

MANAGEMENT PLAN GOALS

The ~~primary~~ goals of this Management Plan are to:

- Manage “the effects of ground water withdrawals on the aquifers from which the withdrawals are made and any other hydraulically connected sources of water.” *Idaho Code § 42-233b*.
- ~~Manage ground water resources to support and sustain a supply of ground water and hydraulically connected surface water for water rights used in the diverse sectors of the Big Wood River basin economy, including rural agriculture and its associated way of life, town and city life, commerce and industry, and recreation.~~
- ~~Minimize the risk of future delivery calls or other administrative actions by implementing conjunctive administration of water resources of surface water rights and ground water rights on a strict priority basis.~~
- ~~Provide seasonal predictability of available ground water for all users in the Big Wood basin.~~

The following additional goals create a framework for implementing management strategies and actions in support of the primary goals:

- ~~Develop and sustain aquifer conditions that support reliable stream flows in Silver Creek, the Little Wood River below its confluence with Silver Creek, and the Big Wood River upstream of Magic Reservoir to serve senior surface water rights, including the right to fill Magic Reservoir, and sustain the stream and riparian values, such as aquatic and riparian habitats, for recreational opportunities such as fishing and hunting.~~
- Provide seasonal predictability of available ground water for irrigators such that they can develop practical plans to optimize their use of ground water to grow crops and maintain stock animal herds.
- ~~Develop and implement a suite of methods for ground water users to mitigate for the impacts of their water use on senior water rights.~~
- ~~Vary management plan actions to account for the differences in aquifer conditions and hydraulically connected stream flows in wet years and dry years.~~
- ~~Develop and distribute funding for local water conservation, efficiency, and infrastructure improvements.~~
- ~~Encourage continual improvements in water supply forecasting for the Wood River Valley.~~

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- ~~Incentivize all ground water users in the ground water management area to implement the management plan and abide by its terms.~~

The benefits of managing the effects of ground water withdrawals include supporting the supply of water for senior surface water rights and Big Wood and Little Wood River stream conditions.

For BWRGWMA ground water users who participate in and abide by the terms of this Management Plan, adoption of the Management Plan establishes safe harbor from curtailment under Idaho Code § 42-233b.

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