AGENDA

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Aquifer Stabilization Committee No. 3-26
Thursday, July 23, 2026
9:00 a.m. (MT) / 8:00 a.m. (PT)

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

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

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Recharge Infrastructure *
3. Other Items
4. Adjourn

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

Finance Committee No. 5-26
Begins upon adjournment of the Aquifer Stabilization Committee No. 3-26

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Flood Grant Awards*
3. Idaho Water Resource Board Facility Maintenance Fund *
4. Fiscal Year 2027 ARPA Spending Plan*
5. Regional Water Sustainability Project Priority List Applications *
6. Other Items
7. Adjourn

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

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

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Planning &Projects Bureau Staff

Date: July 20, 2026

Subject: Fiscal Year 2027 Flood Management Grant Applications

---

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Funding Resolution

Staff received 14 applications for Flood Management Grant Funding. One application was determined to not be an eligible entity. The remaining 13 applications were evaluated and scored according to criteria adopted by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB). The total amount requested by the applications is $1,142,843.25. The Fiscal Year 2027 Water Management Account Spending Plan shows the IWRB has $2,216,172 available for flood grant awards.

Attachment(s):

- *Project Summary Sheet*
- *Fiscal Year 2027 Scoring Sheet*
- *Draft Resolution*

2027 Flood Management Grant Project Summary Sheet

	Project	Cost	Request	Summary
1	Bear Lake SWCD	$250,000	$125,000	Repair and replacement of three antiquated diversion gates upstream of Rainbow Canal near Bear Lake. Failure of these structures would significantly increase risk of flooding in the area, particularly during winter months, and place three large flumes at Rainbow Canal at substantial risk.
2	City of Wallace	$197,573	$114,240	Installation/placement of riprap along Canyon Creek as well as geotextile fabric layer and ecoblocks. Rebuild/repair of bridge abutments. City of Wallace was previously awarded a grant to install riprap before a severe flooding event in Shoshone County in December 2025 significantly exacerbated this situation and caused additional damage to retaining walls, posing a direct threat to the structural integrity of both wooden railroad bridge and adjacent vehicle bridge if stabilization is not completed soon.
3	Clearwater SWCD Blackberry	$144,217	$71,789	Design, permitting, installation of replacement culvert and road repair, after debris torrent from March 2026 storm and flood blocked an intermittent stream channel on Blackberry Road in Clearwater County. Residents would pay for installation and earthen materials, including borrow, riprap, and gravel. Engineering and mobilization costs would be shared, with the grant reimbursing half those expenses.
4	Clearwater SWCD Gold	$473,150	$200,000	Replace twelve aging undersized and problem culverts on fish-bearing streams Cow Creek and Gold Creek and their tributaries. Replace/install at least thirteen 18" pipes. Raise low sections of road by 8", and resurface full two-mile road segment with gravel. Undersized stream culverts will be replaced with structures properly designed for fish passage, and 18-inch pipes will be added, replaced, or relocated to direct road runoff into buffered riparian areas instead of straight into the stream.
5	FCD 9	$494,477	$200,000	Design, permitting, and installation of engineered log jam placement, side channel construction, and channel alignment improvements. Project intends to restore approximately 1 mile of Big Wood River channel function, reduce overbank flooding near residential infrastructure, stabilize actively eroding left bank at Flying Heart Ranch lower site and halt ongoing property loss documented since 2006, and reduce flood risk and downstream impacts by decreasing main channel velocities at 100-year flood event (7,447 cfs).
6	FCD 10 Canyon	$106,330	$51,915	Remove multiple gravel bars on Boise River channel that have returned to channel, and modify existing bank barb that has failed to perform correctly to recenter river flow and keep it from the south bank. High spring river flows over the last two years have worked on the gravel berms in the river and caused channel migration leading to bank erosion and vegetation loss.
7	FCD 10 Jorgensen	$95,000	$47,500	Bank stabilization project to rebuild riverbank to 2:1 slope, prevent further bank erosion, and recenter Boise River flows. Existing vegetation and trees will be incorporated into bank repair, along with planting willows to further stabilize the bank. A small portion of a gravel bar on the opposite side of the river that is causing it to shift north will be removed and used to reshape the eroded bank prior to replacing riprap.
8	FCD 10 Mciver	$35,800	$17,900	Sediment, gravel, flood debris removal, construction of additional side channel feeder ditch, and riprap installation to prevent algae/mosquito accumulation. Project will remove sediment/gravels from existing side channel and construct a new side channel feeder to feed the side channel, to allow river to spread out at higher flows and minimize erosion and poor water quality conditions.
9	FCD 11	$399,674	$190,000	Design and construct bank stabilization improvements along the Lower Boise River in Notus, Canyon County. Project consists of bank regrading and riprap armoring along the eroding north bank from the channel toe to the 100-year base flood elevation, native riparian revegetation above the base flood elevation, and gravel bar removal along the south bank to redirect hydraulic energy away from the stabilized north bank and improve flood conveyance through the reach.
10	Fish Creek Irrigation Dist	$50,000	$25,000	Perform an in-depth engineering evaluation of Fish Creek Dam for flood risk reduction and to determine how to stabilize and rehabilitate the dam. Current 100-year old dam is deteriorating and poses public safety risks and reduced flood storage capacity for community of Carey and downstream areas.
11	Franklin SWCD	$278,765	$138,633	Construct system to pipe runoff water from winter snow melting and storm events into a newly constructed city-managed pond and associated wetland system to serve as both a detention area and a natural filtration environment. Current runoff loads exceed the capacity of existing storage ponds on the golf course, culvert and storm channel, and leads to recurring flooding of homes, roads, fields and sewer lift station.
12	Riverside HOA	$21,660	$10,830	Replacement of the Trash Rack at the Riverside Village HOA Headgate at the Garden City Fish Park Pond, installation of trash racks, erosion repair & bank stabilization. The current rack does not adequately block debris from entering the waterway pipes, so a new custom designed industrial rack at the headgate and eight additional ones at each pond culvert will help to eliminate future blockages.
13	Twin Lakes FCD 17	$17,890	$7,156	Remove fallen trees and other debris from a stretch of Rathdrum Creek near city of Rathdrum to reduce obstruction of the natural flow of the creek and mitigate flood risks during potential high water events. An excavator will be used to lift the vegetation from the canal and pile it away from the creek for removal.

2027 Flood Management Grant Applications

Entity	Project	IWRB District	Score (125 points)	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs
1. Conservation Basics -Not Eligible	Diversion Improvement	4	NA	NA	NA
2. Bear Lake SWCD	Black Otter Canal	4	57.67	125,000.00	$250,000.00
3. City of Wallance	Canyon Creek Project	1	89.33	**57,120.00**	$114,240.00
4. Clearwater SWCD	Blackberry Lane Washout	1	91.00	71,789.00	$144,217.00
5. Clearwater SWCD	Gold & Cow Creek Culvert Replacement	1	89.90	200,000.00	$473,150.00
6. FCD 9	Reach 14 Restoration	3	103.67	200,000.00	$694,477.00
7. FCD10	Canyon Reach Phase 2 Project	2	71.40	51,915.00	$106,330.00
8. FCD10	Jorgesen Sherrington	2	68.77	47,500.00	$97,500.00
9. FCD10	Mciver Side Channel	2	63.33	17,900.00	$38,300.00
10. FCD11	Boise River Railroad Embankment	2	94.00	190,000.00	$399,674.00
11. Fish Creek Irrigation District	Fish Creek Dam Evaluation Project	3	84.00	25,000.00	$50,000.00
12. Franklin SWCD	North Preston Flood Project	4	71.43	138,633.25	$278,765.25
13. Riverside Village HOA	Trash Rack Installation & Bank Stabilization	2	76.33	10,830.00	$21,660.00
14. Twin Lakes FCD17	Rathdrum Creek Debris Removal Project	1	78.00	7,156.00	$17,890.00
Total Funds Requested				**1,142,843.25**	**$2,686,203.25**

Funds by IWRB District:

District 1	336,065.00	29.41%
District 2	318,145.00	27.84%
District 3	225,000.00	19.69%
District 4	263,633.25	23.07%
	1,142,843.25	100.00%

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANTS	RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDS

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1363 passed and approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2026 transferred $1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Water Management Fund for a Flood Management Grant Program administered by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to be used for the purpose of flood-damaged stream channel repair, stream channel improvement, flood risk reduction, or flood prevention projects; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2025, the IWRB adopted on-going criteria for the award of Flood Management Grants; and

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2026, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 29-2026 the Water Management Account FY 2027 Spending Plan. The Spending Plan budgeted $2,216,172 for Flood Management Grants for FY2027; and

WHEREAS, 13 Flood Management Grant applications were evaluated and scored according to the criteria adopted by IWRB; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2026, the Finance Committee met and discussed the projects and recommended the IWRB provide funding for the projects specified in Attachment A to this resolution (will be added once Finance Committee makes a recommendation); and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the award of Flood Management Grants as specified in Attachment A to this resolution.

DATED this 7th day of August 2026.

_____
JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Mike Morrison, IDWR Engineer Supervisor

Date: July 21, 2026

Subject Proposal to Establish an Annual Budgeting Process and Budget for Board Owned Facilities

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Approval of a Resolution to Establish an Annual Budgeting Process and a Consolidated Budget for Board Owned Facilities.

Background

The Board owns and operates two major facilities on behalf of the State of Idaho: The Small Hydroelectric Power Plant near Dworshak Dam (Power Plant) and the Priest Lake Outlet Dam (Outlet Dam). Presently, there is no budget for these facilities and Staff obtains funding from the Board for their operation and maintenance as needed. Both facilities are funded from the Revolving Development Account (RDA).

The Power Plant earns approximately $1.5 Million annually from the Board's sales agreement with the Bonneville Power Authority (BPA). These revenues are deposited in the RDA with 30% reserved specifically for major maintenance and renovation of the Power Plant itself. At present, some $9 Million has accrued to this reserve fund.

The Outlet Dam earns no revenue, but a $600,000 operating fund was transferred to the Board as part of the Board's 2017 acquisition of the dam. A condition of this transfer was that money from this fund only be used for the Outlet Dam. Interest from this fund partially offsets day-to-day maintenance and operation of the Outlet Dam.

Proposal

Staff propose the following:

- Each year, Staff will present a consolidated budget for all Board-Owned Facilities. This budget would include planned O&M, preventive maintenance, upgrades, and Staff's travel and lodging for inspection and maintenance activities for the Power Plant and for the Outlet Dam.
- The budget will include a $50,000 contingency fund for unplanned expenditures needed to continue safe operation of either the Power Plant or the Outlet Dam.
- Staff will still request Board Funding for unbudgeted expenses exceeding the $50,000 contingency fund.

- The $600,000 Outlet Dam fund and its interest revenue will continue to be used exclusively for Priest Lake Dam O&M.
- The Board will establish a Facilities Maintenance Fund from the ~$9 million currently held in the Power Plant O&M Reserve Fund. This money will be used to defray Operations, Maintenance, and other planned expenses for the Power Plant and, when needed, the Outlet Dam.
- 30% of each month's BPA revenue would continue to accrue to the Facilities Maintenance Fund. The remainder would continue to be disbursed into the RDA.

Attachment(s):

- *Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Consolidated Facilities Budget*
- *PowerPoint Presentation*

IWRB Consolidated Facilities Budget Proposal

July 23, 2026

Dr. Mike Morrison, P.E.

Water Planning/Projects
Bureau Engineer

1

Proposal

Establish a consolidated budget and budgeting process for all Board-owned facilities. Currently, the Board owns and operates two major facilities on behalf of the State of Idaho:

- Dworshak Small Hydropower Plant near Orofino
- Priest Lake Outlet Dam at Priest Lake

2

Background: Dworshak Small Hydro Plant

- ~$1.5 Million annual revenue
- Revenue is deposited in the RDA
- No restriction on how this money is used; however,
- Staff has typically reserved 30% of revenue for plant O&M, Upgrades, etc.
- The remainder is available for projects funded by the RDA
- Currently, some $9 Million are in the reserve fund.
- It is likely that we will need some of the reserve fund money to renovate/update the power plant.

3

FY27 Dworshak Budget (DRAFT)

Dworshak Small Hydroelectric Project

Projected Revenue		
BPA Sales	$1,525,657.00	
Retained Sales (30%)	457,697.00	
Total Revenue		**$457,697.00**
Projected Expenses		
Operators and Scheduled Maintenance	$109,015.00	
Repairs and Unscheduled Maintenance	82,139.00	
Utilities	39,677.00	
FERC Licensing and Permitting	13,500.00	
Quarterly Staff Site Visits and Inspections	3,000.00	
Subtotal O&M	$247,332.00	
Facility Modernization	$210,000.00	
Total Dworshak Expenses		**<$457,332.00>**
Net Surplus <Loss>		**$ 365.00**

4

Background: Priest Lake Outlet Dam

- Earns no revenue.
- A $600,000 operating fund was transferred to the Board when the dam was acquired in 2017.
- This money can only be used for the Dam.

5

FY27 Priest Lake Budget (DRAFT)

Priest Lake Outlet Dam

Projected Revenue		
Interest on $600,000 Reserve	$ ~25,000.00	
Total Revenue		**$ ~25,000.00**
Projected Expenses		
Operators and Scheduled Maintenance	$ 10,000.00	
Repairs and Unscheduled Maintenance	3,000.00	
Utilities	400.00	
Quarterly Staff Site Visits and Inspections	3,000.00	
Subtotal O&M	$ 16,400.00	
Facility Modernization	$ 5,000.00	
Total Priest Lake Expenses		**<$ 21,400.00>**
Net Surplus <Loss>		**$ 3,600.00**

6

FY27 Consolidated Facilities Budget Request (DRAFT)

Consolidated Facilities Budget

Total Facilities Expenses	$478,732.00
Contingency Fund	$ 50,000.00
Total Funding Request	**$528,732.00**

7

Staff Proposal:

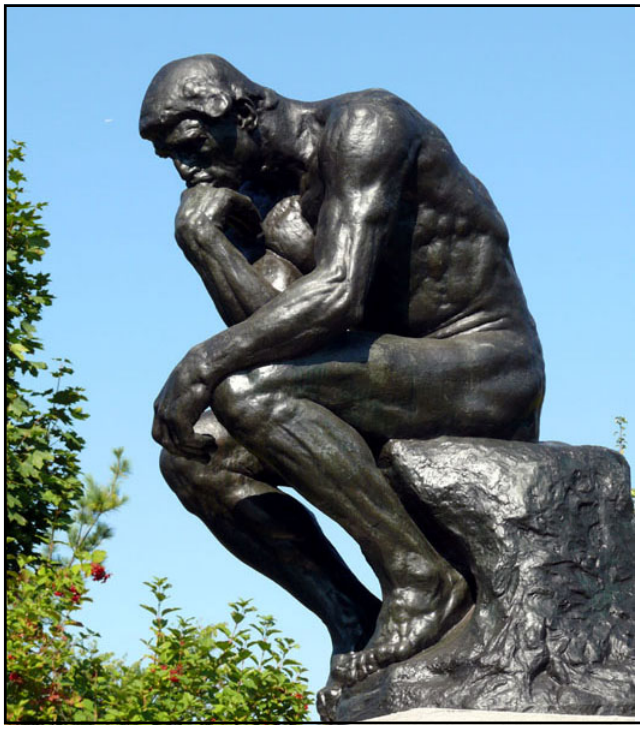
- Each year, Staff will present a budget for all Board-Owned facilities.
- Budget will include a $50,000 contingency fund for unanticipated expenses.
- Staff will still request funding for unbudgeted expenses exceeding the $50,000 contingency fund.
- The $600,000 Outlet Dam fund and its interest revenue will be used exclusively for Priest Lake Dam O&M.

8

Staff Proposal (Cont.):

- The Board will establish a Facilities Maintenance Fund from the $9 Million currently held in the Power Plant O&M Reserve Fund.
  - Money will be available, with Board approval, for O&M Projects related to the Power Plant.
  - If necessary, money from the Facilities Maintenance Fund could be used for the Priest Lake Outlet Dam.

9



Questions?

10

Proposed FY27 Consolidated Facilities Budget

Dworshak Small Hydroelectric Project

Projected Revenue

BPA Sales	$1,525,657.00	
Retained Sales (30%)	457,697.00	
Total Revenue		**$457,697.00**

Projected Expenses

Operators and Scheduled Maintenance	$109,015.00	
Repairs and Unscheduled Maintenance	82,139.00	
Utilities	39,677.00	
FERC Licensing and Permitting	13,500.00	
Quarterly Staff Site Visits and Inspections	3,000.00	
Subtotal O&M	$247,332.00	
Facility Modernization	$210,000.00	
Total Dworshak Expenses		**<$457,332.00>**
Net Surplus <Loss>		**$ 365.00**

Priest Lake Outlet Dam

Projected Revenue

Interest on $600,000 Reserve	$ ~25,000.00	
Total Revenue		**$ ~25,000.00**

Projected Expenses

Operators and Scheduled Maintenance	$ 10,000.00	
Repairs and Unscheduled Maintenance	3,000.00	
Utilities	400.00	
Quarterly Staff Site Visits and Inspections	3,000.00	
Subtotal O&M	$ 16,400.00	
Facility Modernization	$ 5,000.00	
Total Priest Lake Expenses		**<$ 21,400.00>**
Net Surplus <Loss>		**$ 3,600.00**

Consolidated Facilities Budget

Total Facilities Expenses	$478,732.00
Contingency Fund	$ 50,000.00
Total Funding Request	**$528,732.00**

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff

Date: July 17, 2026

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Spending Plan

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Potential Finance Committee Recommendation to Amend IWRB ARPA Funds Spending Plan.

Background:

The IWRB manages three primary funding accounts to support water development and water sustainability efforts: the Revolving Development Account (RDA), Water Management Account (WMA), and the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund (Secondary Fund). In addition, the 2022 Idaho Legislature allocated approximately $250 million of the State's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support IWRB-approved projects.

To assist in guiding the investment of these funds the IWRB maintains a list of priority projects captured in the Regional Water Sustainability Projects Priority List (RWSP Priority List). The RWSP Priority List provides a resource related to projects that support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin-wide, or statewide scale in accordance with legislative direction.

Based on the RWSP Priority List, the IWRB developed an ARPA Funds Spending Plan in 2022. This plan has been updated to account for additional authorized projects and cost estimates; Resolution No. 09-2026 reflects the current ARPA spending plan approved by the IWRB. The proposed spending plan reflects the final payments to approved projects and the redistribution of the remaining ARPA Funds.

The final disbursement of ARPA funds is estimated to be issued by September 2026. For longer-term projects, project sponsors are required to submit annual reports to the IWRB through project completion.

IWRB Meeting:

On July 23, 2026, the Finance Committee will consider additional amendments to the ARPA spending plan to address current cost estimates for the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise and reallocation of available ARPA funding. A draft resolution proposing assignment of ARPA funds is attached.

Staff will present any Finance Committee recommendations to the full IWRB at their August 7, 2026 meeting.

Attachment(s):

- *Draft Resolution – Resolution to Modify the IWRB's ARPA Funding Spending Plan and Provide Spending Authorization*

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff

Date: July 17, 2026

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Spending Plan

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Potential Finance Committee Recommendation to Amend IWRB ARPA Funds Spending Plan.

Background:

The IWRB manages three primary funding accounts to support water development and water sustainability efforts: the Revolving Development Account (RDA), Water Management Account (WMA), and the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund (Secondary Fund). In addition, the 2022 Idaho Legislature allocated approximately $250 million of the State's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support IWRB-approved projects.

To assist in guiding the investment of these funds the IWRB maintains a list of priority projects captured in the Regional Water Sustainability Projects Priority List (RWSP Priority List). The RWSP Priority List provides a resource related to projects that support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin-wide, or statewide scale in accordance with legislative direction.

Based on the RWSP Priority List, the IWRB developed an ARPA Funds Spending Plan in 2022. This plan has been updated to account for additional authorized projects and cost estimates; Resolution No. 09-2026 reflects the current ARPA spending plan approved by the IWRB. The proposed spending plan reflects the final payments to approved projects and the redistribution of the remaining ARPA Funds.

The final disbursement of ARPA funds is estimated to be issued by September 2026. For longer-term projects, project sponsors are required to submit annual reports to the IWRB through project completion.

IWRB Meeting:

On July 23, 2026, the Finance Committee will consider additional amendments to the ARPA spending plan to address current cost estimates for the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise and reallocation of available ARPA funding. A draft resolution proposing assignment of ARPA funds is attached.

Staff will present any Finance Committee recommendations to the full IWRB at their August 7, 2026 meeting.

Attachment(s):

- *Draft Resolution – Resolution to Modify the IWRB's ARPA Funding Spending Plan and Provide Spending Authorization*

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE IWRB AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING SPENDING PLAN	RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD'S ARPA FUNDING SPENDING PLAN AND PROVIDE SPENDING AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, in 2022 the Idaho Legislature passed House Bill 769 in which it expressed its intent to set aside approximately $250,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to be used for certain ARPA-eligible water projects; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature, though House Bill 769 passed in 2022, Senate Bill 1181 passed in 2023, Senate Bill 1411 passed in 2024, and House Bill 445 passed in 2025 appropriated a total of $250 Million from the ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund to support ARPA-eligible water projects managed by the IWRB; and

WHEREAS, the IWRB maintains a Regional Water Sustainability Projects (RWSP) Priority List to help guide spending from state general funds, ARPA funds, or other applicable sources for projects that support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin, or statewide scale; and

WHEREAS, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 02-2022 approving an initial allocation of ARPA funds for specific projects (ARPA Funds Spending Plan). The ARPA Funds Spending Plan was adjusted to account for additional authorized projects and cost estimates through IWRB resolution Nos. 30-2023, 31-2024, and 09-2026. The following reflects the current ARPA Funds Spending Plan (Resolution No. 09-2026):

Anderson Ranch Dam Raise	$118,582,075
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project	$31,391,384
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure	$9,526,541
American Falls Dam Spillway Repair	$12,500,000
New York Canal Rehabilitation Project	$50,000,000
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project	$28,000,000
TOTAL	$250,000,000; and

WHEREAS, to accommodate updated project costs, a total of $13,242 of ARPA funds is available for reallocation; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2026, the IWRB's Finance Committee recommended the IWRB reallocate these available ARPA funds to the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Project to apply to the non-Federal cost-share for the project and to ensure compliance with ARPA federal obligation and expenditure deadlines.

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

Anderson Ranch Dam Raise	$118,595,317
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project	$31,391,384
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure	$9,526,541
American Falls Dam Spillway Repair	$12,486,758
New York Canal Rehabilitation Project	$50,000,000
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project	$28,000,000
TOTAL	$250,000,000

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

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

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

DATED this 7TH day of August 2026.

_____
JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Matt Anders, Planning & Projects Supervisor

Mary Condon, Project Management Services Supervisor

Date: July 20, 2026

Subject: Evaluation of Idaho Power Company's Application to the Regional Water Sustainability Project Program

---

REQUESTED ACTION: The Idaho Water Resource Board Will Consider Adding the Niagara Springs Project to the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List.

Regional Water Sustainability Project Program Background

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) maintains the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List (RWSP List)[1] to identify and promote projects that have the potential to improve long-term water sustainability across Idaho. The Idaho State Water Plan states that sustainability requires the active stewardship of Idaho's water resources to satisfy current uses while ensuring water availability for future generations.

To support effective statewide water management, the IWRB uses the RWSP List as a planning tool to highlight regional, basin-wide, and statewide studies and capital improvement projects that address significant water resource challenges. Projects included on the RWSP List can contribute to:

- Stabilizing aquifer levels
- Modernizing critical infrastructure
- Improving drought resilience
- Resolving anticipated water supply conflicts
- Protecting existing water rights and beneficial uses identified in Idaho Code.

Inclusion on the RWSP List does not constitute a funding commitment. It provides recognition that the project has the potential to help achieve water sustainability or address a regional water issue, elevates a project for consideration, enables the IWRB to advocate for federal and state funding, and provides sponsors with access to technical support and coordination.

Proposed Project Summary

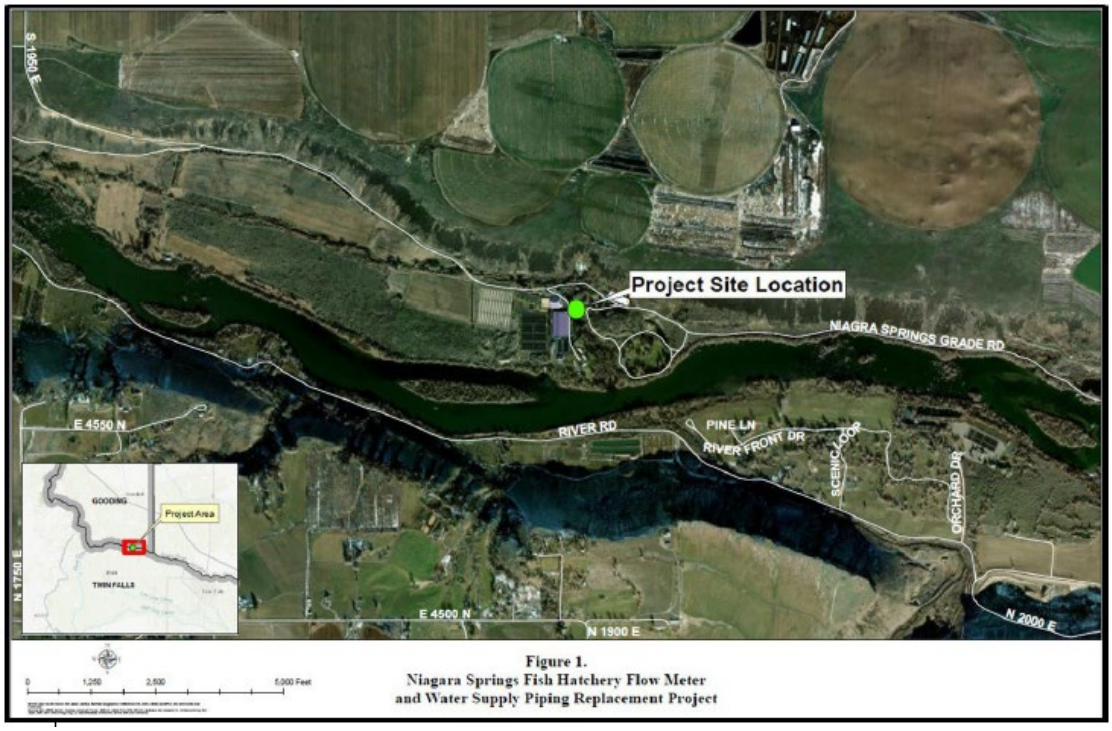
Idaho Power Company (IPCo) is proposing to reconstruct and modernize a segment of the lower pool intake structure at the Niagara Springs Fish Hatchery for enhanced operational efficiency and improved flow measurement. The hatchery is located approximately nine miles south of

[1] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/iwrb/financial-programs/Regional-Priority-List_update_March-2024_Final.pdf

Wendell, Idaho, in the Snake River Canyon (Figure 1). The hatchery sources its water from Niagara Springs Creek, which originates from the outflows of Niagara Springs. This spring-fed creek supplies water to three primary components of the hatchery:

- The steelhead early rearing building
- The juvenile steelhead outdoor raceways
- The sturgeon hatchery building

Figure 1. Location of the Niagara Springs Fish Hatchery



This project entails lowering the lower pool intake system, replacing 150 linear feet of degraded concrete pipe with steel pipe, and modernizing the intake structure with control valves, trash rack, and a new closed-conduit magnetic flow meter. The estimated cost of the proposed project is $1,200,000 (Table 1). A detailed breakdown of the estimated cost is not included in the application. The cover letter requests $1,200,000 in funding from the IWRB for the project, while the application states the "project will be funded by IPCo, with any additional funding provided by the IWRB used to offset construction costs." Construction is scheduled to occur between May and August 2027, assuming budget approval by June 2026.

Table 1. Proposed Scope of Work and Cost

Key Components	Cost
1. Remove approximately 150 linear feet of existing 48-inch reinforced concrete pipe. 2. Extend the intake structure and lower the floor elevation by 2 feet to accommodate the revised slope of the new steel pipeline.	$1,200,000

Key Components	Cost
3. Install approximately 150 linear feet of 48-inch diameter steel pipe, complete with all necessary thrust blocks and pipe supports. 4. Install a new electrically actuated control valve within a cast-in-place concrete vault, including electrical and control system integration. 5. Install a new magnetic flow meter within a separate concrete vault for improved flow measurement accuracy and IDWR compliance. 6. Install a new debris-excluding trash rack at the intake structure to prevent clogging and improve maintenance access. 7. Perform all required structural and miscellaneous metalwork to support modifications to the intake structure, including handrails, platforms, and pipe supports as indicated in the design drawings.	
Total	$1,200,000

Idaho Water Resource Board Evaluation of the Project

The IWRB developed a document titled "IWRB Regional Water Sustainability Priority List Criteria"[2] (RWSPL Criteria), which identifies the criteria that projects must meet to be considered for inclusion on the RWSP List. The RWSPL Criteria were updated through resolution by the IWRB in May 2026. The project proposed by IPCo to reconstruct and modernize the Niagara Springs Fish Hatchery was evaluated to determine if the project meets the criteria for inclusion on the RWSP List:

- Eligible Entities:

    - 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.

    Evaluation of applicant eligibility: This project is proposed by Idaho Power Company, a regulated electric utility serving customers in Idaho. Regulated utility providers are not listed as an eligible entity. The applicant does not meet this criterion.

[2] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/IWRB-RWS-Project-List-criteria_2026.pdf

- Eligible Project / Programs (must meet all three):

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

      Evaluation of a regional water sustainability issue: This project addresses a localized aging water delivery system associated with a settlement agreement between the Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG), Idaho Power Company, and Rim View Trout Company (Rim View). The Niagara Springs Water Agreement (1993) provides alternative delivery methods when the flow from Niagara Springs is insufficient to satisfy senior water rights. This project is intended to resolve anticipated water supply conflicts between the IDFG, IPCo, and Rim View caused by inaccurate water measurements. The project addresses a potential water supply conflict between adjacent fish hatcheries. The project does not address a significant regional water sustainability issue. The project does not meet this criterion.

    - Provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level.

      Evaluation of regional benefits: This project may benefit Rim View and IDFG as parties to the Niagara Springs Agreement (1993). The application does not detail benefits to Rim View, IDFG, or others at a basin or regional scale beyond improved operational efficiencies and flow measurement at the fish hatcheries. This project does not appear to contribute to improved water management at the basin or statewide level. The project does not meet this criterion.

    - 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.

      Evaluation of alignment with the State Water Plan: This project addresses improving water flow measurement. The application includes a copy of the Niagara Springs Agreement (1993). Improved flow measurement may help protect the existing water rights of the Niagara Springs Fish Hatchery, IDFG, and Rim View pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, as described in item 2 - Allocation of the Waters of Niagara Springs through the maintenance of item 5 – Measuring Devices. This project also addresses active stewardship of and support for the future water needs of the Niagara Springs and the Rim View fish hatcheries. The project meets this criterion.

- 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.

      Evaluation of ineligible projects: This project does not involve improvements to municipal drinking water or wastewater systems. The project meets this criterion.

Summary of Evaluation

- The applicant does not meet the criteria for eligible entities.

- This project does not meet all three of the eligible project requirements:

    - It does not address a significant regional water sustainability issue,

    - It does not provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level, and

    - It does 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.

- This project is not for municipal or wastewater.

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Neeley Miller, IDWR Water Resource Planner Senior

Justin Ferguson, IDWR Project Manager

Date: July 20, 2026

Subject: Evaluation of Little Wood River Irrigation District request to add the District's Pressurized Pipeline Project to the Regional Water Sustainability Project List

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Adding Project to the Regional Water Sustainability List

Regional Water Sustainability Project Program Background

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) maintains the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List (RWSP List)[1] to identify and promote projects that have the potential to improve long-term water sustainability across Idaho. The Idaho State Water Plan states that sustainability requires the active stewardship of Idaho's water resources to satisfy current uses while ensuring water availability for future generations.

To support effective statewide water management, the IWRB uses the RWSP List as a planning tool to highlight regional, basin-wide, and statewide studies and capital improvement projects that address significant water resource challenges. Projects included on the RWSP List can contribute to:

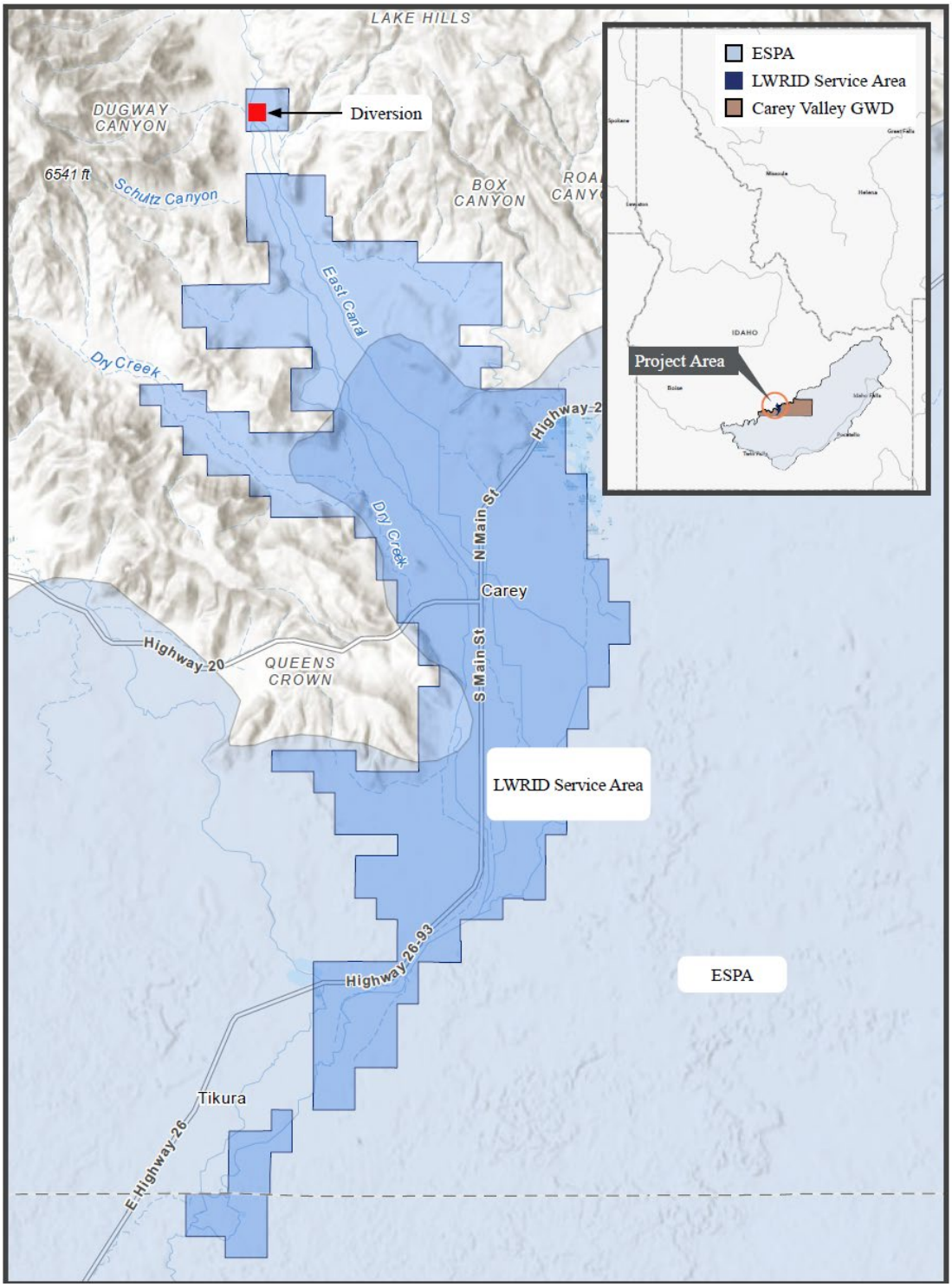
- Stabilizing aquifer levels
- Modernizing critical infrastructure
- Improving drought resilience
- Resolving anticipated water supply conflicts
- Protecting existing water rights and beneficial uses identified in Idaho Code.

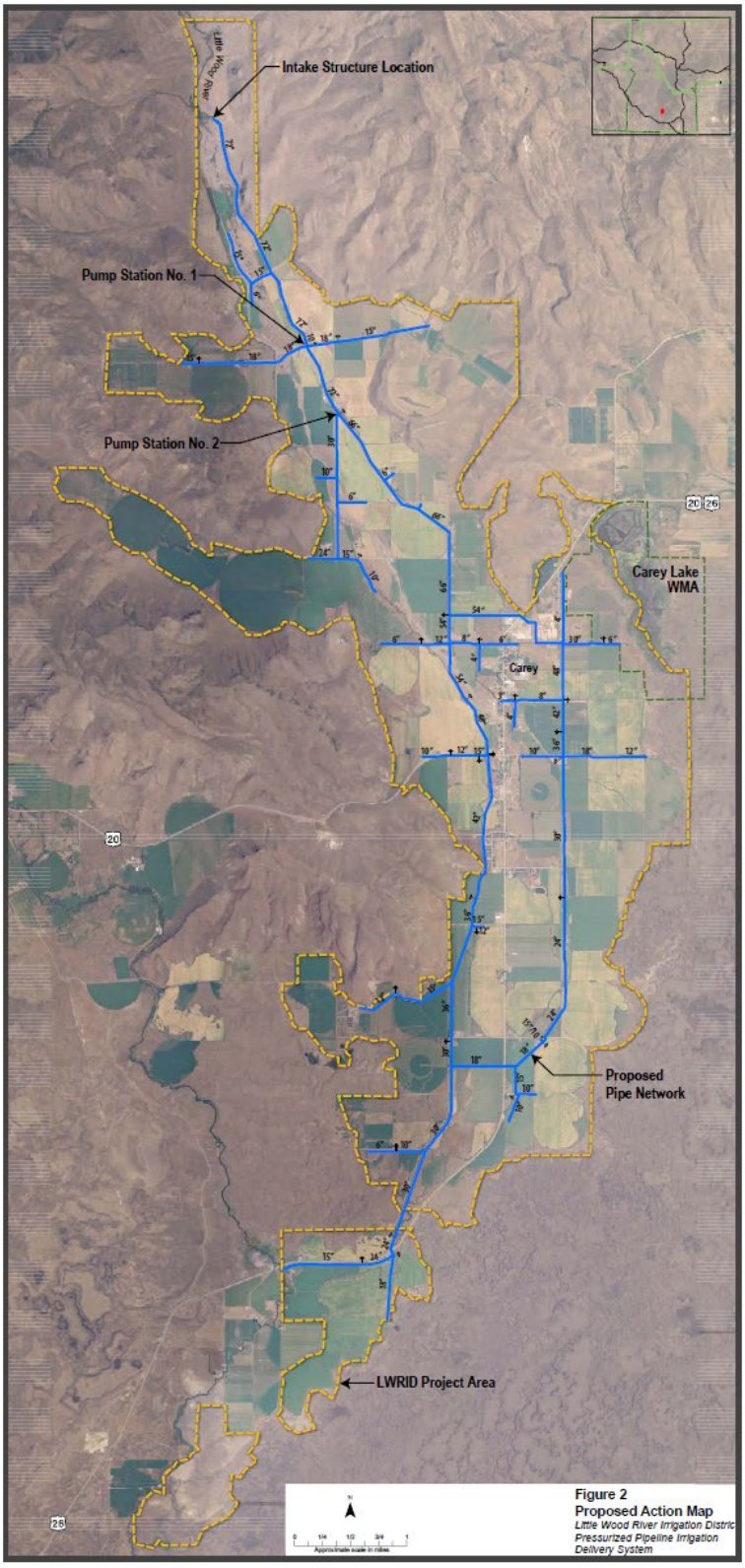
Inclusion on the RWSP List does not constitute a funding commitment. It provides recognition that the project has the potential to help achieve water sustainability or address a regional water issue, elevates a project for consideration, enables the IWRB to advocate for federal and state funding, and provides sponsors with access to technical support and coordination.

Proposed Project Summary

Little Wood River Irrigation District (LWRID) is proposing upgrading the existing open channel irrigation delivery system by installing a pressurized pipeline delivery system consisting of approximately 32 miles of new pipeline, a new headworks facility, two new pump stations, pressurized connections at more than 100 farm turnouts and a dedicated turnout to Carey Lake.

[1] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/iwrb/financial-programs/Regional-Priority-List_update_March-2024_Final.pdf


LAKE HILLS
DUGWAY CANYON
Diversion
6541 ft
Schultz Canyon
BOX CANYON
East Canal
Dry Creek
Highway 2
N Main St
Carey
S Main St
Highway 20
QUEENS CROWN
LWRID Service Area
Highway 26-93
ESPA
Tikura
E Highway 26
ESPA
LWRID Service Area
Carey Valley GWD
IDAHO
Project Area



The proposed project is expected to conserve approximately 20,000 acre-feet of water per year and approximately 7,910,000 kWh of electricity per year. The increased efficiency of the updated water delivery system would allow the LWRID to meet demand yet decrease the amount of water diverted for crop irrigation. This would allow the District to increase the amount of water

released into the Little Wood River and provide the ability to better manage flow. Additionally, to allow for continued aquifer recharge, approximately 25 cfs of water would be diverted to the West Canal and 30 cfs would be diverted to the East Canal each day in addition to the water released into the Little Wood River. This would allow for approximately 4,950 afa of recharge. The total increase in flow to the Little Wood River as a result of this project is estimated to be five percent (Draft EA 2010) and that contribution is expected to seep into the underlying alluvium and basalt.

The project includes the release of six to 20 cfs of water to the Carey Lake Wildlife Management Area to ensure a reliable flow of water to support wetlands, wildlife habitat, and fisheries. Additionally, the project would allow for better management of water delivered to Carey Lake as needed to enhance the Wildlife Management Plan.

The project would provide the ability for the local fire department to install hydrants at specified locations to provide water for fire flow in the event of an emergency.

Cost Estimate and Funding Sources:

The LWRID received a preliminary cost estimate from CH2M HILL (Jacobs) in early 2004. At that time, the total construction cost was estimated to be $27,634,000. However, based on the increased cost for materials and labor, construction is now estimated to cost approximately $47,514,680. Additionally, updating the design and completing an new environmental assessment for the project will cost an estimated $4.75 million (bringing the total project cost to approximately $52.3 million).

The LWRID continues to look for funding assistance for this project and is hoping this project can be completed through a combination of federal and state grants, loans, and cash provided by the LWRID. However, depending on funding availability, they may have to implement the project in phases.

Idaho Water Resource Board Evaluation of the Project

The IWRB developed a document titled "IWRB Regional Water Sustainability Priority List Criteria"[2] (RWSPL Criteria), which identifies the criteria that projects must meet to be considered for inclusion on the RWSP List. The RWSPL Criteria were updated through resolution by the IWRB in May 2026. The project proposed by LWRID upgrading the existing open channel irrigation delivery system by installing a pressurized pipeline delivery system consisting of approximately 32 miles of new pipeline, a new headworks facility, two new pump stations, pressurized connections at more than 100 farm turnouts and a dedicated turnout to Carey Lake was evaluated to determine if the project meets the criteria for inclusion on the RWSP List:

- Eligible Entities:
    - Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, and Water Districts

[2] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/IWRB-RWS-Project-List-criteria_2026.pdf

- 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.

Evaluation of applicant eligibility: This project is proposed by the Little Wood River Irrigation District. The applicant meets this criterion.

- Eligible Project / Programs (must meet all three):

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

    Evaluation of a regional water sustainability issue: The planned improvements will allow the LWRID to conserve approximately 20,000 acre-feet of water per year and approximately 7,910,000 kWh of electricity per year. The increased efficiency of the updated water delivery system would allow the LWRID to meet demand yet decrease the amount of water diverted for crop irrigation. This would allow the District to increase the amount of water released into the Little Wood River and provide the ability to better manage flow. The project provides extensive benefits to the LWRID. The project does not address a significant regional water sustainability issue. The project does not meet this criterion.

  - Provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level.

    Evaluation of regional benefits: The application does not provide details on improvement of water management at the basin or regional level. Limited benefits beyond the LWRID. The project does not meet this criterion.

  - 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.

    Evaluation of alignment with the State Water Plan: The planned improvements will allow the LWRID to conserve approximately 20,000 acre-feet of water per year and potentially increase the amount released to the Little Wood River. The project will help to support the future needs of the LWRID. The planned improvements will also result in a loss of incidental recharge to the ESPA of approximately 15-20,000 acre-feet of water per year. This project does not meet this criterion.

- 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.

      Evaluation of ineligible projects: This project does not involve improvements to municipal drinking water or wastewater systems. The project meets this criterion.

Summary of Evaluation:

- The applicant does meet the criteria for eligible entities.

- This project does not meet all three of the eligible project requirements:

    - It does not address a significant regional water sustainability issue,

    - It does not provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level, and

    - It does not 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.

- This project is not for municipal or wastewater.

- This project will potentially result in a loss of incidental recharge to the ESPA of approximately 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet of water per year and have impacts on the Thousand Spring and flows at the Murphy/Swan Falls.

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Neeley Miller, IDWR Water Resource Planner Senior

Justin Ferguson, IDWR Project Manager

Date: July 20, 2026

Subject: Evaluation of Big Wood Canal Company request to add North Shoshone Pipe Dream Project to the Regional Water Sustainability Project List

REQUESTED ACTION: Consider Adding Project to the Regional Water Sustainability List

Regional Water Sustainability Project Program Background

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) maintains the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List (RWSP List)[1] to identify and promote projects that have the potential to improve long-term water sustainability across Idaho. The Idaho State Water Plan states that sustainability requires the active stewardship of Idaho's water resources to satisfy current uses while ensuring water availability for future generations.

To support effective statewide water management, the IWRB uses the RWSP List as a planning tool to highlight regional, basin-wide, and statewide studies and capital improvement projects that address significant water resource challenges. Projects included on the RWSP List can contribute to:

- Stabilizing aquifer levels
- Modernizing critical infrastructure
- Improving drought resilience
- Resolving anticipated water supply conflicts
- Protecting existing water rights and beneficial uses identified in Idaho Code.

Inclusion on the RWSP List does not constitute a funding commitment. It provides recognition that the project has the potential to help achieve water sustainability or address a regional water issue, elevates a project for consideration, enables the IWRB to advocate for federal and state funding, and provides sponsors with access to technical support and coordination.

Proposed Project Summary

Big Wood Canal Company (BWCC) is proposing a series of lateral improvement projects called the North Shoshone Pipe Dream located on the North Shoshone tract. The planned improvements will allow the company to better utilize its 191,500-acre-feet of water storage

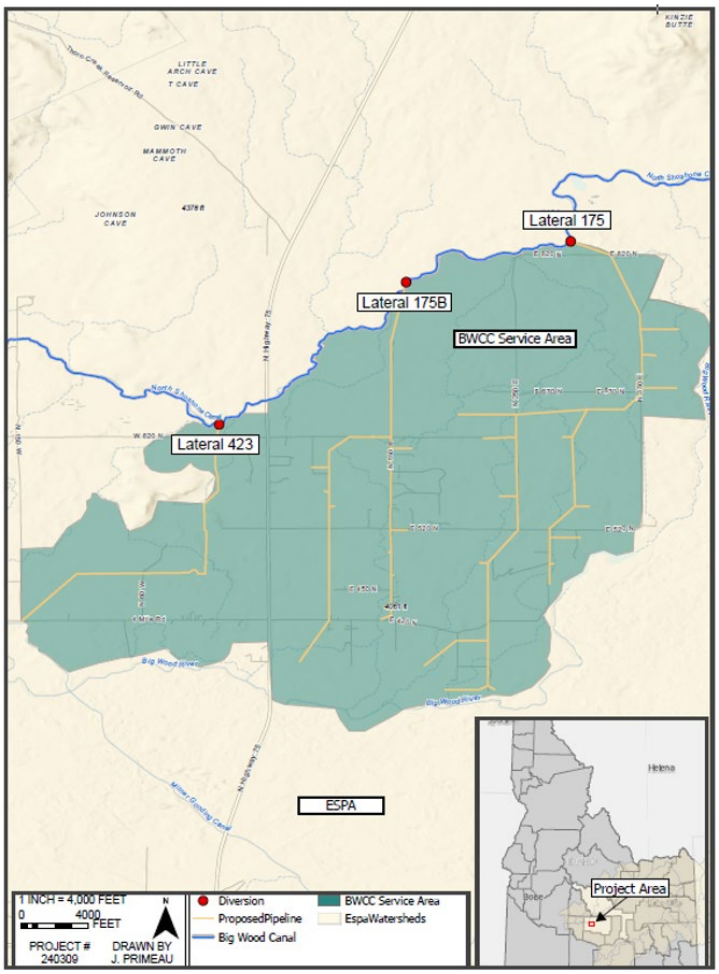
[1] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/iwrb/financial-programs/Regional-Priority-List_update_March-2024_Final.pdf

capacity by increasing water availability later in the season. The North Shoshone Canal is one of the main canals the company uses to deliver irrigation water to the farms in its service area. There are three canal laterals (Lateral 175, Lateral 175B, and Lateral 423) that branch off from the North Shoshone

Canal and travel south through the project area. The company uses this system of open channel, unlined, earthen canal laterals to deliver water to the 4,650 acres of productive agricultural land in the project area. These laterals experience significant water losses each year with current estimates indicating approximately 47% of the water diverted is lost to seepage and evaporation while an additional 10% is lost to over-deliveries and spills.

Big Wood Canal Company will replace this existing system of unlined irrigation canal laterals with a pressurized pipeline and install flow meters. By switching to a pressurized pipeline with flow meters at the nearly 50 delivery locations along the pipeline, this project is expected to save approximately 10,035 acre-feet of water per year that is currently lost to seepage, evaporation, over-deliveries, and spills. It is also expected to result in annual energy savings of 2,912,491.2 kilowatt hours by eliminating the need to use pumps to pressurize water for on-farm sprinkler systems.

Figure 1. BWCC North Shoshone Pipe Dream is located approximately four miles north of the City of Shoshone in Lincoln County, Idaho



The proposed plan is to install a pressurized pipeline and flow meters. The pipelines will be constructed using either PVC or HDPE pipes. Pipe sizes will range from six inches to 36 inches in diameter, and pressure classes will range from 80 to 125 pounds per square inch (psi). Granular pipe bedding will be placed to support the piped sections.

Lateral #175

The planned improvements to Lateral #175 involve constructing a screened concrete inlet structure along the main North Shoshone Canal located approximately 2.3 miles east of State Highway 75. The pipeline, which will generally extend south from the inlet structure, will require approximately 11.34 miles of pipe. The pipeline will initially be a 36-inch diameter plastic pipe and will be reduced as needed to accommodate delivery needs. A SCADA system will also be installed to allow for remote monitoring and flow control.

Lateral #175B

The planned improvements to Lateral #175B involve constructing a screened concrete inlet structure along the main North Shoshone Canal located approximately one mile east of State Highway 75. The pipeline, which will generally extend south from the inlet structure, will require a total of approximately 7.34 miles of pile. The pipeline will initially be a 27-inch diameter plastic pipe and will be reduced as needed to accommodate delivery needs. The end of the pipeline alignment will realign with the existing canal lateral system to allow for continued surface water delivery in the area.

Lateral #423

The improvements to Lateral #424 involve constructing a screened concrete inlet structure along the main North Shoshone Canal located approximately ¼ mile west of State Highway 75. The pipeline, which will extend south and west from the inlet structure, will require a total of approximately 9.75 miles of pipe. The pipeline will initially be a 30-inch diameter plastic pipe for about 4,700 feet. The pipeline diameter will then begin to be reduced as needed to accommodate delivery needs. This phase also includes the installation of two pivot irrigation systems. One is required to convert an acreage presently surface irrigated due to the abandonment of the canal delivery system, and the other to promote conversion of the last remaining sizable property to pressurized irrigation.

The proposed project is estimated to cost a total of $18,788,208:

Description	Total
Lateral #175	$7,757,426
Lateral #175B	$5,383,490
Lateral #423	$5,647,292
Total	**$18,788,208**

Funding Sources	Amount
WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant	$4,500,000
NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program WaterSMART Grant	$1,800,000
Conservation, Infrastructure & Efficiency Fund	$1,000,000
Benefiting Stockholders	$2,300,000
Big Wood Canal Company	$5,900,000
Idaho Water Resource Board Funding Requested	**$3,500,000**

Idaho Water Resource Board Evaluation of the Project

The IWRB developed a document titled "IWRB Regional Water Sustainability Priority List Criteria"[2] (RWSPL Criteria), which identifies the criteria that projects must meet to be considered for inclusion on the RWSP List. The RWSPL Criteria were updated through resolution by the IWRB in May 2026. The project proposed by BWCC to replace this existing system of unlined irrigation canal laterals on the North Shoshone Tract with pressurized pipeline was evaluated to determine if the project meets the criteria for inclusion on the RWSP List:

- Eligible Entities:
    - 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.

    Evaluation of applicant eligibility: This project is proposed by the Big Wood Canal Company. The applicant meets this criterion.

- Eligible Project / Programs (must meet all three):
    - Address a significant regional water sustainability issue, such as declining groundwater 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.

      Evaluation of a regional water sustainability issue: The planned improvements will allow the BWCC to better utilize its 191,500-acre-feet of water storage capacity by increasing water availability later in the season. The proposed project is expected to conserve approximately 10,035 acre-feet of water per year and approximately 2,912,491.2 kilowatt hours of electricity per year. The project will

[2] https://idwr.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/IWRB-RWS-Project-List-criteria_2026.pdf

provide BWCC with the ability to better regulate and manage water deliveries and water storage capacity so it can provide its stockholders with a more reliable water supply later in the season. The project will eliminate annual maintenance requirements relating to the open canal laterals throughout the project area (e.g., weed and moss control, cleaning and bank maintenance, emergency sink hole repairs). This is expected to save the company more than $50,000 per year, which can then be used to fund additional infrastructure improvement and modernization projects. Recharge to the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer may be enhanced due to increased reservoir carryover and higher incidence of surplus spring releases down the Big River channel. No data is provided to support potential recharge benefits, or loss of incidental recharge impacts to the ESPA. The project provides extensive benefits to the BWCC.

The project has financial support ($1,000,000) from the Big Wood River Groundwater Management Area Management Plan (BWRGWMA Plan) Conservation, Infrastructure and Efficiency Fund (CIEF). The Final BWRGWMA Plan
Identifies baseline/annual actions. One of the actions groundwater users will accomplish every year regardless of water supply includes making contributions to the CIEF fund to primarily be used for infrastructure improvements and other permanent measures that improve the efficiency of delivery senior water rights, protect groundwater levels, or increase surface water flows, and for purchasing storage water. The BWRGWMA also creates a CIEF Committee to administer these funds and directs the CIEF Committee to investigate potential cost-share opportunities including State and Federal cost share. Contributions to the CIEF Fund are made by Cities, Sun Valley Water/Sewer District, Sun Valley Club, WD37B GWA, and non-irrigation ground water users.

This project has been identified by the CIEF Committee as a project that is consistent with the BWRGWMA Plan because it would be a permanent infrastructure that improves the efficiency of the delivery of senior water rights. This project does address a significant regional water sustainability issue. This project does meet this criterion.

- Provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improve water management at the basin or regional level.

Evaluation of regional benefits: This project has been identified by the CIEF Committee as a project that is consistent with the BWRGWMA Plan because it would be a permanent infrastructure that improves the efficiency of the delivery of senior water rights. This project does provide benefits beyond a single entity and improves water management at the regional level. This project does meet this criterion.

- 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.

  Evaluation of alignment with the State Water Plan: The planned improvements will allow the BWCC to better utilize its 191,500-acre-feet of water storage capacity by increasing water availability later in the season. The proposed project is expected to conserve approximately 10,035 acre-feet of water per year and approximately 2,912,491.2 kilowatt hours of electricity per year.

  From SWP Sustainability Policy:

  Implementation Strategies:

  - *Ensure that all actions taken toward a sustainable water future protect and respect private property rights both in the land and water rights.*

  This project will help to support the future water needs of the BWCC and improve the delivery of senior water rights in the BWR basin.

  The project will reduce incidental recharge by 10,035 acre-feet per year to the ESPA which will reduce water supplies for those that depend on groundwater and return flows from the ESPA (impacting senior water rights in the ESPA.)

  The project meets this criterion.

- <u>Ineligible Projects:</u>

  - 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.

    Evaluation of ineligible projects: This project does not involve improvements to municipal drinking water or wastewater systems.

    The project meets this criterion.

Summary of Evaluation:

- The applicant does meet the criteria for eligible entities.

- This project meets all three eligible project requirements:

    - This project will address a significant regional water sustainability issue. The project has been identified by the CIEF Committee as a project that is consistent with the BWRGWMA Plan because it would be a permanent infrastructure that improves the efficiency of the delivery of senior water rights.

    - This project will provide benefits that extend beyond a single entity and improves water management at the regional level. It has been identified by the CIEF Committee as a project that is consistent with the BWRGWMA Plan because it would be a permanent infrastructure that improves the efficiency of the delivery of senior water rights.

    - This project does support the sustainability goals outlined in the Idaho State Water Plan, including active stewardship, protection of existing water rights, and support for future water needs.

- This project is not for municipal or wastewater.

- This project will potentially result in a loss of incidental recharge to the ESPA of approximately 10,035 acre-feet of water per year

Attachment(s):

- *PowerPoint Presentation*

IDAHO Department of Water Resources

Regional Water Sustainability Priority List - Applications

Presented by: Neeley Miller & Matt Anders

Date: July 23, 2026

1

IDAHO Department of Water Resources

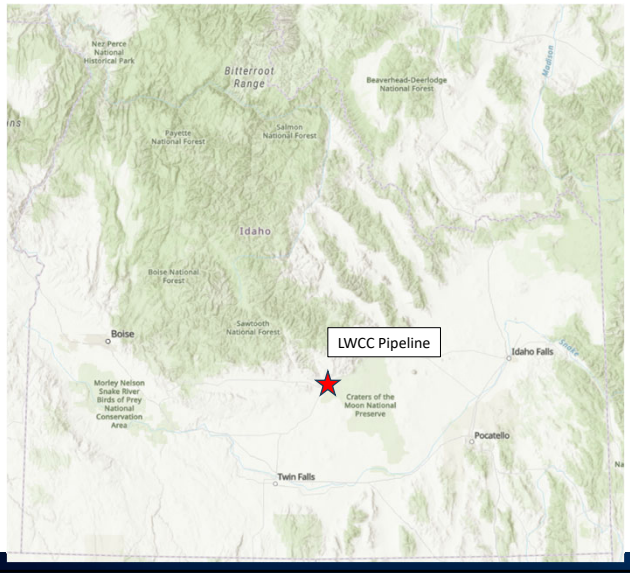
Niagara Springs Fish Hatchery

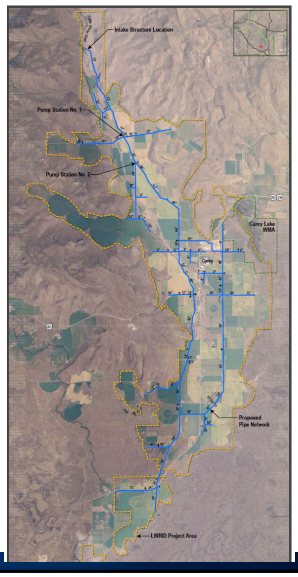
2

IDAHO Department of Water Resources

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Little Wood Canal Company Pipeline



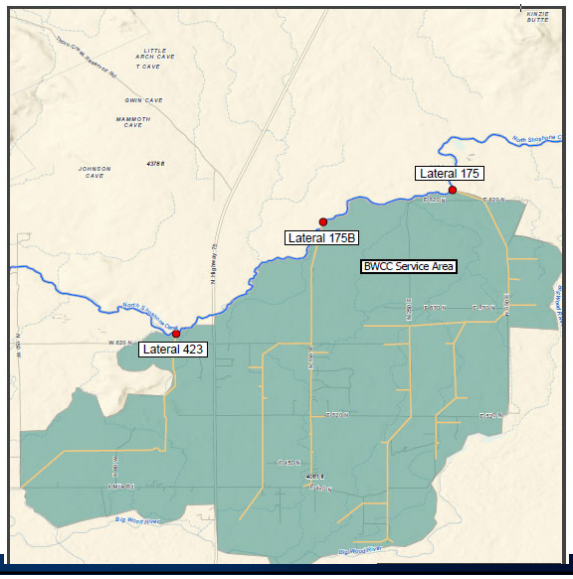


3

IDAHO Department of Water Resources

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Big Wood Canal Company Pipeline



4

IDAHO Department of Water Resources

Questions

5

MEMO

To: IWRB Finance Committee (Committee)

From: Planning & Projects Bureau Staff

Date: July 20, 2026

Subject: Other Items

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

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

Attachment(s):

- *None*