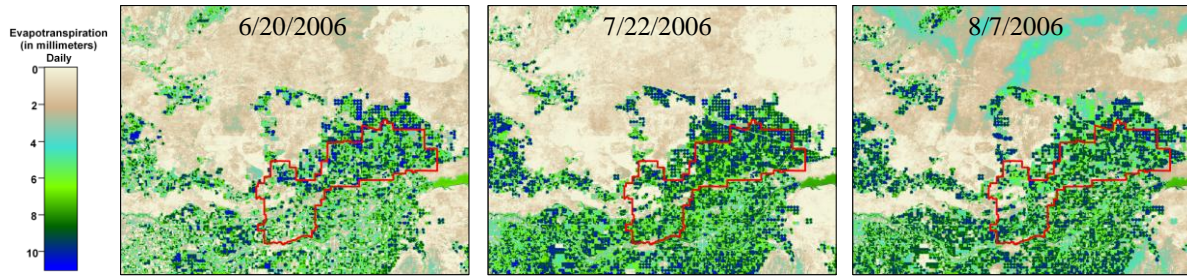
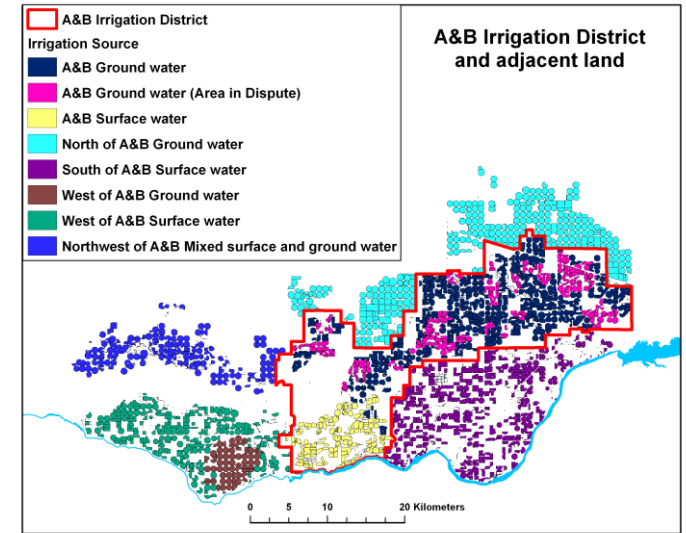


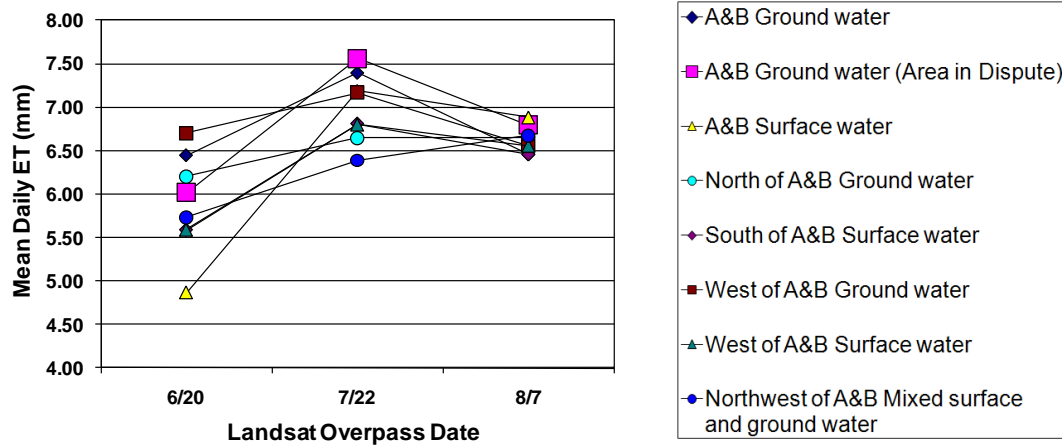
Delivery Call



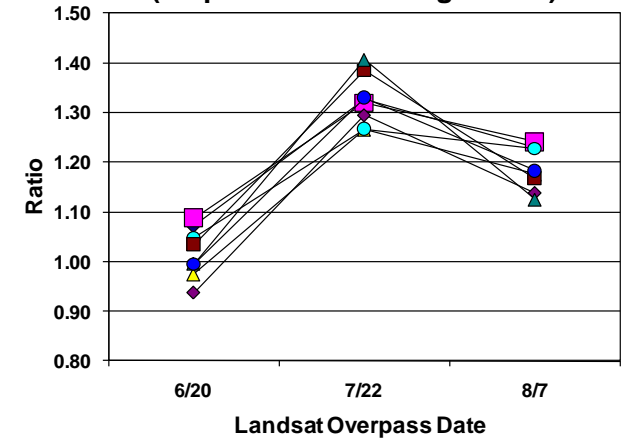
METRIC ET images for three days during summer of 2006.



Year 2006: Mean Daily Evapotranspiration (ET)



Year 2006: Ratio of ETrF and NDVI (ET per amount of vegetation)



Idaho water law is based on the prior appropriation doctrine, “first in time is first in right”. A water right is the authorization to use water and it includes a priority date. When a senior water right holder experiences a water shortage a delivery call may be placed against junior water right holders. If the state finds the senior holder has experienced a shortage, the state can respond with a curtailment order, which defines how the junior water right holders must respond so that the senior holder can get their water.

The A&B Irrigation District (A&B) filed a delivery call with the Director of IDWR demanding the curtailment of junior water users. METRIC ET data were used to compute and map consumptive water use for the A&B and adjacent land for 2006. ET data were analyzed from three Landsat image dates by comparing the mean ET for the A&B area where it claimed to be experiencing a shortage with surrounding areas that were not claimed to be short of water. The analysis showed that the mean ET for the area in dispute was not lower than surrounding areas that were not claimed to be short of water. Further analysis normalized the ET data using NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) to adjust for any differences caused by cropping pattern and the results did not vary. The ET analysis was a “legal finding of fact” in the Director’s order denying the delivery call and it was referred to in a water rights hearing and subsequent appeals to the District Court and Idaho Supreme Court where the Director’s decision was upheld.