

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMERICAN FALLS
RESERVOIR DISTRICT 2 SURFACE WATER
EFFICIENCY PROGRAM FUNDING REQUEST

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR
EFFICIENCY STUDY COSTS RELATED TO
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 (2025) was passed by the State of Idaho legislature, appropriating an
8 ongoing \$30 million to the Idaho Water Resource Board to fund water infrastructure projects; and

9
10 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed Resolution 19-2025 for a Water Management Account Spending Plan
11 which allocates \$5,000,000 for ESPA Improvement Projects for Surface Water Operational Efficiencies
12 Program as part of the spending plan for appropriations from HB 445; and,

13
14 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed resolution No. 23-2025 creating the Surface Water Efficiency
15 Program (Program) to support operational efficiencies in an effort to improve the efficient use of surface
16 water supplies within the Snake River Plain Aquifer Area of Common Groundwater Supply in support of
17 the 2024 Surface Water Coalition (SWC) Settlement Agreement; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the American Falls Reservoir District 2 (AFRD2) submitted a funding proposal to the
20 Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) in the amount of \$991,600 to conduct a canal operations efficiency
21 study with the goal of identifying water conservation and system efficiency improvements, furthering
22 the goals of the 2024 SWC agreement; and

23
24 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the funding request not to exceed
25 \$991,600 from the Water Management account to the AFRD2 to improve canal efficiencies and surface
26 water operations.

27
28 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB provides authority to the Chairman
29 of the Idaho Water Resource Board, or his designee, to enter into contracts with the Company on behalf
30 of the IWRB.

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.


JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

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
26 the amount of \$26,340,915 for improvements to surface water operations within their canal system that
27 will reduce TWCC'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 to 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,
34 in 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 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: \$4,000,000 from funds provided to the IWRB under the FY 2026 Appropriation and \$7,000,000 from funding budgeted for the Water Management Account's ESPA Improvement Projects and Other Regional Water Sustainability Projects, Loans, or Grants. 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						
Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
\$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 25th day of July 2025.


JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF CLOUD SEEDING IN THE
STATE OF IDAHO

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR A
COLLABORATIVE INTER-STATE 1-YR BEAR
RIVER BASIN PILOT PROJECT

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 266 (HB 266), passed and approved by the 2021 legislature, and recognized
2 that cloud seeding has provided a unique and innovative opportunity to support sustainable water
3 supplies for the State of Idaho, and designated the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) as the agency
4 responsible for authorization of cloud seeding programs within the State; and
5

6 WHEREAS, HB266 created section § 42-4301 on cloud seeding, directing the IWRB to continue its
7 analysis of cloud seeding operations, conduct an assessment of cloud seeding opportunities across the
8 State of Idaho, and identify opportunities for expanding the Cloud Seeding Program (Program) within the
9 State; and
10

11 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-4301 provides the IWRB the authority to expend state funds for cloud
12 seeding programs in basins where the IWRB finds that existing water supplies are not sufficient to support
13 existing water rights, water quality, recreation, or fish and wildlife uses dependent on those water
14 supplies; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) completed a feasibility and design study in
17 2022 of the Bear River Basin conducted by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), which
18 informed the design of a 1-year collaborative interstate cloud seeding pilot project in the Bear River Basin;
19 and
20

21 WHEREAS, in 2025 Utah Legislature approved a total of \$3,000,000 to advance a cloud seeding
22 program in the Bear River Basin with goals to replenish the Great Salt Lake and enhance water resources
23 of the Bear River and Northern Utah; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the State of Utah Division of Water Resources has proposed to the State of Idaho a 1-
26 year collaborative interstate cloud seeding pilot project in the Bear River Basin which will integrate
27 Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) technology, advanced weather instrumentation, a third-party evaluation
28 and validation, alongside internal validation services; and
29

30 WHEREAS, based on insufficiency of existing water supplies, the IWRB seeks to develop a 1- year
31 interstate cloud seeding pilot project in the Bear River Basin in collaboration with the State of Utah from
32 November of 2025 to April of 2026; and
33

34 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2025, the IWRB adopted the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management,
35 and Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund) Fiscal Year 2026 (Resolution 18-2025), which included
36 projected costs for the Cloud Seeding Program including Operations & Maintenance for New Basin -
37 Infrastructure, Investigations, and Administration of the Bear River Basin (\$1,906,000).
38

39 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the IWRB authorizes expenditures not to exceed

40 \$950,000 from the Secondary Aquifer Fund Cloud Seeding Program, Operations & Maintenance – New
41 Basins for costs related to operations of a 1-year interstate Bear River Basin cloud seeding pilot project
42 and the evaluation and validation of the 1-year collaboration with the State of Utah.
43

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee, Brian Patton,
45 Executive Manager to the IWRB, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts to complete the
46 proposed efforts.
47
48

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.



Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

Dean Stevenson, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING A RECHARGE
CONVEYANCE PAYMENT STRUCTURE AND
DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR IWRB ESPA RECHARGE
PROGRAM

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ESPA MANAGED
RECHARGE PROGRAM STANDARDS AND
PROCESSES

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 primary source of drinking water for both cities and most rural
3 residents of the Eastern Snake Plain; and
4

5 WHEREAS, numerous factors, including drought, have contributed to the loss of approximately
6 216,000 acre-feet of storage annually from ESPA since the 1950's resulting in declining groundwater levels
7 in the aquifer and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
8

9 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in the stabilization and
10 improvement of aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water supplies, support
11 agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address variability in climatic
12 conditions, including drought; and
13

14 WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 legislature allocates \$5 million annually
15 from the Cigarette Tax to the IWRB for statewide aquifer stabilization; and
16

17 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1402 passed and approved by the 2016 Legislature allocated \$5 million in
18 ongoing General Fund dollars to the IWRB's Secondary Aquifer Fund for statewide water sustainability
19 and aquifer stabilization; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 110
22 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the IWRB revising the State Water Plan and
23 the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to establish a state-funded ESPA managed aquifer
24 recharge goal of 350,000 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the IWRB intends to provide financial incentives to maximize the recharge of water
27 available to it. This will allow for a consistent pay schedule throughout the ESPA and reduce variability in
28 annual payments, assisting the IWRB and their recharge partners in budgeting for variability in the volume
29 of managed recharge that can be conducted in a given year.
30

31 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB adopts a \$7.50 per acre-foot of recharge
32 conveyance fee for recharge conducted as part of the IWRB ESPA Managed Recharge Program.
33

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB will offer conveyance and
35 operational contracts of up to 5-year terms, and the designated rate will apply for the term of the
36 conveyance and operational contract; and
37

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB will work with the individual partners
39 of the IWRB ESPA Recharge Program to determine a Maximum Yearly Conveyance (MYC) fee payment
40 which can be adjusted at any time during the 5-year contract. Conveyance fees on any given year will not

41 exceed the MYC. Earned conveyance fees above the maximum yearly fee will be paid out in subsequent
42 years, however, the payment will not exceed the MYC on any given year; and
43

44 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB's ESPA managed recharge program will
45 be coupled with a continuous monitoring program to verify the effects of managed recharge, and if
46 necessary, modify the recharge program based on evaluation of the effects; and
47

48 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB provides authority to the Chairman
49 of the Idaho Water Resource Board, or his designee, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts
50 for the IWRB ESPA Managed Recharge Program on behalf of the IWRB.

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF ABERDEEN SPRINGFIELD
CANAL COMPANY’S HILTON RECHARGE WELL
PROJECT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM THE
WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT 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 primary source of drinking water for both cities and most rural
3 residents of the Eastern Snake Plain; and
4

5 WHEREAS, numerous factors, including drought, have contributed to the loss of approximately
6 216,000 acre-feet of storage annually from ESPA since the 1950’s resulting in declining groundwater levels
7 in the aquifer and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
8

9 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in the stabilization and
10 improvement of aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water supplies, support
11 agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address variability in climatic
12 conditions, including drought; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 110
15 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)
16 revising the State Water Plan and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to establish a state-
17 funded ESPA managed recharge goal of 350,000 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
18

19 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the IWRB to expend, loan, or grant money from the
20 Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase water supply, improve drought
21 resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management, including the identification, study,
22 and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner Dam; and
23

24 WHEREAS, House Bill 445 (2025) was passed by the State of Idaho legislature, appropriating an
25 ongoing \$30 million to the IWRB to fund water infrastructure projects; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed Resolution 19-2025 for a Water Management Account Spending Plan,
28 which allocates \$40,000,000 for Statewide Recharge Infrastructure and \$4,000,000 as part of the \$30
29 million Appropriations for ESPA Recharge Infrastructure; and,
30

31 WHEREAS, Aberdeen Springfield Canal Company presented a proposal to the IWRB Aquifer
32 Stabilization Committee on July 11, 2025, for the Hilton Recharge Well Project (“Project”) and associated
33 infrastructure for a proposed cost of \$535,000.
34


35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditure of up to \$535,000 from
36 the Water Management Account for the construction costs associated with the Project.
37

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

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF BURGESS CANAL
COMPANY'S RECHARGE COMPLEX PROJECT

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM THE
WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT 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 primary source of drinking water for both cities and most rural
3 residents of the Eastern Snake Plain; and
4

5 WHEREAS, numerous factors, including drought, have contributed to the loss of approximately
6 216,000 acre-feet of storage annually from ESPA since the 1950's resulting in declining groundwater levels
7 in the aquifer and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
8

9 WHEREAS, implementation of managed recharge on the ESPA will assist in the stabilization and
10 improvement of aquifer levels to protect municipal and domestic drinking water supplies, support
11 agriculture and other industries important to the state economy, and help address variability in climatic
12 conditions, including drought; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the 2025 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 110
15 supporting the 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan and supporting the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)
16 revising the State Water Plan and the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to establish a state-
17 funded ESPA managed recharge goal of 350,000 acre-feet on an average annual basis; and
18

19 WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 42-1760 authorizes the IWRB to expend, loan, or grant money from the
20 Water Management Account for water projects that conserve or increase water supply, improve drought
21 resiliency, address water sustainability, or support flood management, including the identification, study,
22 and construction of managed aquifer recharge sites above Milner Dam; and
23

24 WHEREAS, House Bill 445 (2025) was passed by the State of Idaho legislature, appropriating an
25 ongoing \$30 million to the IWRB to fund water infrastructure projects; and
26


27 WHEREAS, the IWRB passed Resolution 19-2025 for a Water Management Account Spending Plan,
28 which allocates \$40,000,000 for Statewide Recharge Infrastructure and \$4,000,000 as part of the \$30
29 million Appropriations for ESPA Recharge Infrastructure; and,
30

31 WHEREAS, Burgess Canal Company presented a proposal to the IWRB Aquifer Stabilization
32 Committee on July 11, 2025, for the Hilton Recharge Well Project ("Project") and associated infrastructure
33 for a proposed cost of \$2,250,000.
34

35 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditure of up to \$2,250,000 from
36 the Water Management Account for the construction costs associated with the Project.
37

38
39 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee, to
40 execute the necessary agreements or contracts for the purpose of this resolution.

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.



JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST



DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF FLOOD
MANAGEMENT GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDS

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 248 passed and approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2025
2 transferred \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Water Management Fund for a Flood
3 Management Grant Program administered by the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) to be
4 used for the purpose of flood-damaged stream channel repair, stream channel improvement,
5 flood risk reduction, or flood prevention projects; and
6

7 WHEREAS, House Bill 248 directs the IWRB to prioritize projects on a competitive
8 statewide basis; and
9

10 WHEREAS, on March 21, 2025 the IWRB adopted on-going criteria for the award of Flood
11 Management Grants, and
12

13 WHEREAS, eight (8) Flood Management Grant applications were received by the deadline
14 and the applications were evaluated, scored and ranked according to the criteria adopted by
15 IWRB; and
16

17 WHEREAS, on July 11, 2025, the Finance Committee met and discussed the projects, and
18 recommended the IWRB provide funding for projects as specified in Attachment A to this
19 resolution; and
20

21 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the award of Flood
22 Management Grants as specified in Attachment A to this resolution.
23

DATED this 25th day of July 2025.



Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

Dean Stevenson, Secretary

Attachment A: Flood Management Grant Awards for July 2025

Entity	Project	IWRB District	Score (125 points)	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs
Camas Conservation District	Corral Creek Crossing Repair Project	3	102	\$63,225	\$126,401
FCD # 9 Lake Creek 75 Project	Lake Creek 75 Erosion Reduction Project	3	93	\$200,000	\$427,584
FCD # 10 Bass Lane	High Flow Side Channel Project	2	91	\$33,447	\$66,894
FCD #10 Eagle Island Split	NF Log Jam Project	2	89	\$33,140	\$66,280
FCD #10 Phillips	Bank Stabilization Project	2	87	\$38,662	\$77,324
FCD #10 Stiburek	Dry Creek Bank Repair Project	2	86	\$10,700	\$22,600
Twin Lake Flood Control District	Rathdrum Creek Clean-up Project	1	84	\$9,472	\$23,680
City of Victor	Trail Creek Channel Repair Project	4	81	\$72,000	\$144,000
Total Funds Requested				\$460,646	\$954,763

Grant Funds By IWRB District:

District 1	\$9,472	2.06%
District 2	\$115,949	25.17%
District 3	\$263,225	57.14%
District 4	<u>\$72,000</u>	<u>15.63%</u>
	\$460,646	100.00%