Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA)
Implementation Committee

Funding Working Group - Meeting Summary
December 3, 2009

The Funding Working Group reviewed the fourth iteration of the ESPA funding legislation entitled the "Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan Funding Act". One major difference with this version is the inclusion of a lien against landowners (lien is on the land but the fee is imposed on the water right) to be consistent with county enforcement requirements. The Working Group provided modification to the legislation and conceptually agreed on the draft legislation to be considered by the Interim Legislative Committee and the Implementation Committee. Comment from the Working Group will be sought on the next l draft prior to broader distribution.

Hal Anderson noted that the Interim Legislative Committee will meet to review and discuss the draft ESPA funding legislation on December 15, 2009 (9:30 am). The Implementation Committee will review and discuss the draft on the 16th and 17th in Jerome. The Implementation Committee will need to discuss a number of issues with regard to the legislation including 1) the overall strategy and approach 2) whether to include a sunset clause or financial cap and 3) the proposed administrative fee approach.

The legislation will also under go through a county review and formal comment process once the proposed legislation is finalized. In addition, county representatives will attend and provide comment at the Interim Legislative Committee meeting and highlight their issues and concerns, the collaborative approach used to develop the legislation, and communicate the timeline and process for formal county adoption.

Next Steps (ASAP)

- Cindy Yenter, Randy MacMillan, Hal Anderson and Brian Patton will meet via teleconference to determine the approach for providing a per cfs 'cap' on aquaculture users.
- Kerry Ellen Elliott will coordinate with the county treasurer's/assessors to provide a 'not to exceed' percentage for the administrative costs of collecting the ESPA Plan fees – by COB Friday, December 4.

Attendees:
Debbie Kaufman
Barb Fry
Janice Lawes
Donna Peterson
Kerry Ellen Elliott
Brian Patton
Hal Anderson
Jeff Raybould
Randy MacMillan

Randy Bingham
Lynn Tominaga
Wendy Murphy
Lyle Swank
Phil Rassier
Jonathan Bartsch
Cindy Yenter