

**Meeting Notes**  
**Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee**  
**Lincoln County Community Center, Shoshone, Idaho**  
**June 13, 2024**

IDWR Southern Regional Manager Corey Skinner called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM by taking Advisory Committee roll call and introducing IDWR personnel and Idaho Water Resources Board members in attendance. A list of attendees is included at the conclusion of these notes.

The second item on the agenda was to open the floor for public comment. Keri York, representing the environmental Non-Governmental Organizations, suggested that the Advisory Committee recommend additional target flows in streams in the Wood River Valley, as well as several water conservation measures. Michael Gibson, of Trout Unlimited, introduced himself and said that he was present to learn about the Advisory Committee's work.

Corey King of IDWR then gave a short presentation on the Surface Water Coalition ESPA delivery call and noted the importance of the Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee and their efforts to develop a new management plan.

Next on the agenda was a Technical Working Group ("TWG") update from Mike McVay of IDWR's Hydrology section. Mr. McVay went through the questions that the Advisory Committee had presented to the TWG and explained the responses given by the TWG. Mr. McVay noted that, at this point, the TWG had not quite worked through all of the questions presented to them.

A break was taken from 11:22 AM until the meeting was resumed at 11:37 AM.

The next agenda item was Corey Skinner with the June 1 forecast of the April-September flow volume of the Big Wood River at Hailey. The initial predicted volume came in at 210.56 KAF which would be considered an adequate water supply in the current management plan. Using numbers from other data sources for April – May discharge yielded volumes slightly less than 210 KAF which would be considered a dry water supply in the current management plan. The advisory committee agreed that the average of all the values was just above 210 KAF, which would be considered an adequate water supply. Therefore, no additional management actions are required for the 2024 season.

The next agenda topic was a review of Questions/Recommendations for the Management Plan Extension. After discussion and minor alterations, the minimum stream flow draft language was accepted by the Advisory Committee. Review and discussion of Items 3 - 5 relating to the Management Plan Goals was extensive and it was decided that better progress could be made with a more limited number of Advisory Committee members involved in the discussion, so Cooper Brossy and Sharon Lee were tasked with coming up with final language for Section IV of the plan.

Next on the agenda was the Conservation, Infrastructure, and Efficiency Fund (CIEF) report from Larry Schoen, who gave a brief summary of CIEF activity.

Reports from the Subcommittee groups was the next agenda item, and the first group on the list, Enforcement, had not met yet. The CIEF Procedures report was given by Larry Schoen, who summarized the recommendations of the CIEF Subgroup. The Camas Prairie report was given by Corey Skinner, and he noted that progress had been made.

Nick Westendorf presented the Flow Target – Storage Water Acquisition Subgroup report. He discussed the targets and said the subgroup would need to have the TWG do more work. Neither the Forecasting Methods/Models group, nor the Season of Use/Fallowing-Pumping Reductions group have yet to meet, so no report was available from them.

The next agenda topic was a request for new business and Keri York commented that she didn't believe that riparian health will be addressed unless language pertaining to it is included in the plan. Larry Schoen agreed and said that there are no guarantees of reliability of water supply.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee was set for Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at the Blaine County Community Campus in Hailey.

Corey Skinner adjourned the meeting at 1:52 PM.

**Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 13, 2024, Attendance**

**Advisory Committee**

Corey Allen  
Cooper Brossy  
Rod Hubsmith  
Sharon Lee  
Pat McMahon  
Justin Stevenson (via Zoom)  
Carl Pendleton  
Pat Purdy (via Zoom)  
Bill Simon  
Nick Westendorf  
Brian Yeager  
Ron Taylor (Idaho State Senator representing District 26)

**IDWR Staff**

Shelley Keen (via Zoom)  
Corey Skinner  
Corey King  
Jim Bitzenburg  
Mike McVay  
Neeley Miller

**IWRB Members**

Pat McMahon  
Dean Stevenson  
Brian Olmstead

**Members of the Public**

Ned Burns (Idaho State Representative representing District 26)  
Kevin Lakey  
Sunny Healey  
Chris Bromley  
Larry Schoen  
Dave Shaw (via Zoom)  
Michael Lawrence (via Zoom)  
Zach Hill (via Zoom)  
Heather O'Leary (via Zoom)  
Mitch Fleming  
Greg Sullivan (via Zoom)  
Chase Hendricks (via Zoom)  
Wendy Pabich  
Cort Blackburn (via Zoom)  
Michael Gibson  
Keri York  
...and others via Zoom