023)	\$50,000,000
FY 2025 (SB 1411, Sec 7, Leg 2024)	\$50,000,000
Scheduled FY 2026	\$50,000,000

Total Received through FY 25: \$200,000,000

Total Scheduled through FY 26: \$250,000,000

Regional Water Sustainability Projects	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 12/31/2024)	Proposed Obligation (3/26/2026)	Anticipated Project Timeline * (ARPA funds will be expended by Dec 31, 2026 per contract conditions)
Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Funding **	\$112,500,000	\$118,583,409	Projected completion project by 2031
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project **	\$33,000,000	\$31,390,050	Pipeline/Pumpstation complete. Air Force WTP Estimated Completion 2026.
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Recharge Infrastructure	\$14,000,000	\$9,526,541	Multiple projects - projected completion 2026
American Falls Dam Spillway Repair	\$12,500,000	\$12,500,000	Projected completion by 2032
New York Canal Rehabilitation Project	\$50,000,000	\$50,000,000	Projected completion by 2030
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project	\$28,000,000	\$28,000,000	Projected completion engineering & design 2025; Construction timeline TBD
Total:	\$250,000,000	\$250,000,000	

* Federal guidelines require that ARPA Funds are obligated and under contract by December 31, 2024. Funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

**Additional funding authorized from Water Management Account if needed.

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE EASTERN SNAKE
PLAIN AQUIFER RECHARGE INFRASTRUCTURE
PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WITH AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM
THE WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT
FOR ESPA RECHARGE INFRASTRUCTURE

1 WHEREAS, due to numerous factors, including drought, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer
2 (ESPA) has been losing approximately 216,000 acre-feet annually from aquifer storage since the
3 1950s, resulting in declining groundwater levels and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
4

5 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in stabilizing and
6 improving of aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water supplies, support
7 agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address climatic
8 variability, including drought; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent
11 Resolution 110 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the Idaho Water
12 Resource Board (IWRB) in revising the State Water Plan and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer
13 Management Plan to establish a state-funded ESPA managed recharge goal of 350,000 acre-feet
14 on an average annual basis; and
15

16 WHEREAS, in 2022 the Idaho Legislature passed House Bill 769 in which it expressed its
17 intent to set aside approximately \$250,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to
18 support projects managed by the IWRB, including for the continued identification, study,
19 construction, or enlargement of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner Dam; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the IWRB to expend, loan, or grant moneys
22 from the Water Management Account (WMA) for water projects that conserve or increase water
23 supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management,
24 including the identification, study, and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above
25 Milner dam; and
26

27 WHEREAS, as of January 2026, the IWRB's Water Management Account Spending Plan
28 allocates over \$14,000,000 for Statewide Recharge Infrastructure; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the IWRB previously approved ARPA funding for the following projects;
31 however, federal ARPA requirements mandate that funds be disbursed by December 31, 2026,
32 and given the anticipated completion schedules for certain recharge projects, it is necessary to

33 reallocate ARPA funds to other eligible projects and authorize funding from the WMA to ensure
34 completion of the following originally approved projects: and

- 35
- 36 • Enterprize Canal Swan Highway Project (IWRB Resolution No. 49-2022)
 - 37 • Minidoka Irrigation District Goyne Sump Project (IWRB Resolution No. 29-2022)
 - 38 • Southwest Irrigation District Murtaugh Well Development (IWRB Resolution No. 48-2022)
 - 39 • Butte Market Lake Canal Company Poitevin Injection Well Site (IWRB Resolution No. 08-2024); and
- 40

41 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB Water Management Account Spending Plan
42 shall be amended as necessary to reflect the use of Statewide Recharge Infrastructure funds for the above
43 referenced projects.

44

45 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee,
46 to execute the necessary agreements or contracts to carry out the purpose of this resolution.

DATED this 27th day of March 2026.

JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
Dean Stevenson, Secretary

34 increased projected costs and to ensure compliance with ARPA federal obligation and
35 expenditure deadlines;

36
37 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the following modified ARPA
38 Funds Spending Plan as recommended by the Finance Committee:

39

40 Anderson Ranch Dam Raise	\$118,583,409.40
41 Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project	\$31,390,049.88
42 ESPA Recharge Infrastructure	\$9,526,540.72
43 American Falls Dam Spillway Repair	\$12,500,000
44 New York Canal Rehabilitation Project	\$50,000,000
45 <u>Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project</u>	<u>\$28,000,000</u>
46	TOTAL \$250,000,000

47

48 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the modified ARPA Funds Spending Plan
49 does not preclude to use of funding from other sources, including IWRB accounts, to complete
50 the above referenced projects if required.

51
52 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to meet ARPA Funding federal and
53 state obligation and expenditure requirements, the IWRB authorizes expenditures from the ARPA
54 State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the projects and corresponding amounts identified above.

55
56 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or
57 designee, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts to carry out the purpose of this
58 resolution.

59
60 DATED this 27TH day of March 2026.

JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

MEMO



To: Idaho Water Resource Board Finance 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*