Outline

• Framework development process
• Stakeholder involvement and input
• Board Recommendations
  – Goal and objectives
  – Management alternatives
  – Interim measures
  – Developing the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan
• Request to the Legislature
Framework Development Process

- Project Launch in August
- Initial interviews in September
- Public meetings in October
- Management Alternatives Working Group meetings in December and January
- Framework drafted in January
- Public meetings in January to get feedback
- Board review in January
- Presentation to Legislature in February
Stakeholder Involvement

• Over 350 interested and involved stakeholders from across the basin
• Significant personal investments of time in the process
• Stakeholder support for continuing with everyone represented at the table
Questions to Stakeholders

- Interim measures – What can we do now?
- Management alternatives – How do the options compare?
- Funding – Where can resources for implementation be found?
Stakeholder Input -Interim Measures

- Focus on overcoming obstacles that could limit recharge, CREP enrollment
- If water conditions permit, recharge in spring 2007
- Action in 2007 is necessary to show forward momentum and keep everyone at the table
Stakeholder Input – Management Alternatives

- Recharge is critical, but can’t be the only tool
- Need to continue existing levels of incidental recharge
- What is the role of administrative curtailment?
- Explore option of new storage
Stakeholder Input – Funding Principles

- Everyone who benefits from ESPA management should contribute
- Seniors should not pay for impacts created by juniors
- The distribution of “who pays what” should be equitable
- The state should provide all of the funding
- Some funding from the state, some from ESPA
- The state should be responsible for one-time costs
- Fund activities that “solve the issue”
- Simple and efficient collection
Stakeholder Input – Funding Options

- One time transfer from state government surplus or severance tax
- Portion of sales tax dedicated to a “water fund”
- Per acre or acre-foot levy for water users
- Creation of an ESPA conservancy district with taxing authority
- Increase annual property tax to build a “water fund”
- Per well fee for domestic well users in the ESPA
- Surcharge for municipal customers in the ESPA
- Statewide per-head tax
Board Recommendations

- The Framework document contains IWRB recommendations on:
  - A goal and objectives for aquifer management
  - Management alternatives
  - Interim measures
  - A process for developing the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP)
Goal for Aquifer Management

Sustain the economic viability and social and environmental health of the Eastern Snake Plain by adaptively managing a balance between water use and supplies.
Objectives for Aquifer Management

- Increase predictability for water users by managing for reliable supply
- Create alternatives to administrative curtailment
- Manage overall demand for water within the Eastern Snake Plain
- Increase recharge to the aquifer
- Reduce withdrawals from the aquifer
Interim Measures

- Spring 2007 Recharge
- Increase CREP Enrollment
- Targeted Demand Reduction
Management Alternatives

- Managed Recharge
- Incidental Recharge
- Site-Specific Augmentation
- Additional Surface Water Storage
- Conversions – Groundwater to Surface Water
CAMP Development Process

- Board solicits nominations and forms Advisory Committee
- Committee makes consensus recommendations to the Board
- Committee works with ESHMC and Board staff, contracting for technical assistance as required
Advisory Committee Representatives

- Chairperson (1)
- Municipalities (2 – lower and upper valley)
- Business (Processors, equipment providers, dairies, bankers, etc.) (2)
- Land developers (1)
- Surface water users (2 – lower and upper valley)
- Groundwater users (2 – lower and upper valley)
- Spring water users (1)
- Hydropower (1)
- Domestic well owners (1)
Government Agency Ex-Officio

- Bureau of Reclamation
- Idaho Department of Water Resources
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- Idaho Legislature and Governor’s office
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- More?
Request to the Legislature

• Continued leadership and involvement during the next phase
• $10 million in 2007 for targeted demand reduction through market-based mechanisms
• $850,000 for continuation of the CAMP development process
Questions?