Measurement Orders

ESPA GWMA Advisory Committee Meeting

December 5, 2023

Brian Ragan, IDWR





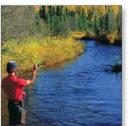


- Purpose of Measurement
- Legal Basis for Measurement
- ESPA Measurement Order
- Measurement Standards
- Data
- Data Collection





Purpose for Measurement



- **Essential tool for Watermaster**
 - o accurate delivery of water, quantify use for assessments
- Develop & refine water budgets
- Contribute to modelling efforts
- Identify inefficiencies in irrigation components





Legal Basis for Measurement

•Duties of Director – Idaho Code § 42, Ch. 18

- inventory water resources
- ascertain conservation / augmentation methods
- determine most effective use for the benefit of the State

•Adjudication – Idaho Code § 42, Ch. 14

• Catalog, confirm the beneficial use, rate, volumes, acres for all water rights



•Measuring Devices – Idaho Code § 42, Ch. 7

• installation and maintenance of approved measuring devices ensures accuracy of the distribution of water





Measurement Orders Typically...

Are issued after district creation/modification
water district, water measurement district, ground water management area, etc...



Include a two-year deadline within which to install measuring device



Set totalizing flowmeters as the standard
Variances for existing meter, PCC, timeclock, openchannel device, extension of time (unused wells)

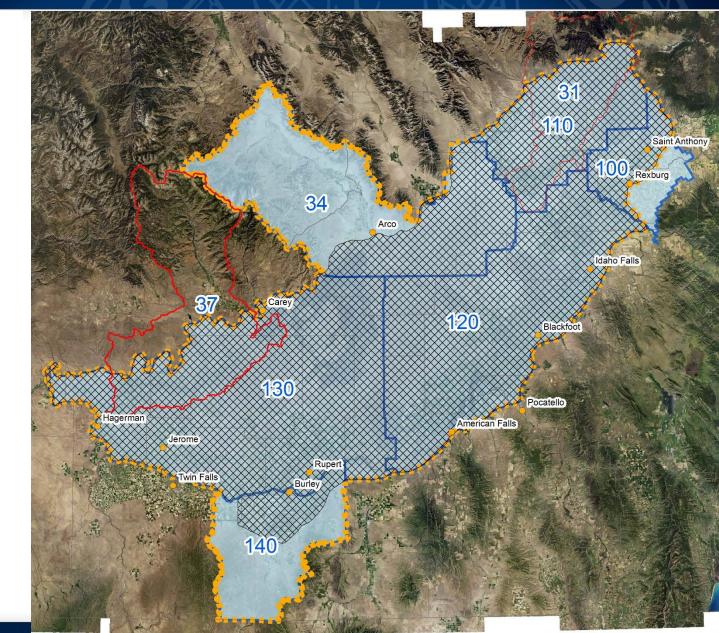


Measurement required for:
Irrigation >5 acres
Non-irrigation >0.24 cfs

Cumulative total from well, regardless of number of water rights or owners

Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer

- July 22, 2016
- 2018 deadline
- ~5,500 wells
- Excludes:
- Dom/stock (I.C. 42-111)
- Irr ≤ 5 acres
- Non-Irr ≤ 0.24 CFS



Measurement Methods on ESPA

	Measurement Option	# of Wells	Typical Well Use
Flowmeter	Flowmeter (1)	4346	irrigation
	Flowmeter (8)	743	year-round users
Kilowatt data	PCC (2)	253	irrigation
Weir or flume	Open-Channel	58	spring users
Hour meter	Timeclock (7)	31	irrigation
	Alternate (3)	23	various
Mix of open-channel, estimates based on system components, splitting water usage amongst spring users	Total	~5454	

Ongoing Maintenance

Annually, between 5% and 10% of flow meters require maintenance.

<u>Common Issues</u> Battery replacement moisture intrusion negative flow Internal component failure rodents chewing grounding wires

Maintenance letters sent after each spring and fall site visit. Can be elevated to Notice of Violation if issue is habitually not addressed.







IDWR has approved list of meters based on third party testing at certified lab (UWRL at Utah State)

- Testing program initiated 2011
- Mag meters and ultrasonic meters tested
- Must achieve ± 2% accuracy and ±0.5% repeatability (compared to volumetric weight tank at UWRL)





Approved Meters Types

Full Profile Electro-Magnetic

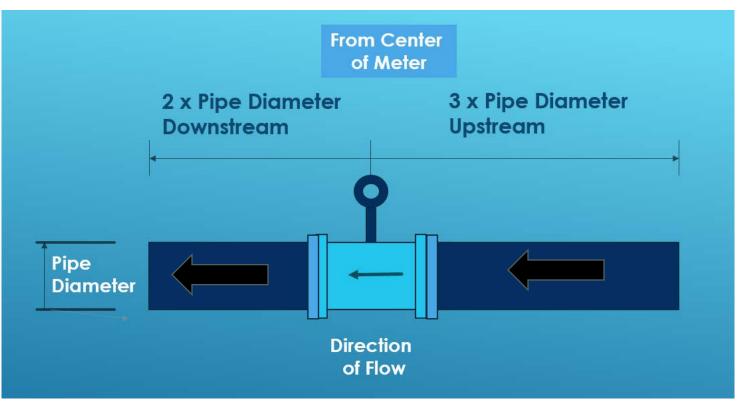
Spooled Ultrasonic





Clamp-on and Wetted Transducer Ultrasonic

Proper Installation: Spacing



Example: Pipe diameter 6 inches Minimum upstream distance: 18 inches (3 x 6) Minimum downstream distance: 12 inches (2 x 6)



Mobile Data Collection

Survey123 and navigation map

• Used on phone or tablet



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Thank You

Questions?