Facilitation of a Framework for Presentation to the 2007 Idaho Legislature

Management Alternative Working Group
Managed Recharge Summary
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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