

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE IDAHO WATER
RESOURCE BOARD'S WATER MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNT

RESOLUTION TO AMEND WATER
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT SPENDING PLAN
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

1 WHEREAS, the Water Management Account (WMA) was created pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-
2 1760 and is administered by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB); and
3

4 WHEREAS, through House Bill (HB) 285, the 2019 Idaho Legislature appropriated \$20 Million to
5 the WMA to be used for the Anderson Ranch Reservoir Enlargement (Anderson Ranch Dam Raise) or the
6 Mountain Home Air Force Base Sustainable Water Project (MHAFB Project); and
7

8 WHEREAS, HB 285 also made amendments to Idaho Code § 42-1760, which state, in part, that the
9 Anderson Ranch Dam Raise, MHAFB Project, additional aquifer recharge infrastructure, and other projects
10 selected by the IWRB may be undertaken with funds in the Water Management Account; and
11

12 WHEREAS, through Senate Bill (SB) 1121, the 2021 Idaho Legislature appropriated \$50 Million to
13 the Water Management Account; and
14

15 WHEREAS, in March 2021, through Resolution No. 07-2021, the IWRB allocated funds
16 appropriated under HB 285 and SB 1121 to the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise, MAHFB Project, Eastern Snake
17 Plain Aquifer recharge infrastructure, and the Bear Lake Additional Water Storage project; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the 2022 Idaho Legislature, through House Bill 769, appropriated \$75 Million to the
20 WMA to be used for large water projects and directed the IWRB to use the funding for expenditures,
21 loans, or grants for water projects, including studies, to address water sustainability, rehabilitate or
22 improve aging water infrastructure, or support flood management; and
23

24 WHEREAS, HB 769 further directed that no more than one-third of the moneys be used for grants
25 and the IWRB shall use criteria that takes into account the public's input for the expenditures of money
26 for grants, that is competitive, and prioritizes projects based on the public benefits they provide; and
27

28 WHEREAS, HB 361, passed and approved by the 2023 Idaho Legislature, appropriated \$150M to
29 the WMA for large water projects and specified that the funding be used for purposes similar to those
30 specified in HB 769, including the requirement that no more than one-third of the money be used for
31 grants; and
32

33 WHEREAS, the 2024 Idaho Legislature, through SB 1411, appropriated \$30 Million to the WMA to
34 be used for large water projects at the direction of the IWRB; and
35

36 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature, through House Bill 445, appropriated \$30 Million to the
37 WMA to be used for planning, construction, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and improvement of water
38 infrastructure throughout the state; and

39
40 WHEREAS, HB 445 further directed that of the \$30 Million appropriated in a single year, no more
41 than fifty percent (50%) may be used within a single IWRB district, as defined in Idaho Code § 42-1732
42 unless there are not competing funding applications for water infrastructure projects in other districts for
43 the current fiscal year; and
44

45 WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2026 (FY 2026), fifty percent (50%) of the appropriation from HB 445
46 shall be allocated for use in IWRB district 3 and fifty percent (50%) in district 4 for the purpose of
47 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan entered into by surface and ground water users on the
48 Eastern Snake Plain; and
49

50 WHEREAS, in accordance with HB 769 and 361 referenced above, the IWRB established the Aging
51 Infrastructure Grant Program and, over five application rounds, awarded \$55,331,242 in grant money
52 during fiscal years 2022 through 2025; and
53

54 WHEREAS, since July 2021, the IWRB has maintained a list of priority Regional Water Sustainability
55 Projects (RWSP Priority List). The RWSP Priority List is intended to help guide the IWRB's spending from
56 state general funds, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, or other applicable sources for projects that
57 support water supply sustainability on a regional, basin, or statewide scale. The IWRB also adopts criteria
58 for inclusion of projects on the RWSP Priority List and has approved funding for projects on a case-by-case
59 basis; and
60

61 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, through Resolution 16-2025, the IWRB added the ESPA Regional
62 Water Sustainability Project to the RWSP Priority list to support projects and programs that contribute to
63 aquifer stabilization; and
64

65 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, through Resolution 19-2025, the IWRB approved a spending plan for
66 appropriations made to the WMA under the legislation referenced above, including estimated interest.
67 The WMA Spending Plan considers projects on the RWSP Priority List, Aging Infrastructure Grants, certain
68 IWRB approved loans, and other potential projects and programs; and
69

70 WHEREAS, the spending plan also allocates the \$30 million appropriation for programs and
71 projects under the ESPA Regional Water Sustainability Project that meet the spending requirements
72 defined in HB 445 for fiscal year 2026; and
73

74 WHEREAS, a number of projects on the RWSP Priority List were determined eligible for funding
75 from ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund. Given that ARPA funding has specific federal and state spending
76 requirements, the spending plan includes allocation of additional funds from the WMA to be used if
77 additional funding is required for project completion or if it is determined that ARPA funds are not
78 authorized for specific project tasks; and
79

80 WHEREAS, on August 15, 2025, Idaho Governor Little issued Executive Order No. 2025-05
81 requiring all agencies to reduce their General Fund Spending authority on file in the Office of the State
82 Controller by three percent (3%) for their FY 2026 General Fund Appropriations pursuant to Section 67-
83 3512A, Idaho Code.

84
85 WHEREAS, on September 9, 2025, the IWRB Finance Committee recommended an amended
86 spending plan to the full IWRB that considers new projects, the 3% reduction directed under Executive
87 Order No. 2025-05, and, to make WMA funding available for other qualified projects, changes the funding
88 source for an approved \$5 million IWRB loan to the Northside Canal Company (Loan No. IWRB1038) from
89 the WMA to the IWRB's Revolving Development Account.

90
91 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts the Amended FY 2026 WMA Spending
92 Plan attached to this resolution that incorporates requirements of Executive Order No. 2025-05, as
93 recommended by the Finance Committee.

94
95 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves modifying the source of funding for
96 the approved \$5 million IWRB loan to the Northside Canal Company (Loan No. IWRB1038) from the WMA
97 to the IWRB's Revolving Development Account, as recommended by the Finance Committee.


98
99 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for projects identified in the attached spending
100 plan and approved by the IWRB for funding from the ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund, the IWRB
101 authorizes expenditures from the WMA to cover project activities deemed ineligible for ARPA funding.

102
103 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Amended FY 2026 WMA Spending Plan shall
104 be automatically amended to reflect WMA expenditures approved through future IWRB resolutions.
105

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

Idaho Water Resource Board - Water Management Account
Amended FY 2026 Spending Plan
September 12, 2025

Appropriations for Regional Water Sustainability Projects, Loans, Aging Infrastructure & Other Grants

FY 2020 (HB 285, Sec 1, Leg 2019)	\$20,000,000
FY 2022 (SB 1121, Sec 1, Leg 2021)	\$50,000,000
FY 2023 (HB 769, Sec 6, Leg 2022 - 1/3 or \$25M to be used for AI Grants)	\$75,000,000
FY 2024 (HB 361, Sec 1, Leg 2023 - 1/3 or \$50M to be used for AI Grants)	\$150,000,000
FY 2025 (SB 1411, Sec 3, Leg 2024)	\$30,000,000
FY2026 (HB 445, Sec 4, Receive after July 1, 2025) *	\$29,100,000
Flood Management Grant Appropriations (FY 2019-FY 2026) *	\$7,370,000
Interest Earned State Treasury (as of August 31, 2025)	\$32,041,741
Water Project Loan Interest (as of August 31, 2025)	\$5,276

* Incorporates 3% cut to FY26 General Fund Appropriations per Governor's Executive Order No. 2025-05

\$393,517,017

REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS & OTHER LARGE PROJECTS	Budgeted Amount
Anderson Ranch Dam Raise **	\$10,000,000
Bear Lake Additional Storage	\$2,000,000
City of Gooding - Little Wood River Channel Flood Control Project	\$4,000,000
City of Nampa Wastewater-to-Irrigation Reuse	\$3,000,000
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	\$100,000
Dworshak/Clearwater Pipeline (Governor's Initiative)	\$60,000,000
Lewiston Orchards Exchange Project **	\$1,287,000
Lost Valley Reservoir Enlargement - Planning	\$560,000
Milner Dam Rehabilitation Project	\$1,500,000
Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Resilience Project **	\$10,000,000
Nampa Meridian Irrigation District Ridenbaugh Canal Diversion Modernization Project	\$10,023,258
North Fremont Canal Systems Phase 5 Pipeline Project	\$7,811,056
Palouse Basin Aquifer Water Supply Planning	\$5,000,000
Priest Lake Water Management Project	\$5,420,000
Priest Lake Outlet Dam Litigation	\$2,748,000
Raft River Pipeline Project	\$7,000,000
Thousand Springs Area Water Subordination Agreements	\$8,000,000
Treasure Valley Water Supply Assessment Project (WD 63)	\$474,320
Statewide Recharge Infrastructure***	\$28,412,366
Upper Payette Basin Storage Water Project	\$5,000,000
Total:	\$172,336,000

Projects listed in alphabetical order. ** Eligible for ARPA Funding.

*** Includes funding for projects that support ESPA Stabilization and fall under the ESPA Regional Water Sustainability Project.

ESPA REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT	Budgeted Amount
Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Improvement Projects	\$5,000,000
Near Blackfoot to Minidoka Reach Gain Improvements Projects	\$5,000,000
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure	\$11,587,634
Twin Falls Canal Company Operations Efficiency Project	\$10,000,000
FY 2026 Earmark (\$30M Appropriation - subject to 3% cut, \$29,100,000) #	
Measuring & Monitoring Support Grant	\$1,000,000
ESPA Recharge Infrastructure	\$6,100,000
ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Projects Grant	\$20,000,000
Surface Water Operational Efficiencies Program	\$2,000,000
FY 2026 ESPA Earmark Total:	\$29,100,000
ESPA Regional Sustainability Project Total:	\$60,687,634

IWRB Districts 3 & 4 must receive 50% of FY2026 funding each. NOTE: ESPA stabilization projects have also been funding from other appropriations totally more than \$30M.

AGING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS (Rounds 1-7 included in total budget)	Budgeted Amount
Round 6 (scheduled FY 2026)	\$20,000,000
Round 7 (scheduled FY 2027)	\$20,000,000
Additional funding committed in addition to initial \$75M appropriation under HB 769 & 361. Total:	\$92,499,289

FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANTS (FY 2019 - FY 2026 included in total budget)	Budgeted Amount
Year 8 - FY 2026 (Budget \$1M, subject to 3% cut)	\$970,000
Total:	\$7,370,000

LOANS, GRANTS, & OTHER POTENTIAL NEEDS	Budgeted Amount
Loans Committed (<i>Funds will be available for reallocation upon repayment</i>)	\$15,496,333
Statewide Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Projects Grant (Round 1)	\$13,330,625
Statewide Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Projects Grant (Round 2)	\$6,669,375
Efficiency and Capacity Improvements to Canal Systems Grant (Statewide)	\$10,000,000
Statewide Monitoring and Measurement Grant	\$10,000,000
Total:	\$55,496,333
Grand Total:	\$388,389,256
Remainder Available:	\$5,127,762

Ongoing \$30M Appropriation (HB 445)	Budgeted Amount
Twin Falls Canal Company Operations Efficiency Project - \$26,340,915 total (\$11M in FY 2026 and \$15,340,915 from ongoing \$30M Appropriation FY 2027-FY 2033)	\$15,340,915
Total:	\$15,340,915

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE STATEWIDE
WATER SUSTAINABILITY AND AQUIFER
STABILIZATION, AND THE SECONDARY AQUIFER
STABILIZATION, AND SECONDARY AQUIFER
PLANNING, MANAGEMENT, AND
IMPLEMENTATION FUND FISCAL YEAR 2026
BUDGET

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR
2026 BUDGET

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 Legislature allocates \$5 million
2 annually through 2019 from the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB) Secondary
3 Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund) for statewide aquifer
4 stabilization; and

5
6 WHEREAS, House Bill 256 passed and approved by the 2019 Legislature allocated \$5 million in
7 ongoing General Fund dollars to the IWRB's Secondary Aquifer Fund for statewide water sustainability
8 and aquifer stabilization; and

9
10 WHEREAS, un-allocated funds already in the Secondary Aquifer Fund will be carried forward into
11 the Fiscal Year 2026 budget; and

12
13 WHEREAS, many aquifers across Idaho are declining or have existing or potential conjunctive
14 administration water use conflicts, including the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA), Mountain Home
15 Aquifer, Wood River Valley Aquifer, Big Lost Aquifer, Raft River Aquifer, Malad Valley Aquifer, Treasure
16 Valley Aquifer, Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, Palouse Basin Aquifer, Lewiston Plateau Aquifer, and others; and

17
18 WHEREAS, ground water levels in many aquifers are inadequate to sustain a supply of water for
19 surface and ground water irrigation, hydropower, municipal, industrial, and other uses, the curtailment
20 of which would cause severe economic harm to Idaho's economy; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho relies on spring discharge from the ESPA through the Thousand
23 Springs to assist in meeting the minimum streamflow water rights at the Murphy Gage established under
24 the Swan Falls Agreement; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the 2016 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 137
27 which recognized that stabilizing and enhancing aquifer levels is in public interest, and directs the IWRB
28 to take actions in aquifers across the state to stabilize and enhance aquifer levels thereby maintaining
29 water supply for consumptive and non-consumptive uses and minimizing harm to Idaho's economy arising
30 from water supply shortages; and

Resolution No. 35-2025

31
32 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 110
33 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan entered into between the Surface Water Coalition and
34 participating Groundwater District and supporting the IWRB revising the State Water Plan and the ESPA
35 Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to establish a state-funded ESPA managed recharge goal of
36 350,000 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
37

38 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, the IWRB approved Resolution 18-2025 for the use of available funds
39 in the Secondary Aquifer Fund for statewide water sustainability and aquifer stabilization purposes for
40 Fiscal Year 2026; and
41

42 WHEREAS, on August 15, 2025, Governor Little issued Executive Order No. 2025-05 requiring all
43 agencies to reduce their General Fund Spending authority on file in the Office of the State Controller by
44 three percent for their FY 2026 General Fund Appropriations pursuant to Section 67-3512A, Idaho Code.
45

46 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB amends the adopted Fiscal Year 2026 Budget
47 for the continuously-appropriated Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund
48 as shown in Attachment A to this resolution.
49

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the budget may be adjusted, if necessary, based on the actual
51 amount of Cigarette Tax funds received, interest income received, or the actual amount of carry-over from
52 Fiscal Year 2025.
53

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ESPA Managed Recharge Program category as listed in
55 Attachment A may proceed with no further approvals up to the budget amount listed in Attachment A to
56 this resolution; however, the IWRB shall be kept apprised of such expenditures.
57

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditures for Cloud Seeding Program under Operations and
59 Maintenance for the Upper Snake River Basin, Wood River Basin, Bosie River Basin, Collaborative Program,
60 Administration, and Technology along with the Weather Instrumentation under the Capital category and
61 the Reserve category may proceed with no further approvals up to the budget amount listed in
62 Attachment A to this resolution; however, the IWRB shall be kept apprised of such expenditures. Further,
63 it is the IWRB's stated goal that both the state and the water users financially participate with Idaho Power
64 in the Cooperative Cloud Seeding Program.
65

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that expenditures for hydrologic studies/monitoring/modeling in the
67 Treasure Valley, Raft River Basin, Portneuf Basin, Mid Snake Basin, Palouse Basin, Mountain Home Basin,
68 Big Lost Basin, and Wood River Basin may proceed with no further approvals up to the budget amount
69 listed in Attachment A to this resolution; however, the IWRB shall be kept apprised of such expenditures.
70

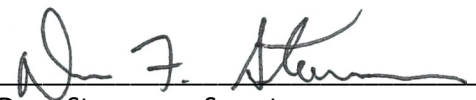
71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hydrology Activities and Statewide categories as listed in
72 Attachment A may proceed with no further approvals up to the budget amount listed in Attachment A to
73 this resolution; however, the IWRB shall be kept apprised of such expenditures.
74

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB may modify this budget during Fiscal Year 2026 at a
76 properly noticed meeting of the IWRB.
77

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

Dean Stevenson, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A:

FY2026 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE SECONDARY AQUIFER FUND

Estimated Carry-Over From FY25	\$	5,191,425
General Fund (2026)	\$	4,850,000
HB547 funds - receipt of Cigarette Tax proceeds	\$	5,000,000
Estimated interest	\$	750,000
TOTAL	\$	15,791,425

Category		Sub-Category	FY26	
ESPA MANAGED RECHARGE PROGRAM				
ESPA Recharge Operations		Conveyance Cost	\$3,500,000	**
		O&M (equipment, supplies, operational fees, etc.)	\$200,000	
		AFRD2 MP31 Gate Repair	\$50,000	
		NSCC Power to Wilson Canyon	\$250,000	
		Recharge Monitoring	\$750,000	
		TOTAL	\$4,750,000	
ESPA Recharge Investigations	Budgeted Investigations	Recharge site characterization & canal capacity investigations	\$238,000	
		BJGWD - Osgood Canal Improvement Evaluation (\$50,000)	\$50,000	
		NSCC Wilson Lake Area Study (\$50,000)	\$50,000	
		USGS WQ Trends Study (312,000)	\$312,000	
		TOTAL	\$650,000	
PROGRAM TOTAL			\$5,400,000	
CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM				
Operations & Maintenance	Upper Snake River Basin	2024-2025 Project Operations - Aircraft & Remote Ground (=2/3 * \$1,945,000)	\$1,361,500	
	Wood River Basin	2024-2025 Project Operations - Aircraft & Remote Ground (=2/3 * \$802,000)	\$561,400	
	Boise River Basin	2024-2025 Project Operations - Aircraft & Remote Ground (=2/3 * \$1,079,000)	\$755,300	
	Collaborative Program	Estimated Water User Contributions (11.58%)	(\$442,910)	
	New Basins	Infrastructure, Investigations, Administration Bear River Basin	\$1,006,000	*
	HCRCD Program	2024-2025 Upper Snake Project Operations - Manual Ground	\$60,000	*
	Administration	Partnership Collaborations, Staff Travel, WMA/NAWMC Memberships	\$20,000	
	Technology	Administration Operational Modeling and Computing (\$64K Total 50/50)	\$32,000	
TOTAL			\$3,353,290	
Capital	Weather Instrumentation	(Existing) Replacement/Enhancement/Upgrade	\$200,000	
		(Statewide) New Devices	\$0	
	Technology	(Infrastructure) Computing and Modeling	\$500,000	*
	Equipment	Remote Ground Generators	\$0	
TOTAL			\$700,000	
Research & Development	Technology & Investigations	(Development) Weather Instrumentation and Modeling	\$1,625,000	*
TOTAL			\$1,625,000	
Reserve			\$250,000	
CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM TOTAL			\$5,928,290	
TREASURE VALLEY				
Monitoring in support of the Treasure Valley model (annual)			\$150,000	
Treasure Valley Recharge Pilot Project			\$50,000	
Starr Watershed Project (1 of 2 years)			\$50,000	
TOTAL			\$250,000	
RAFT RIVER BASIN				
Raft River Hydrologic Studies and Monitoring			\$50,000	
RAFT RIVER TOTAL			\$50,000	
PORTNEUF BASIN				
Portneuf Hydrogeologic Study (Year 3 of 4)			\$150,000	
TOTAL			\$150,000	
BEAR RIVER BASIN				
Water Sustainability			\$600,000	*
TOTAL			\$600,000	
LEMHI BASIN				
Support of Water Sustainability Initiatives per settlement			\$600,000	*
TOTAL			\$600,000	
MID-SNAKE BASIN				
Mid-Snake Water Quality Monitoring (annual)			\$50,000	
TOTAL			\$50,000	
PALOUSE BASIN				
Aquifer monitoring			\$200,000	
TOTAL			\$200,000	
MOUNTAIN HOME BASIN				
Groundwater Model Development Year 2 of 4			\$250,000	
TOTAL			\$250,000	
BIG LOST BASIN				
Monitoring in support of Big Lost model development (annual)			\$150,000	
TOTAL			\$150,000	
WOOD RIVER BASIN				
Conservation, infrastructure fund associated with settlement (year 1 of 3)			\$200,000	
Camas GW characterization, drilling, water levels associated with settlement (year 3 of 3)			\$0	
TOTAL			\$200,000	
HYDROLOGY ACTIVITIES				
ESPA monitoring			\$300,000	
Statewide surface water and aquifer monitoring			\$715,000	
New monitoring wells and instrumentation for ESPAM data gaps			\$100,000	
TOTAL			\$1,115,000	
STATEWIDE				
Professional Services (includes media & federal outreach services) and administrative costs			\$250,000	
TOTAL			\$250,000	
GRAND TOTAL			\$15,193,290	
Reserve for Work in Other Priority Aquifers Total			\$ 598,135	

*These items will require the IWRB pass an additional resolution to authorize funding.

**Since FY2019, \$3.5 M has been budgeted for ESPA Recharge Conveyance annually with the understanding that money budgeted but not spent within a fiscal year would stay committed and accrue for years when there is a large magnitude of water available for managed recharge. For the current fiscal year (FY26) there is \$3.5M allocated plus \$10.5M carried over from previous years for future conveyance fees.

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE TWIN FALLS CANAL
COMPANY SURFACE WATER EFFICIENCY
PROGRAM FUNDING REQUEST

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR
COSTS RELATED TO CANAL LINING,
MONITORING EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION,
AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

1 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to expend,
2 loan, or grant money from the Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase
3 water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management,
4 including the identification, study, and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner dam;
5 and
6

7 WHEREAS, House Bill 445 (HB 445) was passed by the 2025 Idaho legislature, appropriating an
8 ongoing \$30 million to the Idaho Water Resource Board to fund water infrastructure projects; and
9

10 WHEREAS, through Resolution 19-2025, the IWRB approved a Water Management Account
11 Spending Plan (Spending Plan), which established a budget for the FY 2026 \$30 million appropriation as
12 part of an Eastern Snake Plain (ESPA) Regional Water Sustainability Project FY 2026 Earmark (FY 2026
13 Appropriation). The budget included \$5,000,000 for the Surface Water Operational Efficiencies Program;
14 and
15

16 WHEREAS, the Spending Plan also included \$20,000,000 for Efficiency and Capacity Improvements
17 to Canal Systems; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed resolution No. 23-2025 creating the Surface Water Efficiency
20 Program (Program) to fund improvements in water delivery system operations, with a goal of enhancing
21 the efficient use of surface water supplies within the Snake River Plain Aquifer Area of Common
22 Groundwater Supply, in support of the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan entered into by the surface and
23 ground water users on the Eastern Snake Plain; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Twin Falls Canal Company (TFCC) submitted a funding proposal to the IWRB in the
26 amount of \$26,340,915 for improvements to surface water operations within their canal system that will
27 reduce TFCC's water demand without reducing incidental recharge to the ESPA; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the TFCC estimates the proposed projects will reduce surface water demand by
30 approximately 19,000 and 68,000 acre-feet, furthering the objectives of the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation
31 Plan.
32

33 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the funding request from the TFCC, in
34 an amount up to \$26,340,915, to be applied to the completion of proposed surface water operations
35 improvements and delivery system efficiencies (Project) that will reduce TFCC's water demand without
36 reducing incidental recharge to the ESPA.
37

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will replace existing IWRB resolution number 28-2025 approved July 25th, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding under this resolution shall be disbursed in annual installments, contingent upon future legislative appropriations, and unused portion of an annual installment shall be carried forward to the following year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first installment of \$11,000,000 for initial materials purchases and labor shall be funded as follows: \$10,000,000 from funding budgeted for the Water Management Account's Efficiency and Capacity Improvements to Canal Systems Grants, \$1,000,000 from the Surface Water Operational Efficiencies Program, available in FY 2026. Subsequent funding shall be drawn from ongoing appropriations authorized under HB 445 or, as available, from the Water Management Account, in accordance with the following schedule:

Funding amounts per fiscal year for the Project						
FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033
\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,140,915

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts with TFCC for the purpose of this resolution.

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.


JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF REGIONAL WATER
SUSTAINABILITY LIST

RESOLUTION TO UPDATE THE LIST & AWARD
FUNDING TO MILNER DAM INC

1 WHEREAS, in July 2021 the IWRB adopted an initial Regional Water Sustainability Priority List to
2 help guide the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB) spending for large, regional water sustainability
3 projects from ARPA funds, state general funds, or other applicable sources; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in January 2022, the IWRB adopted a threshold criteria indicating that for a project to
6 be included on the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List (List), it must "help achieve water supply
7 sustainability on a regional, basin-wide, or state-wide basis;" and
8

9 WHEREAS, on October 26th, 2022, the IWRB approved Resolution 39-2022 adopting criteria for the
10 inclusion of projects on the List; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to expend,
13 loan, or grant money from the Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase
14 water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management,
15 including the identification, study, and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner dam;
16 and
17

18 WHEREAS, Milner Dam Inc. (MDI) submitted a request on September 2, 2025, to the IWRB for its
19 Milner Dam Rehabilitation project (Project) to be added to the Priority List; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Project is for the rehabilitation of the emergency spillway at Milner Dam which
22 includes the restoration of damaged concrete at the existing emergency spillway, the installation of an
23 improved decking across the emergency spillway, and a redesign and rebuilding of the plunge pool
24 downstream. The estimated project costs for the repairs and rehabilitation are currently estimated at
25 \$9,065,000 and are projected to take several years; and
26

27 WHEREAS, On September 9th 2025, representatives from MDI presented the project to the IWRB
28 and requested funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 to support the design work for the Project; and
29

30 WHEREAS, on September 9th, 2025, the Finance Committee recommended that the IWRB add the
31 Milner Dam Rehabilitation Project to the Regional Water Sustainability List and approve the requested
32 funds.
33

34 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Milner Dam Rehabilitation Project is added to the
35 Regional Water Sustainability List.
36
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the IWRB approves \$1,500,000 in Regional Water Sustainability
39 funding from the Water Management Account to MDI to pursue design work to a 100% level for the

40 Project.

41
42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, staff is directed to work with the project sponsor on a draft contract
43 for the Project, including appropriate terms and conditions.

44
45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee, to execute the
46 necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

47
48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the accomplishment of a satisfactory level of design,
49 representatives from MDI will provide the IWRB with an updated funding request, with updated project
50 costs for construction, for the consideration of additional funding.

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF REGIONAL WATER
SUSTAINABILITY LIST

RESOLUTION TO UPDATE THE LIST & AWARD
REGIONAL WATER SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING
TO NAMPA & MERIDIAN IRRIGATION
DISTRICT FOR RIDENBAUGH DIVERSION
MODERNIZATION PROJECT

1 WHEREAS, in July 2021 the IWRB adopted an initial Regional Water Sustainability Priority List to
2 help guide the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB) spending for large, regional water sustainability
3 projects from ARPA funds, state general funds, or other applicable sources; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in January 2022, the IWRB adopted a threshold criteria indicating that for a project to
6 be included on the Regional Water Sustainability Priority List (List), it must "help achieve water supply
7 sustainability on a regional, basin-wide, or state-wide basis;" and
8

9 WHEREAS, on October 26th, 2022, the IWRB approved Resolution 39-2022 adopting criteria for
10 the inclusion of projects on the List; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to expend,
13 loan, or grant money from the Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase
14 water supply, improve drought resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management,
15 including the identification, study, and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner dam;
16 and
17

18 WHEREAS, Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District (NMID) submitted a request on August 18, 2025,
19 to the IWRB for its Ridenbaugh Canal Diversion Modernization Project (Project) to be added to the Priority
20 List; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the Project will replace, modernize and automate NMID's Boise River diversion and
23 headworks. The total project costs for the repairs and rehabilitation are currently estimated at
24 \$20,903,292 and are projected to take several years; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the IWRB has previously provided \$854,211 in Aging Infrastructure Grant funds (round
27 two) towards this project; and
28

29 WHEREAS, NMID is requesting an additional \$9,169,047 in Regional Water Sustainability Funding
30 to support the work for this project. This additional funding would bring the total State funding for this
31 project to \$10,023,258; and
32

33 WHEREAS, On September 9th 2025, representatives from NMID presented the project to the IWRB
34 and requested funding in the amount of \$9,169,047 to construct the Project; and
35

36 WHEREAS, on September 9th, 2025, the Finance Committee recommended that the IWRB add the

37 Project to the Regional Water Sustainability List and approve the requested funds.

38
39 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ridenbaugh Canal Diversion Modernization Project is
40 added to the Regional Water Sustainability List.

41
42 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB approves \$9,169,047 in Regional
43 Water Sustainability funding from the Water Management Account to NMID to construct the Project.

44
45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, staff is directed to work with the project sponsor on a draft contract
46 for the Project, including appropriate terms and conditions.

47
48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its Chairman or designee, to execute the
49 necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

50
DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF GROUNDWATER TO
SURFACE WATER CONVERSION GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDS

1
2
3 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) on May 23, 2025 adopted a resolution
4 (resolution # 19-2025) modifying the spending plan for the Water Management Account; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the IWRB's modified spending plan included a budget of \$20,000,000 for a
7 Groundwater to Surface Conversion Projects Grant Program; and
8

9 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, the IWRB adopted criteria for the award of Eastern Snake
10 Plain Aquifer Area of Common Groundwater (ESPA) Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion
11 Grants (resolution # 22-2025) and set an application deadline of August 1, 2025; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the IWRB received fifteen ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion
14 Grant applications by the deadline. The applications were evaluated, scored and ranked
15 according to the criteria adopted by the IWRB; and
16


17 WHEREAS, on September 9, 2025, the Finance Committee met and discussed the projects,
18 and recommended the IWRB approve grant awards as specified in Attachment A to this
19 resolution; and
20

21 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the award of ESPA
22 Groundwater to Surface Water Grants from the Water Management Account as specified in
23 Attachment A to this resolution.

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A

2025 ESPA GW to SW Conversion Grant Applications						
Entity	Project	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs	Ranking	Points	Funds Awarded
MVGWD	Large Conversion Project*	\$12,060,935.80	\$34,121,871.00	1	81	\$12,060,935.80
SWID	Mathews Conversion Project	\$40,402.00	\$80,804.00	2	77	\$40,402.00
MVGWD	Brown Family Conversion Project	\$618,723.84	\$1,237,447.68	3	63	\$618,723.84
BGWD	Josh Morris Conversion Project	\$49,197.90	\$98,395.80	4	60	\$49,197.90
BGWD	Christiansen Family Land LLC Warnett Pump Conversion Project	\$78,261.00	\$156,522.00	5	59	\$78,261.00
BLRGWD/BLRID	3 in 1 Conversion Project	\$2,510,118.50	\$5,020,237.00	6	58	\$2,510,118.50
BGWD	Global Ag/Bentley Wray Conversion Project	\$81,452.06	\$162,904.12	7	57	\$81,452.06
BGWD	Ron Gentillon Conversion Project	\$46,260.65	\$95,521.31	8	55	\$46,260.65
BGWD	Thompson Brothers LLC Conversion Project 1	\$56,405.32	\$112,816.65	9	54	\$56,405.32
BLRGWD/BLRID	Darlington Canal Conversion Project	\$2,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	10	54	\$2,000,000.00
BLRGWD/BLRID	B&J Canal Piping Project	\$689,500.00	\$1,379,000.00	11	53	\$689,500.00
BGWD	Shandon Carter Conversion Project	\$29,826.00	\$59,652.00	12	51	\$29,826.00
BGWD	Christiansen Family Land Conversion Project	\$93,768.50	\$186,537.00	13	49	\$93,768.50
BGWD	Thompson Brothers LLC Conversion Project 2	\$29,110.00	\$58,220.00	14	48	\$29,110.00
City of Rexburg	Porter Park Conversion Project	\$302,975.00	\$605,950.00	15	45	\$302,975.00
	Total Funds Requested	\$18,686,936.57	\$53,375,878.56			\$18,686,936.57

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE MARSH CENTER
IRRIGATION COMPANY LOAN REQUEST

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE LOAN FUNDING
FOR COSTS RELATED TO DELIVERY SYSTEM
INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS AND
IMPROVEMENTS

1 WHEREAS, the Marsh Center Irrigation Company (Company) was established in 1896 with the
2 construction of Hawkins Reservoir and the associated water distribution system near Arimo, Idaho; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the Company delivers water across approximately 3,220 acres for 12 shareholders
5 within Bannock county; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the Company was approved for a loan from the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)
8 in November 2025 in the amount of \$700,000 to improve the existing delivery infrastructure; and

9
10 WHEREAS, the Company borrowed approximately \$665,000 of the available funding to
11 complete the work, at which time funds were repaid to the IWRB, leaving an outstanding balance of
12 \$80,000; and

13
14 WHEREAS, a new loan application was submitted to the IWRB in the amount of \$950,000 to
15 begin work on Phase 2 to repair and improve the Company's existing delivery infrastructure; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the Company has again secured grant funding through the NRCS EQIP program to
18 continue improvement work on the existing delivery system in the amount of \$1,117,670; and

19
20 WHEREAS, to remain sustainable for future use and provide a more reliable system for
21 shareholders, the Company will need to make improvements to existing infrastructure; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the Company is a qualified applicant, and the proposed Project is eligible for a loan
24 from the Board's Revolving Development Account; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the proposed Project is in the public interest and is in compliance with the State
27 Water Plan.

28
29 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves a loan not to exceed \$950,000 from
30 the Revolving Development Account at 4.9 % interest with a 2-year repayment term.

31
32 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB provides authority to the Chairman
33 of the Idaho Water Resource Board, or his designee, to enter into contracts, to effectuate the loan, with
34 the District on behalf of the IWRB.


35
36 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution and the approval of the loan are
37 subject to the following conditions:

- 39 1) The Company shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations that apply to the
40 proposed Project.
41 2) Prior to the disbursement of any funds, the Company shall comply with all statutory
42 requirements for incurring debt.
43 3) Prior to the disbursement of any funds, the Company will provide acceptable security for the
44 loan to the IWRB, including its assessment income which the Company collects from its
45 members.
46

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

Dean Stevenson, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNITED STATES
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RECHARGE WATER
QUALITY STUDY

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM THE
SECONDARY AQUIFER PLANNING,
MANAGEMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION
FUND AND PROVIDE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY

1 WHEREAS, about one-third of Idaho's population resides on the Eastern Snake Plain and the
2 Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) is the sole source of drinking water for both cities and most rural
3 residents of the Eastern Snake Plain; and
4

5 WHEREAS, due to numerous factors, including drought, the ESPA has been losing approximately
6 216,000 acre-feet annually from aquifer storage since the 1950's resulting in declining ground water levels
7 in the aquifer and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 110
10 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the IWRB revising the State Water Plan
11 and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to establish a state-funded ESPA managed
12 recharge goal of 350,000 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
13

14 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in the goals and
15 objectives of stabilizing and improving aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water
16 supplies, support agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address
17 variability in climatic conditions, including drought; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Board approved Resolution 18-2025 on May 23, 2025, (Secondary Aquifer Planning
20 Management & Implementation Fund Fiscal Year 2026 Budget) which included funds for additional ESPA
21 Managed Recharge Program Investigations and funds Reserved for Work in Other Priority Aquifers.; and
22

23 WHEREAS, United States Geological Survey ("USGS") presented a proposal to IWRB on September
24 11, 2025, detailing a Recharge Water Quality Study with a total cost of \$371,900 and a request of the
25 IWRB for \$311,900; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the proposed Recharge Water Quality Study will support the development of the ESPA
28 Managed Recharge Program and assist in developing best practices for conducting managed recharge for
29 the ESPA.
30

31 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditures up to \$311,900 from
32 the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund the implementation of the
33 Recharge Water Quality Study; and
34

35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee,
36 to execute the necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

DATED 12th day of September, 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST


DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE BEAR RIVER BASIN

RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF
FUNDING FOR THE BEAR RIVER BASIN

1 WHEREAS, the Bear River flows through the states of Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah. It begins
2 in the Uinta Mountains of Utah, meanders back and forth between Utah and Wyoming before
3 entering Idaho near Montpelier and flowing through Idaho to Utah before discharging into the
4 Great Salt Lake; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Bear River is subject to an interstate compact dated February 8, 1980 and
7 codified by Idaho Code 42-3402 ("Bear River Compact"); and

8
9 WHEREAS, State Water Plan Policy 5B provides that "Water use and management in the
10 Bear River Basin shall conform to the allocations agreed to in the Bear River Compact"; and

11
12 WHEREAS, State Water Plan Policy 5B provides that "The Idaho Water Resource Board
13 supports enhancing water supplies, increasing water use efficiency, and implementing water
14 supply bank mechanisms to help meet future needs in the Bear River Basin"; and

15
16 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) holds a minimum lake level water
17 right from the bottom of Bear Lake to elevation 5902 feet; and

18
19 WHEREAS, PacifiCorp owns the facilities used to store water in Bear Lake and operates
20 the water storage reservoir portion of the lake between elevations 5902 feet and 5923.56 feet;
21 and

22
23 WHEREAS, under normal conditions, Bear Lake operations by PacifiCorp sets a March 31
24 lake level target elevation of 5918 feet, known as the PTE, which is set to maintain space in the
25 lake for flood control during high runoff periods while meeting contract requirements for Bear
26 Lake storage water; and

27
28 WHEREAS, the Joint Bear River Planning Model, conducted by the IWRB, the state of Utah,
29 PacificCorp, and the Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental
30 Systems, found that additional water could be stored in Bear Lake; and

31
32 WHEREAS, there appears to be opportunity to utilize the space in Bear Lake between the
33 elevations of 5918 and 5923.65 feet to store water that is otherwise released from the lake or
34 bypassed past the lake to maintain the March 31 target elevation of 5918 feet; and

36 WHEREAS, the state of Idaho and Utah have joint interest in further evaluations of the
37 Bear River Basin; and
38

39 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, the IWRB adopted Resolution No. 19-2025, which authorizes
40 expenditures from the Water Management Account and includes \$2,000,000 for the Bear River
41 Basin; and
42


43 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditure of up to \$1.2M
44 from the Water Management Account to partner with the state of Utah to conduct further
45 evaluations of the Bear River Basin; and
46

47 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or
48 designee, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.
49

DATED this 12th day of September 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary