

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOUTH FORK
SNAKE RIVER COMPREHENSIVE BASIN PLAN

RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE
UPDATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) adopted the South Fork Snake River
2 Comprehensive Basin Plan (Plan) in 1996. In the plan the IWRB designates river and stream
3 reaches as natural or recreational in order to protect the public interest, current resource use,
4 and multiple-use character of the basin; and
5

6 WHEREAS, in the Plan the IWRB designates McCoy Creek and perennial tributaries as
7 recreational rivers. The Plan allows for recreational dredge mining on McCoy Creek from the
8 headwater to Fish Creek confluence and on the following perennial tributaries: City Creek, Camp
9 Creek, Miners Delight Creek and Iowa Creek; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the Plan states that recreational dredge mining on McCoy Creek has been
12 regulated by the Caribou National Forest through a Special Use Permit issued according to the
13 guidelines established in the Environmental Assessment for Small Placer Mining Operations in
14 the Caribou Basin Area, Record of Decision issued December 12, 1994 (1994 EA), and with a
15 Stream Channel Alteration Permit from the Idaho Department of Water Resources; and
16

17 WHEREAS, a new Environmental Assessment was issued on October 15, 2021, and the
18 Caribou National Forest recognizes the Environmental Assessment for Caribou Basin Small-Scale
19 Placer Mining, Record of Decision issued October 15, 2021 (2021 EA) through its Special Use
20 Permit process; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the 2021 EA allows up to 15 in-stream small-scale placer operations per year
23 may be allowed for suction dredging; and
24

25 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB’s Planning Committee recommended the IWRB
26 recognize the updated Environmental Assessment and update the website; and
27

28 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby acknowledges that the 1994 EA
29 was updated through the 2021 EA.
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2021 Environmental Assessment may be modified
32 through new and additional environmental analysis as to the number of dredge operations or the
33 season of operation at some point in the future.
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board therefore hereby exercises its discretion to
36 acknowledge that the Plan shall be interpreted to be consistent in recognizing the conditions of

37 the Environmental Assessment in effect as of the date of proposed dredging activities regulating
38 small placer mining operation in the Caribou Basin.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST



DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DALTON WATER
ASSOCIATION LOAN REQUEST

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE LOAN
FUNDING FOR COSTS RELATED TO
TRANSMISSION LINE REPAIRS

1 WHEREAS, Dalton Water Association (Association) submitted a loan application to the
2 Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) in the amount of \$797,000 to cover costs associated with
3 the update and upsizing of one of their transmission lines; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Association was established to govern the distribution of Domestic water
6 within and around the Dalton Gardens area, with over 1,000 residential and commercial water
7 users; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the existing transmission line was installed in the 1960s and has reached the
10 scheduled useful service life; and
11

12 WHEREAS, the transmission line could pose severe health hazards to the Association's
13 patrons should there be a failure of this critical piece of infrastructure; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the proposal is requesting funds to remove the existing asbestos-concrete pipe
16 and replace the transmission line with a larger pipe made of PVC, improving both safety and
17 reliability for the Association's users; and
18

19 WHEREAS, alternative options were explored but did not provide the Association a long-
20 term solution to deliver domestic water and address potential future growth; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the Association has held several loans with the IWRB, ranging from 1976
23 through 2018, that have all been paid in full; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Association has already established a reserve account with a 6-month
26 average well over the estimated annual payment and has established a special assessment for its
27 users for the costs of the project; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the Association is a qualified applicant, and the proposed Project is eligible for
30 a loan from the Board's Revolving Development Account; and
31

32 WHEREAS, the proposed Project is in the public interest and is in compliance with the
33 State Water Plan.
34

35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB provides authority to the
36 Chairman of the Idaho Water Resource Board, or his designee, to enter into contracts, to
37 effectuate the loan, with the Association on behalf of the IWRB.

38
39 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves a loan not to exceed \$797,000
40 from the Water Management Account at 5.39 % interest with a 15-year repayment term.


41
42 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution and the approval of the
43 loan are subject to the following conditions:

- 44
- 45 1) The Company shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations that apply to the
46 proposed Project.
 - 47 2) Prior to the disbursement of any funds, the Company shall comply with all statutory
48 requirements for incurring debt.
 - 49 3) Prior to the disbursement of any funds, the Company will provide acceptable security
50 for the loan to the IWRB.
- 51

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT SURFACE WATER COALITION OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY PROGRAM FUNDING REQUEST

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE F-WASTE REHABILITATION PROJECT

1 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to
2 expend, loan, or grant money from the Water Management Account for water projects that
3 conserve or increase water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or
4 support flood management, including the identification, study, and construction of managed
5 aquifer recharge sites above Milner dam; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed Resolution No. 23-2025 creating the Surface Water Coalition
8 Operational Efficiency Program (Program) to fund improvements in water delivery system
9 operations, with a goal of enhancing the efficient use of surface water supplies within the Snake
10 River Plain Aquifer Area of Common Groundwater Supply, in support of the 2024 Stipulated
11 Mitigation Plan entered into by the surface and ground water users on the Eastern Snake Plain;
12 and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Minidoka Irrigation District (MID) submitted a proposal to repair the
15 existing F-Waste structure, used by both Minidoka and Burley Irrigation Districts; and to regulate
16 canal operations and safely convey excess flows within the system back to the Snake River; and
17

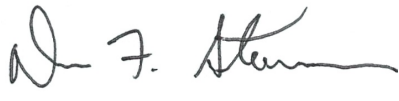
18 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the Surface Water Coalition
19 Operational Efficiencies Program funding request from the Minidoka Irrigation District, in an
20 amount up to \$3,210,000, for the F-Waste Rehabilitation Project, from the Water Management
21 Account
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee, to execute
24 the necessary agreements or contracts with MID for the purpose of this resolution.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGIONAL
WATER SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITY LIST

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED
CRITERIA

1 WHEREAS, in July 2021, the IWRB adopted an initial Regional Water Sustainability (RWS)
2 Priority List to help guide the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB's) spending for large, regional
3 water sustainability projects from state general funds, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds,
4 or other applicable sources; and
5

6 WHEREAS, on January 21, 2022, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 02-2022 establishing
7 qualifying criteria requiring that a project "help achieve water supply sustainability on a regional,
8 basin-wide, or statewide basis" to be included on the RWS Priority List; and
9

10 WHEREAS, on October 26, 2022, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 39-2022 establishing
11 additional criteria related to eligible entities, eligible geographic areas, and application
12 requirements for projects seeking inclusion on the RWS Priority List, and the IWRB subsequently
13 updated the criteria through Resolution No. 17-2025 on May 23, 2025; and
14


15 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended newly updated
16 criteria for inclusion of projects on the RWS Priority List for consideration by the full Board.
17

18 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the attached criteria for
19 inclusion on the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

May 2026



IWRB Regional Water Sustainability Priority List Criteria

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) maintains the [Regional Water Sustainability Priority List](#) (RWS Priority List) to identify and promote projects that have the potential to improve long-term water sustainability across Idaho. As stated in the [Idaho State Water Plan](#), sustainability requires the active stewardship of Idaho's water resources to satisfy current uses while ensuring water availability for future generations. Surface and groundwater systems are not limitless, and many regions of the state are experiencing increased pressure due to declining water levels, growing demand, aging infrastructure, and changing hydrologic conditions.

To support effective statewide water management, the IWRB uses the RWS Priority List as a planning tool to highlight regional scale (basin-wide, multi-entity, and statewide) projects—both studies and capital improvements—that address significant water resource challenges. These projects may contribute to stabilizing aquifer levels, modernizing critical infrastructure, improving drought resilience, resolving anticipated water supply conflicts, and protecting existing water rights and beneficial uses identified in Idaho Code. The IWRB may group related efforts into a single program or establish programs to support coordinated regional implementation.

The RWS Priority List also supports implementation of the Idaho State Water Plan, including the prioritization of IWRB funding programs, development of cooperative regional solutions, and early engagement with federal, state, tribal, and local partners. Inclusion on the RWS Priority List does not constitute a funding commitment, but elevates a project for consideration, supports coordination, and enables the Board to advocate for funding and technical resources (federal and state).

This document outlines the requirements and considerations for project sponsors seeking inclusion on the RWS Priority List. Inclusion on the RWS List is not a funding commitment, but rather a recognition that the project has the potential to help achieve water sustainability or address a regional water related issue.

I. Regional Water Sustainability Priority List Eligibility Criteria:

Projects added to the RWS Priority List provide regional scale benefits and meaningfully contribute to long-term water sustainability in Idaho. These projects generally fall into the following categories:

May 2026

- **Aquifer Stabilization**
Projects that help reverse declining groundwater trends, improve aquifer storage, and strengthen long-term water reliability.
- **Regional Water Supply and Water Management**
Projects that support long-term water planning or management through analysis, improved regional data collection, modeling, forecasting, or basin-wide evaluations that improve understanding of water availability, trends, infrastructure needs, hydrologic interactions, or future demands.
- **Infrastructure Modernization and Rehabilitation**
Upgrades or replacement of aging storage, diversion, and delivery systems that impact multiple users, or address infrastructure at risk of failure with regional consequences.
- **Surface Water Storage and Operational Improvements**
Projects that enhance reservoir capacity, optimize operations, improve system connectivity, or enable more effective management of surface and groundwater resources. This includes the development of new surface water storage, protection of existing storage assets, and enhancement of statewide storage capacity, consistent with legislative direction in House Joint Memorial No. 14 (2026), the Idaho State Water Plan, and IWRB strategic priorities for long-term water supply reliability and resilience.
- **Multi-Benefit and Integrated Water Management Projects**
Projects affecting a regional area involving multiple partners or districts that improve drought resilience, protect existing water rights, support hydropower, improve water quality, or provide other regional water management benefits.

Eligible Entities:

Entities eligible to submit a request include:

- Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, and Water Districts
- Drainage Districts, Flood Control Districts, Groundwater Districts, and Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Municipal Irrigation Districts (Title 50, Chapter 18, Idaho Code)
- Regional Water Supply Organizations
- State agencies, tribes, and municipalities.

Eligible Geographic Area:

Statewide.

Eligible Projects / Programs:

Projects or programs must provide regional scale water sustainability benefits.

To qualify, a project must meet all of the following:

- Address a significant regional water sustainability issue, such as declining groundwater

May 2026

levels, surface-groundwater interaction challenges, enhancement of water supply, drought resilience, aging or inadequate delivery or storage systems, infrastructure deficiencies that pose demonstrable safety risk, or anticipated water supply conflicts.

- The primary purpose of the project must provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level.
- Align with the sustainability goals outlined in the Idaho State Water Plan, including active stewardship, protection of existing water rights, and support for future water needs.

Ineligible Projects:

Municipal drinking water or wastewater system improvements, and projects whose primary purpose is to serve or benefit only a single entity, do **not** qualify for inclusion on the List.

II. Required Proposals Materials

Sponsors requesting inclusion on the RWS Priority List must submit a written request containing the following:

1. Cover Letter

- Project name, sponsor, and geographic area
- Brief project summary
- Sponsor contact information

2. Project Background

- Description of existing infrastructure or system
- Identify regional water supply issues, deficiencies, risks, or declining trends
- Objectives and anticipated benefits

3. Sponsor Description

- Organization type, governance structure, and operational background
- Service area and population served (if applicable)
- Revenue sources and financial capacity to complete the project
- Overview of current operations relevant to the project

4. Project Description

- Narrative project / program overview
- Map showing project location and regional context
- Conceptual design or plan, if available
- Known permitting requirements

May 2026

- Environmental considerations

5. Additional Information (If Available)

- Preliminary cost estimates and budget
- Potential funding sources
- Proposed project schedule

6. Required Demonstrations (Critical for Evaluation)

Proposals **must clearly address** the following:

- **Define the regional issue**
Identify the basin-wide or regional water sustainability challenge being addressed, including whether it represents a long-standing or emerging issue.
- **Explain how the project addresses the regional issue**
Describe the mechanism (e.g., managed recharge, infrastructure or operational improvements, construction of new infrastructure, etc.)
- **Demonstrate regional support**
Provide evidence such as letters, MOUs, partnerships, or stakeholder endorsements.
- **Identify and quantify impact(s) to the regional issue**
Include metrics such as water savings, recharge volumes, impact to groundwater levels, heightened reliability, improved safety, economic, or environmental conditions, or other measurable outcomes.
- **Identify and quantify all potential impacts (positive and negative)**
Impacts to groundwater and surface water, hydrologic impacts locally and regionally, alignment with regional settlement agreements, operational changes, construction disturbance, and/or long-term benefit.

III. IWRB Considerations

The IWRB takes into account a wide range of factors when considering potential projects for the RWS Priority List. Projects that are not chosen to be on the RWS Priority list may be eligible for other IWRB programs. The IWRB is guided by direction from the Governor and Idaho Legislature through funding allocations and related directives, including:

- Projects that support and forward the [Idaho State Water Plan](#).
- Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 137 (2016) – directs the IWRB address statewide aquifer stabilization and sustainability projects and studies in key basins within the state.
- House Concurrent Resolution No. 7 (2023) – directs the IWRB to establish a long-term plan that identifies future projects intended to protect, improve, and secure the state's

May 2026

water resources for the benefit of the citizens of the state and for future generations.

- Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 110 (2025) – recognizes the need to continue activities by water users and the IWRB to improve Snake River reach gains between Blackfoot and the Minidoka Dam to support the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan.
- House Joint Memorial No. 14 (2026) - supports the development of new reservoirs through research on the feasibility, planning, and design for the raising of current dams and the development of new dams to create 750,000 acre-feet of new water storage.

Additional prioritization factors that may affect prioritizations of projects include:

- Ability to resolve long-standing or emerging water supply challenges
- Magnitude and regional scale of benefits
- Contribution to aquifer stabilization or groundwater recovery
- Protection of existing water rights and consideration of benefits to hydropower, fish and wildlife, recreation, and water quality
- Anticipation of future water demands, including municipal, agricultural, or industrial development
- Modernization or improvement of aging water infrastructure
- Development of new surface water storage, protection of existing storage assets, and enhancement of statewide surface water storage capacity

IV. IWRB Support – what type of support can the IWRB provide?

Funding Support

- Eligibility for IWRB funding programs for planning, design, or implementation phases
- Cost-share participation determined on a case-by-case basis, considering project scope, regional benefit, and sponsor capacity
- Potential for phased funding (e.g., feasibility, design, construction)
- Inclusion on the RWS Priority List may improve competitiveness for state and federal funding opportunities

Advocacy and Funding Coordination

- Advocacy for state and federal funding, including coordination with agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Support for legislative awareness and potential appropriations aligned with statewide water priorities
- Inclusion in broader state water resource initiatives or funding strategies

May 2026

Technical Assistance

- Support for hydrologic analysis, modeling, and data evaluation
- Assistance with feasibility studies and alternatives analysis
- Coordination and integration with statewide data and monitoring efforts
- Facilitation of interagency technical collaboration

Project Development and Coordination

- Assistance refining project scope, phasing, and alternatives
- Support in identifying and coordinating regional partners
- Convening stakeholders to advance multi-entity or basin-wide solutions

V. Additions to the RWS Priority List:

The IWRB may add projects to the RWS Priority List at its discretion. Project sponsors may submit a request at any time.

IWRB staff will work with the Project Sponsor to ensure the application is complete and the project meets the eligibility criteria. A complete application will be presented to the IWRB for consideration.

Submittal Instructions:

Requests must be submitted electronically to:

IWRB-Info@idwr.idaho.gov

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGIONAL WATER
SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITY LIST

RESOLUTION TO UPDATE THE LIST, AWARD
FUNDING, AND ADOPT TERMS & CONDITIONS
FOR THE WINCHESTER DAM REPAIR PROJECT

1 WHEREAS, in July 2021 the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) adopted an initial Regional Water
2 Sustainability Priority List to help guide the IWRB’s spending for large, regional water sustainability
3 projects from ARPA funds, state general funds, or other applicable sources. The IWRB also, in January
4 2022, adopted threshold criteria indicating that a project must help achieve water supply sustainability
5 on a regional, basin-wide, or statewide basis to be included on the Regional Water Sustainability Priority
6 List; and
7

8 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 17-2025, updating criteria for the
9 inclusion of projects on the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List. The criteria include a process for
10 how projects can be added, types of information required to be submitted in requests, considerations for
11 inclusion, and a process for removing projects from the list; and
12

13 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to expend,
14 loan, or grant money from the Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase
15 water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management;
16 and
17

18 WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) submitted to the IWRB for its
19 Winchester Dam Repair Project (Project) to be added to the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List;
20 and
21

22 WHEREAS, the IDFG presented the proposal to the IWRB Finance Committee on March 8, 2026,
23 requesting funding for approximately 1/3 (one third) of the total Project costs estimated to be \$3,600,000
24 with a target completion date of June 2028, and a maximum reimbursement amount from IWRB of
25 \$1,000,000; and
26

27 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the Finance Committee recommended that the IWRB add the
28 Winchester Dam Repair Project to the Regional Water Sustainability List and approve the requested funds;
29 and
30

31 WHEREAS, the IWRB has directed IWRB staff to work with project sponsors to develop
32 appropriate contract terms and conditions to be brought back to the IWRB for approval; and
33

34 WHEREAS, IWRB staff and IDFG staff have reviewed the proposed Terms and Conditions for the
35 award included in Attachment A.
36

37 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves adding the Winchester Dam Repair
38 Project to the Regional Water Sustainability Program Priority List.
39

40 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB approves \$1,000,000 in Regional
41 Water Sustainability funding from the Water Management Account to IDFG for the Project.
42

43 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the Terms and Conditions
44 for the IDFG's Project as specified in Attachment A to this resolution.

45
46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract for this project will also contain standard IWRB
47 contract conditions and other project-specific Terms and Conditions not specified in this resolution.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A: Terms & Conditions

Winchester Dam Repair Project

This project will rehabilitate Winchester Dam by adding capacity to the spillway. This will be done by creating an ogee crested weir spanning the entire length of the spillway and raising the spillway chute walls to contain the required flows. In addition, the upstream surface will be outfitted with a geomembrane liner system to deter seepage through the dam surface and reduce the amount of water at the toe of the dam entering Lapwai Creek. The dam is owned by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and the surrounding property is the site of Winchester Lake State Park. The dam is rated as a high hazard dam by Idaho Department of Water Resources and because of the needed repairs, Risk Management is conditionally insuring it with the lowering of the water by 40" and until the spillway repairs are made.

The IDFG will obtain all needed permits, approvals, certifications, and real estate interests needed to complete the project. Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2027 and is projected to be completed by June 2028 – the project timeline ranges from 9 months to 12 months, depending on supply chain and sourcing of appropriate materials.

Invoice-Reimbursement Contract and Proposed Terms & Conditions

- This is an invoice-reimbursement not to exceed Contract where the IWRB has approved funding of \$1,000,000. The total cost for the project is estimated at \$3,600,000. The Board will reimburse the Sponsor an amount equal to 1/3 (one third) of the approved receipts or invoices, less a 10% retainage until the final invoice and Certificate of Project Completion is provided at the end of the project. The Sponsor shall pay the remainder of the project costs. The Board will not reimburse the Sponsor for expenses incurred prior to the fund award date (May 21, 2026).
- When requested by the IWRB, IDFG will provide a monthly progress report to the Contract Manager. The progress report shall include at a minimum:
 - Updated schedule to completion
 - Issues encountered in the reporting period
 - Final cost forecasts where applicable
 - Up to date project budget
- The Contractor shall provide with the final invoice a Certificate of Project Completion and a financial summary of the Project's costs with a detailed list of the type and amount of funds used to pay for the Project. The financial summary shall include the following:
 - Total final cost of the Project based on expenditures.
 - List all funding sources and the amount used on any aspect of the Project.
 - If a Federal or State grant was awarded for any portion of the Project, include the amount awarded.

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE MOUNTAIN HOME
PLATEAU AQUIFER REGIONAL WATER
SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDING AND
EXECUTE ASSOCIATED PROJECT CONTRACTS

1 WHEREAS, since July 2021, the IWRB has maintained a list of priority Regional Water Sustainability
2 Projects (RWSP Priority List). The RWSP Priority List is intended to help guide the IWRB’s spending from
3 state general funds, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, or other applicable sources for projects that
4 support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin, or statewide scale. The IWRB also adopts criteria
5 for inclusion of projects on the RWSP Priority List and has approved funding for projects on a case-by-case
6 basis; and

7
8 WHEREAS, on March 27, 2026, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 11-2026, updating the RWSP to
9 include the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer Stabilization Program (Program) to support projects and
10 programs that contribute to aquifer stabilization in the region, and obligated \$8,000,000 for the Program
11 subject to further IWRB approval for specific expenditures; and

12
13 WHEREAS, Elmore County presented a proposal to the IWRB Finance Committee on May 8, 2026,
14 requesting funding under the Program for the following projects (collectively, “Projects”):

- 15
16 1) South Fork Boise River Diversion Project Final Design and NEPA in the amount of \$507,750;
17 2) Mountain Home Irrigation District (MHID) Canal System Alternatives Study in the amount of
18 \$158,400; and
19 3) Snake River Pipeline and Pump Station Alternatives Study in the amount of \$435,000, for a total
20 funding request of \$1,101,150; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the Finance Committee expressed support for the Projects while emphasizing the need
23 for the establishment of an appropriate entity or special purpose district to assume long-term ownership,
24 operations, maintenance, and financial responsibility for infrastructure developed under the Program;
25 and

26
27 WHEREAS, Elmore County passed Resolution No. 948-26 on May 15, 2026, describing a
28 commitment by Elmore County to serve as the responsible project sponsor and contract party for
29 purposes of project administration, coordination, and compliance with IWRB funding requirements until
30 such an entity is established and assumes responsibility for the Projects; and

31
32 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the Finance Committee recommended approval of funding for the
33 Projects from funds obligated in the Water Management Account for the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer
34 Stabilization Program; and

35
36 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves expenditure of up to \$1,101,150 from
37 the funds obligated in the Water Management Account to the Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer
38 Stabilization Regional Water Sustainability Program to Elmore County for the Projects and associated
39 amounts identified above.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that future funding may be contingent upon formation of a separate
42 entity to assume long-term ownership, operation, maintenance, and financial responsibility.

43
44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED IWRB staff is directed to work with the project sponsor to draft
45 contracts for the Projects, including appropriate terms and conditions.

46
47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee, to execute the
48 necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

49
50

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF AGING WATER
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED
CRITERIA

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 769 passed and approved in 2022 by the Idaho Legislature directed
2 the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to develop a grant program and criteria to provide
3 funding for projects that rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure; and
4

5 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 42-1760, Idaho Code, state general funds deposited into
6 the Water Management Account (WMA) are continuously appropriated to the IWRB for water
7 projects that conserve or increase water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water
8 sustainability, or support flood management, including the development of grant programs
9 pursuant to Section 42-1760 (2) (c), Idaho Code; and
10

11 WHEREAS, on June 7, 2022, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 21-2022 establishing Aging
12 Infrastructure Grants and associated criteria; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the IWRB last updated the criteria for the award of Aging Infrastructure Grants
15 through Resolution No. 21-2025 on May 23, 2025; and
16

17 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended newly updated
18 criteria for the award of Aging Infrastructure Grants for consideration by the full Board; and
19


20 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the attached criteria for the
21 award of Aging Infrastructure Grants from the Water Management Account.
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB may consider scheduling a single or multiple
24 award cycle(s) in a fiscal year, as funds are available, which will be announced at least 45 days
25 prior to an application deadline.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary



IWRB Aging Infrastructure Grant Criteria

The Idaho legislature has appropriated funding to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to be used for grants for water projects to **rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure**.

Projects that rehabilitate or improve Idaho's water infrastructure support the Idaho economy, provide economic value, and ensure long-term water resource stability and sustainability. The IWRB has developed these criteria to provide financial assistance on a statewide competitive basis through grants to eligible entities interested in pursuing eligible projects to rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure.

Eligible Projects: The IWRB defines an aging water infrastructure project as any new project, or new phase of an improvement project intended to repair, maintain, replace, or improve existing infrastructure that supports irrigation water delivery, storage, drainage, treatment, and use of water for irrigation. Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Ineligible Projects:

- Projects that are already completed or underway by the application deadline
- Municipal drinking or wastewater systems

Eligible Entities: Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, Drainage Districts, Groundwater Districts, Ditch Companies, Lateral Ditch Users Associations, Reservoir Districts, Municipal Irrigation Districts (formed per Title 50, Chapter 18, Idaho Code), Municipalities, Counties, Water Districts, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Eligible Geographic Area: Statewide

Program Budget: No more than 50% of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district. This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands.

Funding Details:

- Funding Details: Up to \$2,000,000 per project; one project per application
- IWRB grant portion cannot exceed 50% of total project costs
- Costs incurred prior to the grant award date are not eligible for reimbursement
- Reimbursement requests can be made once a cost-reimbursement contract is established between the awardee and IWRB
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% of the invoice amount ("Reimbursable Funds") submitted to Board Staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.

- Contract term will not exceed 3 years after the grant funding award (date of IWRB Resolution) unless an extension is approved by IWRB's contract manager
- Funds may be reallocated if a project is not completed within the term of the cost-reimbursement contract, or if the Awardee does not provide contract development information requested within 90 days after the grant award date

Application Requirements: For the grant proposal to be considered, the following must be provided:

- A **cover letter** that is addressed to the IWRB and with the eligible entity's letterhead. The letter must contain a project summary and the project manager's contact information. The summary must include the funding request dollar amount and expected total project cost, as well as all other funding sources.
- An **application** containing the following:
 1. Project sponsor (eligible entity) description (organization type, background, revenue sources, current operations)
 2. Project purpose and description (narrative, infrastructure description, repair, rehabilitation, improvement needs/objectives/benefits, 30% design plans, land entitlements at project location, description of any known environmental issues, urgency regarding repair or improvement)
 3. Photographs and description of damage, if applicable
 4. Project location (county, water source, PLS and/or Lat/Long), including map
 5. Public Benefits achieved pursuant to IC § 42-1760(2)(d) (protects existing water rights and uses, consider effects on other water uses including environmental quality, provides water for future development, improving aging water storage and infrastructure)
 - Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge within a groundwater management area (GWMA) or critical groundwater area (CGWA) must provide a mitigation plan or component that results in a zero net impact, and the project is not inconsistent with the State Water Plan. Project locations within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) GWMA that reduce incidental recharge must additionally show how the project will support aquifer stabilization efforts
 6. Project timeline, including start and completion date
 7. Detailed cost estimates, including all labor and materials. In-kind work must be detailed and included in cost estimates.
 - Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge within a GWMA or CGWA must break out costs not associated with reductions to incidental recharge separately to be considered for partial funding
 8. Entity's relevant experience or contractor's relevant experience completing stream channel repair or improvement projects
 9. Summary table that documents cost-share percentage for each funding source including in-kind work. If other grants are required to complete the project (USACE, NRCS, FEMA, etc.), include timelines for receiving those funds
- **Required regulatory approval** and permit documents; if project has not yet received permit documents, note this in the application's project schedule.
- **Proof of liability** insurance for general construction, i.e., ICRMP.

- **Completed Applicant Information Sheet** provided by IWRB.
- Addresses all **evaluation criteria** described below.

Evaluation Criteria: Grant applications submitted by an eligible entity for an eligible project will be evaluated, scored (*120-point scale*), and ranked according to the following criteria. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be scored and will be returned. Project scoring will be used to prioritize funding. Applications shall discuss how the project under consideration meets the evaluation criteria.

Project Details (up to 50 points)

- Eligible entity: Description of the eligible entity that includes organization type, background, revenue sources, and current operations. (*10 points*)
- Project proposal: Description of the project, where it will occur, and its benefits. Include pictures of the existing infrastructure (if applicable), and detailed map(s) of the project area that have a legend, county, and coordinate or PLS (Township, Range, Section) information. (*10 points*)
- Project schedule: The project's timeline of important milestones, such as obtaining funds, permitting, and construction. The time to complete the project is irrelevant, grading only pertains to the quality of the schedule. (*10 points*)
- Plans and specifications: Relevant drawings and material specifications for construction. (*10 points*)
- Project team: The organization(s) and personnel involved in completing the project. Provide the roles, time commitment, and relevant experience. (*10 points*)

Urgency of Project (up to 20 points)

- Urgency of the project (e.g., infrastructure age, infrastructure function) (*20 points*)

Public Interest of Project (up to 30 points)

- Economic values supported by the existing and/or additional infrastructure. This includes consideration of the communities, irrigated acres, provision of water for future development and economic activity served by the water infrastructure. (*15 points*)
- Uses/benefits identified in Section 42-1760(2)(d), Idaho Code. (*15 points*):
 - water quality
 - fish and wildlife
 - recreation
 - hydropower
 - water supply stability and sustainability
 - drought resiliency
 - public safety
 - other benefits to the citizens of the State
 - Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge within a groundwater management area (GWMA) or critical groundwater area (CGWA) must provide a mitigation plan or component that results in a zero net impact, and the project is not inconsistent with the State Water Plan. Project locations within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) GWMA that reduce incidental recharge must additionally show how the project will support aquifer stabilization efforts

Budget Planning and Cost-Effectiveness (up to 20 points)

- Cost-effectiveness of the project compared to other options explored by the eligible entity. (*10 points*)
- Cost estimate describing all foreseen costs of materials and labor, as well as justification for those costs. Include all sources of funding for the project and their amounts. (*10 points*)

-Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge within a GWMA or CGWA must break out costs not associated with reductions to incidental recharge separately to be considered for partial funding

Application Submittal:

- Applications can be emailed to IWRBGrants@idwr.idaho.gov. Applications that are emailed must be received by the application due date.
- Applications that are mailed must be received on the application due date. Mailing address:
ATTENTION: IWRB GRANTS TEAM
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0098
- Applications can be dropped off in person on the 6th floor of the Idaho Water Center in Boise. Applications must be dropped off on weekdays, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm. The Idaho Water Center is located at:
IDAHO WATER CENTER
322 E FRONT ST STE 648
BOISE, ID 83702-7371

Grant Process:

- IWRB staff evaluate and score applications based on IWRB approved evaluation criteria
- IWRB staff present funding recommendations to IWRB Finance Committee
- Funding awarded at a regular IWRB meeting
- IWRB staff will notify eligible entity of grant approval and will administer cost-reimbursement contracts

Additional Conditions of Award:

Funding may be reallocated if:

- Requested information necessary to develop a contract is not received from the project Awardee within 90 days of the award dated resolution
- A proposed contract is not signed and returned within 60 days of issuance
- If the project is not completed within the award contract term
- The contract expires without a renewal or extension request from the awardee

Cost-Reimbursement Process:

- Awardee must be registered with the Idaho Secretary of State (SCO) in [IPRO Supplier Portal](#) and in [PaymentWorks](#), See “Action Center” on the homepage of SCO at <https://www.sco.idaho.gov/LivePages/scohome.aspx>
- Funds will be distributed upon the awardee submitting an IWRB acceptable funding reimbursement request to the IWRB.
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% of the invoice amount (“Reimbursable Funds”) submitted to IWRB staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% of the funds will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.
- The IWRB and IDWR staff will review and upon approval, pay invoices in accordance with Idaho Code § 67-2302
- In-kind services, labor, and materials must be invoiced to the IWRB to be eligible for reimbursement
- The IWRB shall determine the value of in-kind contributions of materials and labor

- Invoices should be sent to IdwrPayable@idwr.idaho.gov
- A certificate of project completion and a financial summary of the total project cost shall be submitted by the awardee in order to receive final reimbursement

In-kind Matching Funds Documentation. In-kind matching contributions must be adequately documented and verifiable from the awardee's official records. Documentation must be sufficient to answer the following:

- Awardee must be able to demonstrate that the contribution is from an acceptable source.
- Awardee must be able to demonstrate what is being used as match is suitable for match.
- The IWRB shall determine the value of the in-kind contribution
 - Awardee is responsible for providing accurate documentation to support their in-kind valuation
 - Value shall be based on standard objective sources rather than awardees' estimate
- Awardee must certify that the information is correct and IWRB must review and approve

Accounting records must be supported by source documentation such as vouchers, canceled checks, invoices, payroll, time and attendance records, contract and sub-grant award documents, or other required forms.

Force account labor and equipment. The use of the awardee's staff (labor) and/or equipment costs must be verifiable from the awardee's accounting system. For labor, the records must include: the name of each worker, dates worked, hourly rate of pay, number of hours worked specific to the grant activity, and the total cost for each worker. Documentation of equipment costs must include the type of equipment used, dates used, hourly rate value, number of hours used, how the hourly rate was determined and total cost.

Donated contract labor and volunteer services may be counted as matching share if they are an integral and necessary part of the approved work.

- Rates claimed for volunteer services must be consistent with those rates paid for similar work in other activities and must not include fringe benefits and overhead costs.
- Match must be documented and, to the extent feasible, supported by the same methods used by the awardee for its own employees.
- At minimum this includes signed and dated time sheets filled out by volunteers working and approved by the supervisor with first-hand knowledge of the activity

IWRB Districts are as follows:

District No. 1: Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho counties.

District No 2: Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore and Owyhee counties.

District No. 3: Camas, Gooding, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia, Blaine, Lincoln, Minidoka, Lemhi, Custer and Butte counties.

District No. 4: Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bingham, Bonneville, Power, Bannock, Caribou, Oneida, Franklin and Bear Lake counties.

** No more than 50% of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district.
This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands.*

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF ESPA GROUNDWATER
TO SURFACE WATER CONVERSION GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED
CRITERIA

1 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) adopted criteria creating the ESPA
2 Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grant program through Resolution No. 22-2025 on
3 May 23, 2025, as part of the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Regional Water Sustainability
4 (RWS) Project Priority List; and
5

6 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 42-1760, Idaho Code, state general funds deposited into
7 the Water Management Account (WMA) are continuously appropriated to the IWRB for water
8 projects that conserve or increase water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water
9 sustainability, or support flood management; and
10

11 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended newly updated
12 criteria for the award of ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grants for consideration
13 by the full Board; and
14

15 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the attached criteria for the
16 award of ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grants from the Water Management
17 Account.
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB may consider scheduling a single or multiple
20 award cycle(s) in a fiscal year, as funds are available, which will be announced at least 45 days
21 prior to an application deadline.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board



ATTEST
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary



IWRB ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grant Criteria

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) is offering grant funding to be used for water projects targeted at converting lands irrigated from groundwater to surface water irrigation (Conversion Projects).

Projects that convert irrigated lands from groundwater to surface water irrigation support the Idaho economy, provide economic value, and ensure long-term water resource stability and sustainability. The IWRB has developed these criteria to provide financial assistance on a competitive basis through grants to eligible entities interested in pursuing eligible projects to convert existing irrigated lands from groundwater to surface water irrigation.

Eligible Projects: Projects located in an eligible geographic area that propose to convert from groundwater to surface water irrigation. “Hard Conversions” are projects that would permanently convert to the use of surface water. “Soft Conversions” would partially convert to the use of surface water but may have to use groundwater when surface water is not available.

Ineligible Projects:

- Projects that are already completed or underway by the application deadline

Eligible Entities: Groundwater Districts, Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, and Municipalities. Individuals must apply through one of the eligible entities.

Eligible Geographic Area: Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) area of common groundwater supply

Funding Details:

- IWRB grant portion cannot exceed (50%) of total project costs for soft conversions. IWRB grant portion cannot exceed (75%) of total project costs for hard conversions.
- Must agree to cease pumping the proposed portion of groundwater related to project and that delivered conversion water will be used only on lands with an existing groundwater right tied to this project. Groundwater rights previously used on the conversion project lands cannot be put in the Water Bank for lease.
- If project construction is underway or completed by the application deadline the project is not eligible for this funding opportunity. Projects that have previously been awarded conversion grant funding are eligible to apply for additional funding.
- Costs incurred prior to the grant award date are not eligible for reimbursement
- Reimbursement requests can be made once a cost-reimbursement contract is established between the awardee and IWRB

- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% for soft and 75% for hard conversions of the invoice amount (“Reimbursable Funds”) submitted to Board Staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.
- Contract term will not exceed 3 years after the grant funding award (date of IWRB Resolution) unless an extension is approved by IWRB’s contract manager.
- Funds may be reallocated if a project is not completed within the term of the cost-reimbursement contract, or if the Awardee does not provide contract development information requested within 90 days after the grant award date

Application Requirements: For the grant proposal to be considered, the following must be provided:

- A **cover letter** that is addressed to the IWRB and with the eligible entity’s letterhead. The letter must contain a project summary and the project manager’s contact information. The summary must include the funding request dollar amount and expected total project cost, as well as all other funding sources.
- An **application** containing the following:
 1. Project sponsor (eligible entity) description (organization type, background, revenue sources, current operations)
 2. Project description (narrative, infrastructure description, repair, rehabilitation, improvement needs/objectives/benefits, 30% design plans, land entitlements at project location, description of any known environmental issues)
 3. Project location (county, water source, PLS and/or Lat/Long), including map
 4. Project timeline, including start and completion date
 5. Detailed cost estimates, including all labor and materials. In-kind work must be detailed and included in cost estimates.
 6. Summary table that documents cost-share percentage for each funding source including in-kind work. If other grants are required to complete the project (USACE, NRCS, FEMA, etc.), include timelines for receiving those funds.
- Documentation is required from **Irrigation District/Canal Company of support** for the project **and agreement to deliver** the surface water supply for the conversion project. Documentation of long-term leases, storage water, existing shares, etc. to support the proposed project *if not directly diverted from a river*. Documentation should address the term of the surface water delivery agreement and how often water will be available to support the project.
- Documentation from **Groundwater District of support** for the project and agreement to administer the pumping reduction.
- **List of groundwater rights** on conversion project lands
- **Proof of liability** insurance for general construction, i.e., ICRMP.
- **Completed Applicant Information Sheet** provided by IWRB.
- Addresses all **evaluation criteria** described below.

Evaluation Criteria: To maximize the effective and efficient use of available funds, grant applications submitted by eligible entities for eligible projects will be evaluated, scored (*100-point scale*), and ranked according to the following criteria. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be scored and will be returned. Project scoring will be used to prioritize funding. Applications shall discuss how the project under consideration meets the evaluation criteria.

Benefits/Effectiveness (Up to 75 points)

- Project with a greater percentage of pumping offset will receive more points. (15 points)
- The application demonstrates a reduction in average annual groundwater pumping in acre-feet associated with this project. (10 points)
- The applicant demonstrates the dependability of the surface water supply in terms of quantity and seasonal availability. (5 points)
- The applicant demonstrates aquifer storage benefits and/or reach gain benefits associated with the project. Applicants should submit modeling results to support their claims. (20 points)
- The applicant demonstrates the project involves multiple entities, or the project is regionally focused. (5 points)
- The project includes a recharge component. (10 points)
- Conversions that are greater than 85% efficient will receive more points. (10 points)

Project Proposal Clarity and Detail (up to 15 points)

- Clarity and detail of project proposal and location: need, description, budget and benefits, detailed map(s) of project area that have a legend, county, and coordinate or PLS (Township, Range, Section) information. (5 points)
- Plans and specifications included with the grant application (5 points)
- Description of the personnel (entity's employees, contractors and/or volunteers) that will plan, design, construct and implement the proposed project (descriptions may include the number, qualifications (resumes if applicable) and time of personnel that will be involved in the project. (5 points)

Urgency of Project (up to 10 points)

- Urgency of the project – The project is necessary to avoid curtailment or to help support a settlement (10 points)

Application Submittal:

Applications can be emailed to IWRBGrants@idwr.idaho.gov. Applications that are emailed must be received by the application due date.

Applications that are mailed must be received on the application due date. Mailing address:

ATTENTION: IWRB GRANTS TEAM
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0098

Applications can be dropped off in person on the 6th floor of the Idaho Water Center in Boise. Applications must be dropped off on weekdays, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm. The Idaho Water Center is located at:

IDAHO WATER CENTER
322 E Front St, Suite 648
Boise, ID 83702-7371

Grant Process:

- IWRB staff evaluate and score applications based on IWRB approved evaluation criteria
- IDWR staff will perform modeling of application conversion scenario to calculate benefit
- IWRB staff present funding recommendations to IWRB Finance Committee
- Funding awarded at a regular IWRB meeting

- IWRB staff will notify project applicants of grant approval and will administer cost-reimbursement contracts

Additional Conditions of Award:

Funding may be reallocated if:

- Requested information necessary to develop a contract is not received from the project Awardee within 90 days of the award dated resolution
- A proposed contract is not signed and returned within 60 days of issuance
- If the project is not completed within the award contract term
- The contract expires without a renewal or extension request from the Awardee

Cost-Reimbursement Process:

- Awardee must be registered with the Idaho Secretary of State (SCO) in IPRO Supplier Portal and in PaymentWorks, See "Action Center" on the homepage of SCO at <https://www.sco.idaho.gov/LivePages/scohome.aspx>
- Funds will be distributed upon Awardee submitting an IWRB acceptable funding reimbursement request to the IWRB
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% for soft conversions and 75% for hard conversions of the invoice amount ("Reimbursable Funds") submitted to IWRB staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% of funds will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.
- The IWRB and IDWR staff will review and upon approval, pay invoices in accordance with Idaho Code § 67-2302
- In-kind services, labor, and materials must be invoiced to IWRB to be eligible for reimbursement
- The IWRB shall determine the value of in-kind contributions of materials and labor
- Invoices should be sent to IdwrPayable@idwr.idaho.gov
- A certificate of project completion and a financial summary of the total project cost shall be submitted by the Awardee in order to receive final reimbursement

In-kind Matching Funds Documentation. In-kind matching contributions must be adequately documented and verifiable from the Awardee's official records. Documentation must be sufficient to answer the following:

- Awardee must be able to demonstrate that the contribution is from an acceptable source.
- Awardee must be able to demonstrate what is being used as match is suitable for match.
- The IWRB shall determine the value of the in-kind contribution
 - Awardee is responsible for providing accurate documentation to support their in-kind valuation
 - Value shall be based on standard objective sources rather than Awardees' estimates
- Awardee must certify that the information is correct and IWRB must review and approve

Accounting records must be supported by source documentation such as vouchers, canceled checks, invoices, payroll, time and attendance records, contract and sub-grant award documents, or other required forms.

Force account labor and equipment. The use of the Awardee's staff (labor) and/or equipment costs must be verifiable from the Awardee's accounting system. For labor, the records must include: the name of each worker, dates worked, hourly rate of pay, number of hours worked specific to the grant activity, and the total cost for each worker. Documentation of equipment costs must include the type of equipment

used, dates used, hourly rate value, number of hours used, how the hourly rate was determined and total cost.

Donated contract labor and volunteer services may be counted as matching share if they are an integral and necessary part of the approved work.

- Rates claimed for volunteer services must be consistent with those rates paid for similar work in other activities and must not include fringe benefits and overhead costs.
- Match must be documented and, to the extent feasible, supported by the same methods used by the Awardee for its own employees.
- At minimum this includes signed and dated time sheets filled out by volunteers working and approved by the supervisor with first-hand knowledge of the activity

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF MEASURING &
MONITORING SUPPORT GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED
CRITERIA

1 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) adopted criteria creating the
2 Monitoring Support Grant Program, through Resolution No. 24-2025 on May 23, 2025, to provide
3 financial assistance within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Area of Common Ground Water
4 Supply (ACGWS), to increase the measurement and monitoring capability of irrigators within the
5 ESPA ACGWS; and
6

7 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 42-1760, Idaho Code, state general funds deposited into
8 the Water Management Account (WMA) are continuously appropriated to the IWRB for water
9 projects that conserve or increase water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water
10 sustainability, or support flood management, including priority consideration for certain water
11 measurement infrastructure projects above Milner Dam; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) has issued
14 orders requiring measuring devices (Measurement Orders) to specified water users within
15 designated water districts across the state of Idaho to better administer water resources, and
16 there is a great number of water users within water districts, including outside of the ESPA
17 ACGWS, in need of funding assistance to comply with measurement orders; and
18

19 WHEREAS, staff have developed updated criteria for the award of Measuring &
20 Monitoring Support grants to open the eligible geographic area to the entire state of Idaho; and
21

22 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended newly updated
23 criteria for the award of Measuring & Monitoring Support grants for consideration by the full
24 Board.
25

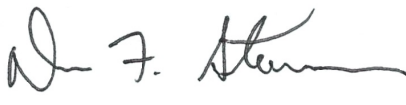
26 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the attached criteria for the
27 award of Measuring & Monitoring Support grants from the Water Management Account.
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB may schedule a single or multiple award cycle(s)
30 in a fiscal year, as funds are available, which will be announced at least 45 days prior to an
31 application deadline.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary



IWRB Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant Criteria

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) has allocated funding to continue to promote water conservation efforts throughout the state of Idaho through the purchase and installation of monitoring equipment, measurement devices, or other supportive infrastructure for ground and surface water diversions.

Funding under this program seeks to continue and expand upon the previous Telemetry grant utilizing funding from the Bureau of Reclamation. Measurement and monitoring equipment must meet current Idaho Department of Water Resources Standards – [IDWR Water Measurement Information](#).

Eligible Projects: Projects considered under this program are for the purchase and installation of monitoring and measurement equipment for both surface and groundwater diversions. *Example projects: New monitoring wells, flumes, weirs, telemetry equipment, software development, automation equipment, etc.*

Ineligible Projects:

- Projects that are completed by the application deadline are not eligible for this program.

Eligible Entities: Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, Drainage Districts, Groundwater Districts, Ditch Companies, Lateral Ditch Users Associations, Reservoir Districts, Municipal Irrigation Districts (formed per Title 42, chapter 18, Idaho Code), Municipalities, Counties, and Water Districts. Individuals must apply through one of the eligible entities.

Eligible Geographic Area: Statewide, with preference for projects in response to an active measurement order issued by the IDWR Director.

Funding Details:

- Funding Details: Up to a maximum of \$250,000 per project; one project per application
- IWRB grant portion cannot exceed 50% of total project costs
- Reimbursement requests can be made once a cost-reimbursement contract is established between the applicant and IWRB
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% of the invoice amount (“Reimbursable Funds”) submitted to Board Staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.
- Contract term will not exceed 3 years after the grant funding award (date of IWRB Resolution) unless an extension is approved by IWRB’s contract manager.
- Funds may be reallocated if a project is not completed within the term of the cost-reimbursement contract, or if the awardee does not provide contract development information requested within 90 days after the grant award date

Application Requirements: For the grant proposal to be considered, the following must be provided:

- A **cover letter** that is addressed to the IWRB and with the eligible entity's letterhead. The letter must contain a project summary and the project manager's contact information. The summary must include the funding request dollar amount and expected total project cost, as well as all other funding sources.
- An **application** containing the following:
 1. Project sponsor (eligible entity) description (organization type, background, revenue sources, current operations)
 2. Project description (narrative, conceptual plan and design, land entitlements at project location, description of any known environmental issues).
 3. Project location (county, water source, map with legend and PLS (Township, Range, Sections) or Lat/Long)
 4. Detailed cost estimate and budget, including labor and materials. In-kind work must be detailed and included in cost estimates.
 5. Project funding sources (IWRB grant, other state and federal grants, sponsor's contribution)
 6. Project timeline and implementation schedule
- **Proof of liability** insurance for general construction, i.e., ICRMP.
- **Completed Applicant Information Sheet** provided by IWRB.
- Addresses all **evaluation criteria** described below.

Evaluation Criteria: To maximize the effective and efficient use of available funds, grant applications submitted by eligible entities for eligible projects will be evaluated, scored (100-point scale) according to the following criteria. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be scored and will be returned. Project scoring may be used to prioritize funding. The application shall discuss how the project for the purchase of and/or the installation of monitoring equipment, measurement devices, or supporting infrastructure meets the following criteria:

Measurement Order (up to 10 points)

- The applicant is complying with an active measurement order issued by the IDWR Director (10 points)

2024 SWC/Ground Water District Settlement Agreement in the ESPA (up to 30 points)

- The applicant can demonstrate how this project will further agreement priorities regarding water resources. (30 points)

Equipment Installation (up to 20 points)

- A new install of monitoring, telemetry, and/or measurement equipment on the Project diversion works. (20 points); or
- A retrofit of existing monitoring, telemetry and/or measurement equipment already installed on the Project diversion works. (10 points)

Project Implementation Schedule (up to 20 points)

- The Project will be completed in 1 year; (20 points) or
- The Project will be completed in 2 years; (10 points) or
- The Project will be completed in subsequent years. (5 points)

Project Proposal & Clarity (up to 20 points)

- Clarity and description of the Project: identifies the Project's need, proposed budget, and public interest. (10 points)

- Plans, timeline, and drawings for the Project. (5 points)
- Description of the equipment being installed. (5 points)

Application Submittal:

Completed applications can be emailed to the Idaho Water Resource Board's Grants Team at IWRBGrants@IDWR.Idaho.gov and must be received by the application date.

Applications that are mailed must be postmarked by the application date. Mailing Address:

ATTN: IWRB GRANTS TEAM – MEASURING & MONITORING SUPPORT GRANT TEAM
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720

Applications can also be dropped off in person on the 6th floor of the Idaho Water Center in Boise, ID, and must be received by 5:00 pm on the application date. The Idaho Water Center is located at:

IDAHO WATER CENTER
322 E. Front Street, Suite 648
Boise, ID 83702-7371

For questions on the application package or to schedule a meeting with the Grants Team, email us at IWRBGrants@IDWR.Idaho.gov and please specify the Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant Program.

Grant Process:

- IWRB staff evaluate and score applications based on IWRB approved evaluation criteria
- IWRB staff present funding recommendations to IWRB Finance Committee
- Funding awarded at a regular IWRB meeting
- IWRB staff will notify project applicants of grant approval and will administer cost-reimbursement contracts

Additional Conditions of Award:

Funding may be reallocated if:

- Requested information necessary to develop a contract is not received from the project Awardee within 90 days of the award dated resolution
- A proposed contract is not signed and returned within 60 days of issuance
- If the project is not completed within the award contract term
- The contract expires without a renewal or extension request from the Awardee

Cost-Reimbursement Process:

- Awardee must be registered with the Idaho Secretary of State (SCO) in IPRO Supplier Portal and in PaymentWorks, See "Action Center" on the homepage of SCO at <https://www.sco.idaho.gov/LivePages/scohome.aspx>
- Funds will be distributed upon Awardee submitting an IWRB acceptable funding reimbursement request to the IWRB
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% of the invoice amount ("Reimbursable Funds") submitted to IWRB staff. Of the Reimbursable Funds, 10% of funds will be retained until Awardee submits a certificate of completion.
- The IWRB and IDWR staff will review and upon approval, pay invoices in accordance with Idaho Code § 67-2302
- In-kind services, labor, and materials must be invoiced to IWRB to be eligible for reimbursement

- The IWRB shall determine the value of in-kind contributions of materials and labor
- Invoices should be sent to IdwrPayable@idwr.idaho.gov
- A certificate of project completion and a financial summary of the total project cost shall be submitted by the Awardee in order to receive final reimbursement

In-kind Matching Funds Documentation. In-kind matching contributions must be adequately documented and verifiable from the Awardee's official records. Documentation must be sufficient to answer the following:

- Awardee must be able to demonstrate that the contribution is from an acceptable source.
- Awardee must be able to demonstrate what is being used as match is suitable for match.
- The IWRB shall determine the value of the in-kind contribution
 - Awardee is responsible for providing accurate documentation to support their in-kind valuation
 - Value shall be based on standard objective sources rather than Awardees' estimates
- Awardee must certify that the information is correct and IWRB must review and approve

Accounting records must be supported by source documentation such as vouchers, canceled checks, invoices, payroll, time and attendance records, contract and sub-grant award documents, or other required forms.

Force account labor and equipment. The use of the Awardee's staff (labor) and/or equipment costs must be verifiable from the Awardee's accounting system. For labor, the records must include: the name of each worker, dates worked, hourly rate of pay, number of hours worked specific to the grant activity, and the total cost for each worker. Documentation of equipment costs must include the type of equipment used, dates used, hourly rate value, number of hours used, how the hourly rate was determined and total cost.

Donated contract labor and volunteer services may be counted as matching share if they are an integral and necessary part of the approved work.

- Rates claimed for volunteer services must be consistent with those rates paid for similar work in other activities and must not include fringe benefits and overhead costs.
- Match must be documented and, to the extent feasible, supported by the same methods used by the Awardee for its own employees.
- At minimum this includes signed and dated time sheets filled out by volunteers working and approved by the supervisor with first-hand knowledge of the activity

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF STATEWIDE WATER
SUSTAINABILITY AND AQUIFER STABILIZATION,
AND THE SECONDARY AQUIFER PLANNING,
MANAGEMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET

RESOLUTION TO PASS FISCAL YEAR 2027
BUDGET

1 WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature, pursuant to Idaho Code § 63-2520, directs certain
2 Cigarette Tax revenues to the Idaho Water Resource Board’s (IWRB) Secondary Aquifer Planning,
3 Management, and Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund); and
4

5 WHEREAS, through House Bill 547 (2014) the Legislature allocated \$5 million annually
6 through 2019 from such revenues for aquifer stabilization, and through House Bill 256 (2019)
7 established an ongoing \$5 million General Fund appropriation to the Secondary Aquifer Fund for
8 statewide water sustainability and aquifer stabilization, with unallocated funds carried forward
9 into Fiscal Year 2027; and
10

11 WHEREAS, many aquifers across Idaho—including the Eastern Snake Plain, Mountain
12 Home, Wood River Valley, Big Lost, Raft River, Malad Valley, Treasure Valley, Rathdrum Prairie,
13 Palouse Basin, and Lewiston Plateau aquifers—are declining or face existing or potential
14 conjunctive administration conflicts, resulting in groundwater conditions insufficient to sustain
15 irrigation, hydropower, municipal, industrial, and other uses, the curtailment of which would
16 cause severe economic harm to Idaho’s economy; and
17

18 WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution 137 (2016) recognizes aquifer stabilization and
19 enhancement as in the public interest and directs the IWRB to take actions in aquifers across the
20 state to stabilize and enhance aquifer levels thereby maintaining water supply for consumptive
21 and non-consumptive uses and minimizing harm to Idaho’s economy arising from water supply
22 shortages; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho (State) relies on spring discharge from the Eastern Snake
25 Plain Aquifer (ESPA), including flows at Thousand Springs, to meet minimum streamflow water
26 rights at the Murphy Gage under the Swan Falls Agreement. Prior to significant stabilization
27 efforts around 2014, the ESPA was losing approximately 216,000 acre-feet annually from aquifer
28 storage since the 1950’s, resulting in declining ground water levels and spring flows, and flows at
29 the Murphy Gage approaching minimums in 2013–2014 and falling below minimums in 2015;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, conjunctive administration conflicts in the ESPA over the past two decades
32 posed significant economic risk, leading to the June 30, 2015, agreement between the Idaho
33 Ground Water Appropriators and the Surface Water Coalition to reduce consumptive use by
34 240,000 acre-feet annually and take other actions, supported by Senate Concurrent Resolution
35 138 (2016); and

36
37 WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution 136 (2016) directed the IWRB to develop the
38 capacity to achieve 250,000 acre-feet of annual average managed recharge to the ESPA by
39 December 31, 2024. Subsequent agreements, including a 2018 agreement with ESPA cities
40 (supported by House Concurrent Resolution 10 (2019)), and the combined actions of demand
41 reduction and managed recharge are intended to stabilize and recover the ESPA; and

42
43 WHEREAS, on November 15, 2024, the Surface Water Coalition and Ground Water
44 Districts on the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) entered into a settlement agreement (2024
45 Stipulated Mitigation Plan) establishing a mitigation framework of groundwater use reductions,
46 storage water deliveries, and managed aquifer recharge, aligned with the State of Idaho’s
47 objective to increase recharge from 250,000 to an annual average of 350,000 acre-feet; and
48 Senate Concurrent Resolution 110 (2025) expresses legislative support for the agreement and
49 the IWRB’s efforts to address water supply challenges and expand aquifer recharge; and

50
51 WHEREAS, on November 21, 2026, the IWRB adopted amendments to State Water Plan
52 policies 4B, 4D, and 4E and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (Resolution 53-
53 2025) to increase the goal for state-funded managed aquifer recharge to an annual average of
54 350,000 acre-feet, which became effective following submission to the 2026 Legislature; and

55
56 WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources has designated Ground Water
57 Management Areas in multiple basins, including the Eastern Snake Plain, Big Wood River, Malad
58 Valley, Mountain Home and the Lewiston Plateau Aquifers, in response to declining ground water
59 levels; and

60
61 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended the approval of
62 a Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the use of available funds in the Secondary Aquifer Fund for
63 statewide water sustainability and aquifer stabilization purposes; and

64
65 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for
66 the continuously appropriated Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation
67 Fund as shown in Attachment A to this resolution.

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the budget may be adjusted based on actual Cigarette Tax
69 revenues received Idaho Code § 63-2520, interest earnings, and Fiscal Year 2026 carryover.

70
71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditures identified in Attachment A for ESPA managed
72 recharge operations, and investigations for development of additional ESPA managed recharge
73 capacity may proceed without further approvals; provided the IWRB shall be kept apprised.

74
75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditures identified in Attachment A for monitoring,
76 modeling, hydrologic studies, settlement support, federal funding assistance, and administrative
77 costs may proceed without further approval, provided the IWRB is kept apprised.


78
79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditures identified in Attachment A for the
80 Cooperative Cloud Seeding Program Operations and Maintenance costs may proceed with no
81 further approvals, with the expectation of shared financial participation among the state, water
82 users, and Idaho Power Company.

83
84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB may modify this budget during Fiscal Year 2027
85 at a properly noticed meeting of the IWRB.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A:

FY2027 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE SECONDARY AQUIFER FUND

Estimated Carry-Over From FY26

General Fund (2027)

HB547 funds - receipt of Cigarette Tax proceeds

Recharge Conveyance Reserve**

Estimated interest

\$	7,463,919
\$	5,000,000
\$	5,000,000
\$	3,500,000
\$	750,000
\$	21,713,919

TOTAL

Category		Sub-Category	FY27
ESPA MANAGED RECHARGE PROGRAM			
ESPA Recharge Operations		Conveyance Cost	3,500,000
		O&M (equipment, supplies, operational fees, etc.)	225,000
		Recharge Monitoring	975,000
		TOTAL	\$4,700,000
ESPA Managed Recharge Infrastructure Projects	Budgeted Infrastructure Projects	Infrastructure projects to improve IWRB recharge capacity	7,100,000 *
		Projects in development with the following partners:	
		New Sweden Irrigation District	
		Farmers Friend Irrigation Company	
		Bingham Groundwater District	
		Idaho Irrigation District	
TOTAL	\$7,100,000		
ESPA Recharge Investigations	Budgeted Investigations	Canal improvement and recharge site feasibility investigations	350,000
		TOTAL	\$350,000
ESPA MANAGED RECHARGE TOTAL			\$12,150,000
CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM			
Collaborative Program Operations & Maintenance	Upper Snake River Basin	2026-2027 Project Operations (=2/3 * \$2,031,900)	1,354,600
	Wood River Basin	2026-2027 Project Operations (=2/3 * \$831,750)	554,500
	Boise River Basin	2026-2027 Project Operations (=2/3 * \$1,122,750)	748,500
	Collaborative Program Administration	Estimated Water User Contributions (11.13%)	-443,820
	Administration	Operational Modeling and Computing Support (\$290k total 50/50)	145,000
Statewide Operations & Maintenance	Bear River Basin	2026-2027 Pilot Project Operations	1,000,000 *
	New Basins	Infrastructure and Administration	500,000 *
	HCRCD Program	2026-2027 Upper Snake Project Operations	120,000 *
	Administration	Partnership Collaborations, Staff Travel, WMA/NAWMC Memberships	20,000
TOTAL			\$3,998,780
Collaborative Program Capital	Weather Instrumentation	Replacements/Enhancements/Upgrades	0
	Modeling	Model Improvements	225,000
	Technology	Computing and Modeling Infrastructure (HPC)	500,000 *
Statewide Capital	Equipment	Remote Ground Generators	60,000
TOTAL			\$785,000
Reserve			\$250,000
CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM TOTAL			\$5,033,780
TREASURE VALLEY			
Monitoring in support of the Treasure Valley model (annual)			170,000
Treasure Valley Recharge Pilot Project			250,000
Treasure Valley Groundwater Level Synoptic (Year 1 of 2)			150,000
Star Watershed Project (Year 2 of 2)			50,000
TOTAL			\$620,000
RAFT RIVER BASIN			
Raft River Hydrologic Studies and Monitoring			50,000
RAFT RIVER TOTAL			\$50,000
PORTNEUF BASIN			
Portneuf Hydrogeologic Study (Year 4 of 4)			150,000
TOTAL			\$150,000
BEAR RIVER BASIN			
Water Sustainability			200,000 *
TOTAL			\$200,000
LEMHI BASIN			
Support of Water Sustainability Initiatives per settlement			250,000 *
TOTAL			\$250,000

MID-SNAKE BASIN			
Mid-Snake Water Quality Monitoring (annual)		50,000	
TOTAL		\$50,000	
PALOUSE BASIN			
Aquifer monitoring		100,000	
TOTAL		\$100,000	
MOUNTAIN HOME BASIN			
Groundwater Model Development (Year 3 of 4)		250,000	
TOTAL		\$250,000	
BIG LOST BASIN			
Monitoring in support of Big Lost model development (annual)		130,000	
TOTAL		\$130,000	
WOOD RIVER BASIN			
Conservation, Infrastructure and efficiency fund (CIEF) associated with settlement (year 2 of 3)		200,000	
Modeling and Analysis		100,000	
TOTAL		\$300,000	
HYDROLOGY ACTIVITIES			
ESPA monitoring		300,000	
Statewide surface water and aquifer monitoring		650,000	
Monitor Well Drilling Program (WeSPAM, ESPAM, Northern)		750,000	
TOTAL		\$1,700,000	
STATEWIDE			
Professional Services (includes media & federal outreach services) and administrative costs		250,000	
TOTAL		\$250,000	
GRAND TOTAL		\$21,233,780	
Reserve for Work in Other Priority Aquifers Total		\$ 480,139	*

*These items will require the IWRB pass an additional resolution to authorize funding.

**\$12,378,211 Total Recharge Conveyance Reserve

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE IDAHO WATER
RESOURCE BOARD'S WATER MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A FISCAL YEAR
2027 WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT
SPENDING PLAN

1 WHEREAS, the Water Management Account (WMA) was created pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-
2 1760 and is administered by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB); and
3

4 WHEREAS, through House Bill (HB) 285, the 2019 Idaho Legislature appropriated \$20 Million to
5 the WMA for the Anderson Ranch Reservoir Enlargement (Anderson Ranch Dam Raise) and the Mountain
6 Home Air Force Base Sustainable Water Project (MHAFB Project), and amended Idaho Code § 42-1760 to
7 authorize the use of WMA funds for those projects, aquifer recharge infrastructure, and other projects
8 selected by the IWRB; and
9

10 WHEREAS, through Senate Bill (SB) 1121, the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$50 Million to the
11 Water Management Account, and the IWRB, through Resolution No. 07-2021, allocated funds
12 appropriated under House Bill (HB) 285 and SB 1121 to the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise, MAHFB Project,
13 Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) recharge infrastructure, and the Bear Lake Additional Water Storage
14 project; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the 2022 Idaho Legislature, through HB 769, appropriated \$75 Million to the WMA for
17 large water projects and directed the IWRB to use the funding for expenditures, loans, or grants for water
18 projects, including studies, to address water sustainability, rehabilitate or improve aging water
19 infrastructure, or support flood management, provided that no more than one-third of the funds be used
20 for grants and that grant awards be made through a competitive process that considers public input and
21 prioritizes projects based on public benefit; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the 2023 Idaho Legislature, through HB 361, appropriated an additional \$150 million
24 to the WMA for purposes similar to HB 769 and subject to similar grant limitations and requirements,
25 pursuant to which the IWRB established the Aging Infrastructure Grant Program; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the 2024 Idaho Legislature, through SB 1411, appropriated \$30 Million to the WMA to
28 be used for large water projects at the direction of the IWRB; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature, through HB 445, appropriated \$30 million ongoing to the
31 Water Management Account (WMA) for the planning, construction, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and
32 improvement of water infrastructure throughout the state, while limiting the use of no more than fifty
33 percent (50%) of the annual appropriation within a single Idaho Water Resource Board district unless
34 there are no competing applications from other districts; and further directed that, for fiscal year 2026,
35 fifty percent (50%) of the appropriation be allocated to District 3 and fifty percent (50%) to District 4 to
36 support the *2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan* entered into by surface and ground water users on the
37 Eastern Snake Plain; and
38

39 WHEREAS, the 2026 Idaho Legislature, through SB 1363, appropriated \$30 Million to the WMA to
40 be used for planning, construction, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and improvement of water
41 infrastructure throughout the state, and directed that of the \$30 Million appropriated in a single year, no

42 more than fifty percent (50%) may be used within a single IWRB district, as defined in Idaho Code § 42-
43 1732 unless there are no competing funding applications for water infrastructure projects in other districts
44 for the current fiscal year; and
45

46 WHEREAS, SB 1363 also authorized the transfer of \$1 million from the Idaho Department of Water
47 Resources General Fund to the Water Management Fund (WMA) for flood-related activities, including
48 hydrologic data collection, monitoring and modeling, flood-damaged stream channel repair and
49 improvement, flood risk reduction, and flood prevention projects, to be administered by the IWRB
50 through a competitive matching grant process prioritizing projects based on public benefit, bringing total
51 legislative appropriations for flood management activities since fiscal year 2019 to approximately \$8.4
52 million; and
53

54 WHEREAS, since July 2021, the IWRB has maintained a list of priority Regional Water Sustainability
55 Projects (RWSP Priority List). The RWSP Priority List is intended to help guide the IWRB's spending from
56 state general funds, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, or other applicable sources for projects that
57 support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin, or statewide scale. The IWRB also adopts criteria
58 for inclusion of projects on the RWSP Priority List and has approved funding for projects on a case-by-case
59 basis; and
60

61 WHEREAS, certain projects on the RWSP Priority List were determined eligible for ARPA State
62 Fiscal Recovery Fund support, and the IWRB may allocate WMA funds as necessary to complete those
63 projects if additional funding is required or if certain project activities are determined to be ineligible for
64 ARPA reimbursement; and
65

66 WHEREAS, through Resolution Nos. 11-2026 and 10-2026, the Board added the Mountain Home
67 Plateau Aquifer Regional Water Sustainability Program to the RWSP Priority list and obligated \$8M to
68 support projects and programs that contribute to aquifer stabilization and long-term water supply
69 resiliency; and
70

71 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2026, the IWRB's Finance Committee recommended approval of a spending
72 plan for FY 2027 that incorporates legislative appropriations made to the WMA, estimated interest
73 earnings, RWSP Priority List projects, statewide special projects, grant programs, and certain IWRB-
74 approved loans, as reflected in Attachment A; and
75

76 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the FY 2027 WMA Spending Plan
77 (Spending Plan) attached to this resolution (Attachment A), as recommended by the IWRB Finance
78 Committee.
79

80 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the projects identified with an asterisk in the
81 Spending Plan are hereby obligated for the referenced purposes but remain subject to additional IWRB
82 approval of the project plan.
83

84 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or Executive
85 Manager, Brian Patton, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this
86 resolution.
87
88
89

90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for projects identified in the attached Spending Plan and approved by the IWRB for funding from the ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund, the IWRB authorizes the expenditure of WMA funds to cover project activities determined to be ineligible or in excess of available ARPA funding.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attached Spending Plan shall be automatically amended to reflect WMA expenditures approved through future IWRB resolutions.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board



ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A
Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
FY 2027 Spending Plan
Proposed for Adoption by IWRB Resolution(s) May 21, 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
FY 2027 (SB 1363, Sec 17, Leg 2026)	\$30,000,000
Flood Management Grant Appropriations (FY 2019 - FY 2027)	\$8,400,000
Water Quality Collection Program Appropriation (FY 2020 - FY 2022)	\$600,000
Interest Earned State Treasury (as of Mar 31, 2026)	\$39,710,171
Water Project Loan Interest (as of Mar 31, 2026)	\$5,276
Water Project Loan Repayments (as of Mar 31, 2026)	\$346,074
Misc. Revenue	\$4,350,000
	\$438,411,521

STATEWIDE REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS & OTHER LARGE PROJECTS <i>(Projects listed in alphabetical order)</i>	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 5/21/2026)	Funds Expended (as of 3/31/2026)
Anderson Ranch Dam Raise **	\$15,000,000 *	(\$1,232,047)
Bear Lake Additional Storage & Bear River Basin Projects	\$4,000,000 *	\$0
City of Gooding - Little Wood River Channel Flood Control Project	\$5,197,000	(\$3,600,000)
City of Nampa Wastewater-to-Irrigation Reuse	\$3,000,000	(\$352,613)
Dworshak/Clearwater Pipeline (Governor's Initiative) & Other Statewide Special Projects	\$60,000,000 *	\$0
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project **	\$1,287,000	(\$1,287,000)
Lost Valley Reservoir Enlargement - Planning	\$560,000	(\$423,642)
Milner Dam Rehabilitation Project	\$1,500,000	\$0
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project **	\$2,000,000	(\$105,334)
Mountain Home Plateau Aquifer RWS Program	\$8,000,000 *	\$0
Nampa Meridian Irrigation District Ridenbaugh Canal Diversion Modernization Project	\$9,169,047	(\$3,272,114)
Palouse Basin Aquifer Water Supply Planning	\$5,000,000 *	(\$89,660)
Statewide Recharge Infrastructure	\$9,958,860 *	\$0
Thousand Springs Area Water Subordination Agreements	\$8,000,000 *	\$0
Treasure Valley Water Supply Assessment Project (WD 63)	\$474,320	(\$155,450)
Upper Payette Basin Storage Water Project	\$5,000,000	\$0
Winchester Dam Repair Project	\$1,000,000 *	\$0
Total:	\$139,146,227	(\$10,517,859)

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of project plan.

** IWRB ARPA funding also obligated to project.

Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
FY 2027 Spending Plan
Proposed for Adoption by IWRB Resolution(s) May 21, 2026

ESPA REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM (Projects listed in alphabetical order)	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 5/21/2026)	Funds Expended (as of 3/31/2026)
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	\$100,000	\$0
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Groundwater Measurement Database #	\$1,000,000 *	(\$10,725)
ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Projects Grants #	\$46,621,296 *	(\$418,316)
ESPA Improvement Projects	\$5,000,000 *	\$0
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure ** #	\$36,040,727	(\$4,327,650)
IDWR Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program Support #	\$500,000 *	(\$243)
Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant #	\$815,102	\$0
Magic Valley Groundwater District Loan ^	\$10,000,000	\$0
Near Blackfoot to Minidoka Reach Gain Improvements Projects	\$5,000,000 *	\$0
Raft River Pipeline Project	\$7,000,000	\$0
Raft River Recharge Group Loan ^	\$14,111,000	\$0
Surface Water Coalition Operational Efficiencies Program #	\$31,332,574	(\$14,283,033)
Upper Snake River Basin Study	\$3,000,000 *	\$0
ESPA Regional Sustainability Program Total:	\$160,520,698	(\$19,039,967)

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of project plan.

** IWRB ARPA funding also obligated to project.

Funded in part from FY 2026 \$30M Earmark (HB 445, Sec 4, Leg 2025) - IWRB Districts 3 & 4 each must receive 50% of appropriation.

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

STATEWIDE AGING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS ^	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 5/21/2026)	Funds Expended (as of 3/31/2026)
FY 2023 (HB 769, Sec 6, 2022 - \$25M)	\$10,679,352	(\$8,527,475)
FY 2023 (Carryover funding from HB 769)	\$13,889,175	(\$7,363,587)
FY 2024 (HB 361, Sec 1, 2023 - \$50M)	\$9,033,074	(\$5,605,532)
FY 2024 (Carryover funding from HB 361)	\$6,843,940	(\$1,636,650)
FY 2025 (Carryover funding from HB 361)	\$9,789,588	(\$2,664,557)
FY 2026 (Carryover funding from HB 361)	\$22,919,008	(\$103,760)
FY 2027 (scheduled)	\$30,274,363 *	\$0
Total:	\$103,428,500	(\$25,901,562)

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of 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
FY 2027 Spending Plan
Proposed for Adoption by IWRB Resolution(s) May 21, 2026

STATEWIDE FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANTS #	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 5/21/2026)	Funds Expended (as of 3/31/2026)
FY 2024 (SB 1181, Sec 5, Leg 2023)	\$831,015	(\$625,101)
FY 2025 (SB 1269, Sec 15, Leg 2024)	\$695,517	(\$289,331)
FY 2026 (HB 248, Sec 14, Leg 2025)	\$460,646	(\$81,472)
FY 2026 - Supplemental Round	\$559,358	\$0
FY 2027 (SB 1363, Sec 16, Leg 2026) and Carry Over	\$2,216,172 *	\$0
Total:	\$4,762,708	(\$995,905)

From FY 2019 - FY 2023, over \$3.6M in Flood Management Grant projects have been completed.

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

STATEWIDE LOANS AND OTHER PROGRAMS (Projects listed in alphabetical order)	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (as of 5/21/2026)	Funds Expended (as of 3/31/2026)
Statewide Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant	\$1,000,000 *	\$0
Lost Valley Reservoir Company Loan # ^	\$9,023,715 *	\$0
North Side Pumping Co Loan ^	\$1,200,000	(\$397,737)
Total:	\$11,223,715	(\$397,737)

* Funds are obligated by IWRB resolution but require additional IWRB approval of project plan.

Loan may be funded from the WMA or RDA.

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

COMPLETED PROJECTS & PROGRAMS (Projects listed in alphabetical order)	Funds Obligated by IWRB Resolution (Closed Out)	Funds Expended (Complete)
Flood Management Grants (FY 2019 - FY 2023) #	\$3,637,292	(\$3,637,292)
North Fremont Canal Systems Phase 5 Pipeline Project	\$7,811,056	(\$7,811,056)
Priest Lake Water Management Project	\$4,854,477	(\$4,854,477)
Priest Lake Outlet Dam Litigation	\$2,426,847	(\$2,426,847)
Water Quality Collection Program (Mid-Snake River DOI-USGS Agreement FY 20-22) ^	\$600,000	(\$600,000)
Total:	\$19,329,672	(\$19,329,672)

Idaho HB 712, 2018; HB 285, 2019; HB 646, 2020; SB 1190, 2021; HB 769, 2022

^ HB 285, Sec 4, 2019; HB 646, Sec 6, 2020; SB 1190, Sec 6, 2021

In-Work Total:	\$419,081,849	(\$56,853,030)
Completed Total:	\$19,329,672	(\$19,329,672)
Remainder Available:	\$0	(\$76,182,702)
Total Appropriations (FY 2020-2027)		

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE SWAN FALLS
AGREEMENT MINIMUM FLOWS

RESOLUTION TO OFFSET THE MARCH 2026
SHORTFALL TO THE SWAN FALLS
MINIMUM STREAMFLOW WATER RIGHT

1 WHEREAS, as a result of the Swan Falls Settlement, the Idaho Water Resource Board
2 (IWRB) holds decreed minimum streamflow water rights (2-201, 2-223, and 2-224) at the Murphy
3 Gaging Station, just downstream of Swan Falls Dam, was increased to an average daily flow of
4 3,900 cfs between April 1st and October 31st of every year, and 5,600 cfs between November 1st
5 and March 31st of every year; and
6

7 WHEREAS, Idaho Power Company holds decreed hydropower water rights (2-100, 2-
8 2032A, 2-4000A, 2-4001A) for its mid Snake River hydropower facilities in the amount of 3,900 cfs
9 between April 1st and October 31st and 5,600 cfs between November 1st and March 31st,
10 measured at the Murphy Gage; and
11

12 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho, by and through the Governor, holds hydropower water
13 rights in trust for the benefit of Idaho Power Company and the people of Idaho; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the hydropower water rights (2-2032B, 2-4000B, and 2-4001B) held in trust by
16 the State of Idaho are subordinated to water rights diverting trust water within the area shown
17 on Appendix A of IDAPA 37.03.08.030; provided, however, these water rights are subject to
18 curtailment if the average daily flow at the Murphy Gage falls below 3,900 cfs between April 1st
19 and October 31st and 5,600 cfs between November 1st and March 31st measured at the Murphy
20 Gage (Murphy minimum flows); and
21

22 WHEREAS, the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, on October 27, 2014,
23 issued the "Final Order Regarding the Measuring and Reporting the 'Average Daily Flow' as
24 Measured at the Murphy Gaging Station"; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the IWRB also holds 5,000 acre-feet of storage space in the U.S. Bureau of
27 Reclamation's Palisades Reservoir through Contract No. 14-06-100-1836; and
28

29 WHEREAS, on March 20, 2015, the IWRB passed Resolution No. 3-15, establishing a "Debit
30 System" to make IWRB's Palisades storage water available to augment flows at the Murphy Gage
31 in the event the Murphy gage drops below the Murphy minimum flows, an interim plan
32 established by IWRB to maintain the Murphy minimum flow while a long-term adaptive
33 management plan is developed for maintaining the Murphy minimum flow; and
34

35 WHEREAS, the adjusted average daily flow at the Murphy Gage was below the 5,600 cfs
36 minimum flow for several days in March 2026.
37
38

39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as established in Resolution No. 3-15, the IWRB hereby agrees to utilize the Debit System to make available to Idaho Power Company IWRB's Palisades storage water to offset debits accruing to Idaho Power Company in March 2026 on an acre-foot for acre-foot basis.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Idaho Power Company shall be entitled to call for delivery of storage water from the IWRB's Palisades Reservoir storage space, in a volume equivalent to the shortfall at the Murphy Gage, on a schedule determined by the Idaho Power Company, until the volume of the shortfall is replaced or the IWRB storage water is fully utilized.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the costs and administrative fees for delivery of the Palisades storage water to the Murphy Gage shall be borne by the IWRB.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board



ATTEST

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW SWEDEN
IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELLS HALF ACRE ITD
PIT RECHARGE PROJECT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM
THE WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT
AND PROVIDE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY

1 WHEREAS, about one-third of Idaho’s population resides on the Eastern Snake Plain and
2 the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) is the primary source of drinking water for both cities and
3 most rural residents of the Eastern Snake Plain; and
4

5 WHEREAS, numerous factors, including drought, have contributed to the loss of
6 approximately 216,000 acre-feet of storage annually from ESPA since the 1950’s, resulting in
7 declining groundwater levels in the aquifer and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
8

9 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in the stabilization
10 and improvement of aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water supplies,
11 support agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address
12 variability in climatic conditions, including drought; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent
15 Resolution 110 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the Idaho Water
16 Resource Board (IWRB) revising the State Water Plan and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer
17 Management Plan to establish a state-funded ESPA managed aquifer recharge goal of 350,000
18 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
19

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

26 WHEREAS, House Bill 445 (2025) was passed by the State of Idaho legislature,
27 appropriating an ongoing \$30 million to the IWRB to fund water infrastructure projects; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed Resolution 10-2026 for a Water Management Account
30 Spending Plan, which allocates \$10,019,541 for Statewide Recharge Infrastructure; and,
31

32 WHEREAS, New Sweden Irrigation District presented a proposal to the IWRB on May 21,
33 2026, for the Hells Half Acre ITD Pit Recharge Project (“Project”) and associated infrastructure for
34 a proposed cost of \$450,000.
35
36
37
38


39
40 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditure of up to
41 \$450,000 from the Water Management Account for the construction costs associated with the
42 Project.

43
44 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or
45 designee to execute the necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF FLOW AUGMENTATION
EXCHANGE DURING 2026

RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SIGNATORY
AUTHORITY AND ALLOCATE FUNDS

1 WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) delivers flow augmentation
2 water from the Upper Snake, Boise, and Payette Rental Pools pursuant to the 2004 Snake River
3 (Nez Perce) Water Rights Agreement and Idaho Code 42-1763B; and
4

5 WHEREAS, due to 2026 water supply conditions, the “Rainbow Chart” in the Upper Snake
6 Rental Pool Procedures dictates that BOR will receive no placeholder rentals for flow
7 augmentation; and
8

9 WHEREAS, BOR has proceeded to deliver some water for flow augmentation from its
10 powerhead space in Palisades Reservoir; and
11

12 WHEREAS, due to 2026 water supply conditions in the Upper Snake River Basin, retaining
13 some of the Palisades powerhead water in the Upper Snake River Basin that is planned for release
14 may be beneficial; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Ground Water Districts have a need for storage
17 water in the Upper Snake River Basin to satisfy their 2024 Mitigation Plan obligations; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Wood River Basin Ground Water Districts may have a need for storage
20 water in the Upper Snake River Basin to satisfy their obligations under the Big Wood River Basin
21 Ground Water Management Plan; and
22

23 WHEREAS, there may be a need for storage water in the Upper Snake River Basin to offset
24 shortfalls at the Murphy Gaging Station; and
25

26 WHEREAS, placeholders in the Payette Basin appear willing to provide additional water
27 for flow augmentation, through the Payette Rental Pool, to offset some of the Palisades
28 powerhead releases; and
29

30 WHEREAS, BOR is willing to enter into an agreement with the Idaho Water Resource
31 Board to facilitate the offset of Palisades Powerhead water with additional water from the
32 Payette Basin.
33
34

35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) hereby
36 grants authority to the Chairman or his designee to enter into a flow augmentation exchange
37 agreement with the BOR.

38
39 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ground Water Districts will pay their
40 respective costs toward this flow augmentation exchange.

41
42
43 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB obligates up to \$200,000 from
44 the Secondary Aquifer Planning & Management Fund to be used in the event some of the
45 Palisades powerhead water is needed by the IWRB for its purposes.

46
47
48

DATED this 21st day of May 2026.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board



ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary