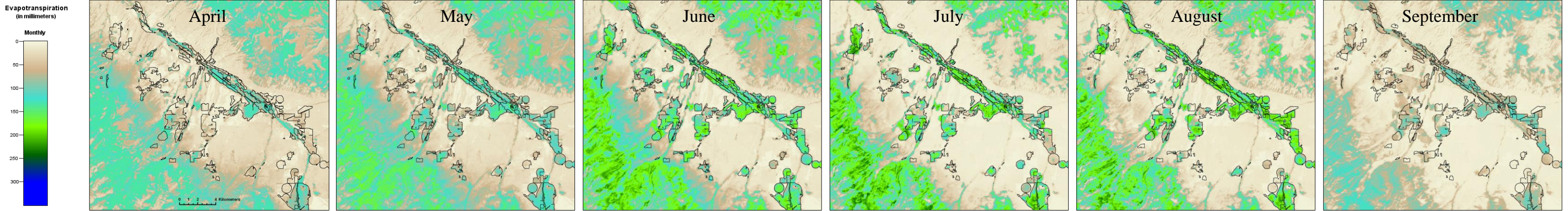


# Endangered Species



Monthly sequence of ET images for the Lemhi Valley within the Upper Salmon River basin in 2000.



There are times of the year when stream flow is low in some basins and there is not enough water to meet the needs of irrigation and fish. This is especially true during drought years, and in some areas irrigation can divert all the flow in a stream (photo at left).

The State of Idaho developed a conservation plan for the Upper Salmon River Basin that put in place measures that increase stream flow for endangered fish. Data about the consumptive use (ET) of irrigated land was needed for this process. Monthly METRIC ET data were developed for the year 2000. The data showed that irrigation consumed 33,520 acre-feet (11 billion gallons) of water.

The ET data were also used to assess the consumptive use of water rights that may be leased under the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program (CBWTP). The CBWTP is a program to improve stream flows. IDWR identified stream reaches that would benefit from flow enhancement and worked with willing irrigators through leases, agreements not to divert, and other transaction methods. The ET data allowed negotiations with irrigators to be based on the consumptive use of the water rights (table at right) instead of the maximum diversion allowed for the water rights.

Water Right	Acres	Mean ET (mm)	ET acre-feet
74-1008	83	297	81
74-1016	41	506	68
74-1030	24	332	26
74-1036	51	350	59
74-1058	51	629	105
74-1061	14	736	34
74-1083	22	490	36
74-1103	53	599	104
74-1106	198	343	223
74-1114	42	422	59
74-1140	27	960	85