

ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan

Facilitation of a Framework
for Presentation to the
2007 Idaho Legislature

Management Alternative Working Group
Managed Recharge Summary

CDR Associates

Jonathan Bartsch and Diane Tate

December 13, 2006



Interim Measure: Recharge

- Pursue spring recharge opportunities in 2007
 - Use natural flow and existing canal systems
 - Determine necessary arrangements with canal companies and irrigation districts
 - Allocate IWRB money for spring recharge costs
- Spring recharge will be implemented when IWRB's rights (1,200 CFS on Snake and 800 CFS on Big Wood) are in priority
 - IWRB will bank recharge rights to allow diversion when in priority

Interim Measure: Recharge

- Develop contracts with canal companies and irrigation districts
 - Issue RFP to potential recharge providers
 - IWRB allocations will provide for fixed costs and per acre-foot recharge

- Requirements of recharge providers include:
 - Provide bids to conduct spring recharge
 - Measure recharge water
 - Deliver recharge water to approved recharge sites or use existing canals

Interim Measure: Recharge

- Average annual benefit of spring recharge expected 45 kaf (using natural flow and existing canal system)
- Using \$350,000 allocated by Board, examine feasibility of large-scale recharge
 - Constructed recharge sites
 - Natural flow and leased water
 - Develop recharge plan, including water quality

Interim Measure: Recharge

- Examine Opportunities to Increase Recharge
 - Electrical brown outs or power surges
 - Water quality and liability concerns?
 - Flood control releases
 - Modification of rental pool procedures
 - Conduct late season recharge
- Evaluate the cost-benefit of managed recharge versus other management alternatives, i.e. gw/sw conversions
- Implement mechanisms to accurately monitor and quantify recharge efforts