

# Sustaining Idaho's Water Resources

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Sustainability means managing Idaho's water resources like a corporation: with depreciation, amortization, and maintenance accounts. In other words, keeping the asset whole, rather than undermining our natural capital



# Key Points

- Why sustainability is essential?
- Policy and plan ingredients
- Similarities and lessons learned





# Clear Springs Foods, Inc.

- Seafood company founded in 1966
- Employee owned
  - 380 employees
- World's largest producer of rainbow trout
- Sales throughout US
  - 60-70% of Idaho trout
- Vertically integrated





# Vertically Integrated

- Brood
- Farms
- Feed
- By-products
- Technical Services
- Research
- Processing
- Specialty products
- Distribution
- Sales and Marketing



# Why sustainability matters?

- Sustain current economic vitality
- Attract future economic development
- Sustain environmental quality
- 157,000 acre curtailment order- Rangen delivery call
- Curtailment warning letter to Sept. 23, 1974 juniors
- Potential public investment in water resource (HO547)



# Policy elements

- Objective: clear statement of the overall purpose or long-term aim
- Policy instrument 1: identify the actions and the methods
- Policy instrument 2: identify metrics
- Policy instrument 3: identify a champion





# CSF Business Perspective

“Sustain Clear Springs Foods into the future for the benefit of its employee owners and the community”

## Profit



# Tools to Sustain Clear Springs Foods



# Resource Pillar

- Resource assessment
  - Fish need water (quantity)
  - Non-consumptive water use
  - Limits carrying capacity
  - Declining resource
  - IDWR estimate 200,000 ac-ft/year decline
  - Resilience is diminished
- Spring water quality
- Receiving water quality
- Strategic and tactical planning
  - Spring flow predictor





# Financial Pillar



Profit

- Annual and long-term plan
  - Identify strategic objectives
  - Set specific performance objectives
  - Develop strategies (action plans) to achieve these objectives
  - Consider relevant internal and external circumstances
  - Execute the action plans, monitor and report
- Investment back into company (maintenance account)
  - Methodical investment program
- What are our financial resources
  - Source and amount of funding (cash flow)
- Return-on-investment (ROI)
  - Requires appropriate metrics



# Legal Pillar

- Water rights
  - Priority Doctrine
  - Non-consumptive water rights
- Regulatory requirements
  - Environmental
  - Endangered species
  - Food safety
  - Employment
  - Accounting
  - etc.



# Employee (social) Pillar

- Qualified staff
  - Engaged and committed
- Education
  - Continual process
  - Work objectives
- Teamwork
  - collaboration





# Similarities

- Resource Assets
  - Good at using the resource but.....
  - Finite supply
    - Carrying capacity limits
    - Demand exceeds supply (e.g. ESPA)
  - Limited management controls
    - Priority doctrine and delivery calls
    - Allocation process
- Financial resources
  - Need to invest in Idaho water resource assets
  - Cash flow constraints yields need for prioritization



# Similarities

- Socio-economic needs
  - Maintain and grow current economy
  - Suitable work force
  - Meet societal needs
- Environmental needs
  - Water quality



# Lessons learned

- Delay leads to steeper sustainability climb
  - Sustainability must be more than an ornament, requires action
  - ESPA CAMP (2009)
- Strategic thinking is essential
  - Sustainability efforts must be practical
- Control the controllable
  - Flexibility
- Continual education
- Requires a champion- focus
- Periodic checks on progress
  - Adjust accordingly





# Lessons learned

TLC

Transparency

Longevity

Certainty



*Idaho Water Resource Planning Committee*

# **Sustainability**

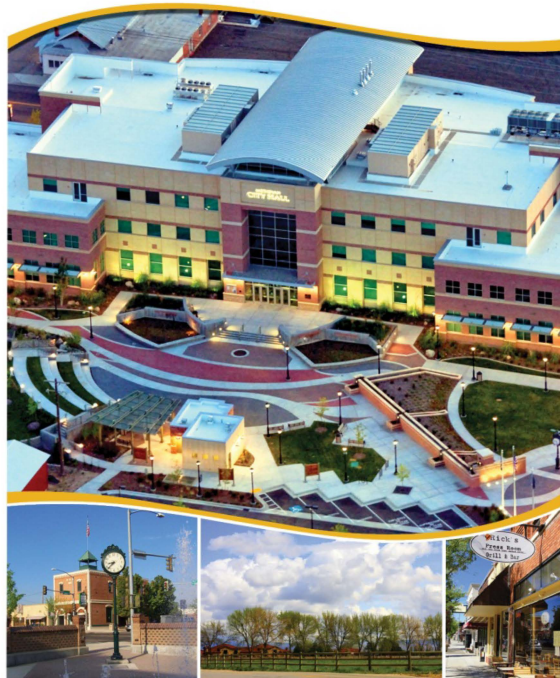
## **A Meridian View**

***David Miles, CFM***  
***Surface Water Administrator***  
***City of Meridian***



***February 26, 2014***





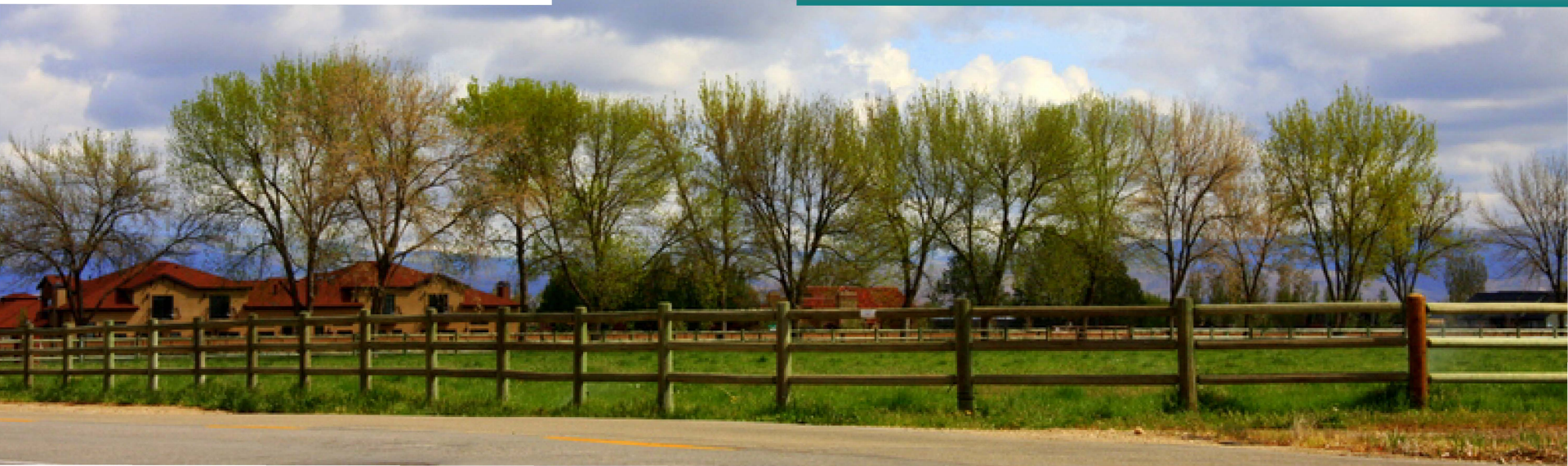
# Overview

Meridian Public Works Department

## Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015

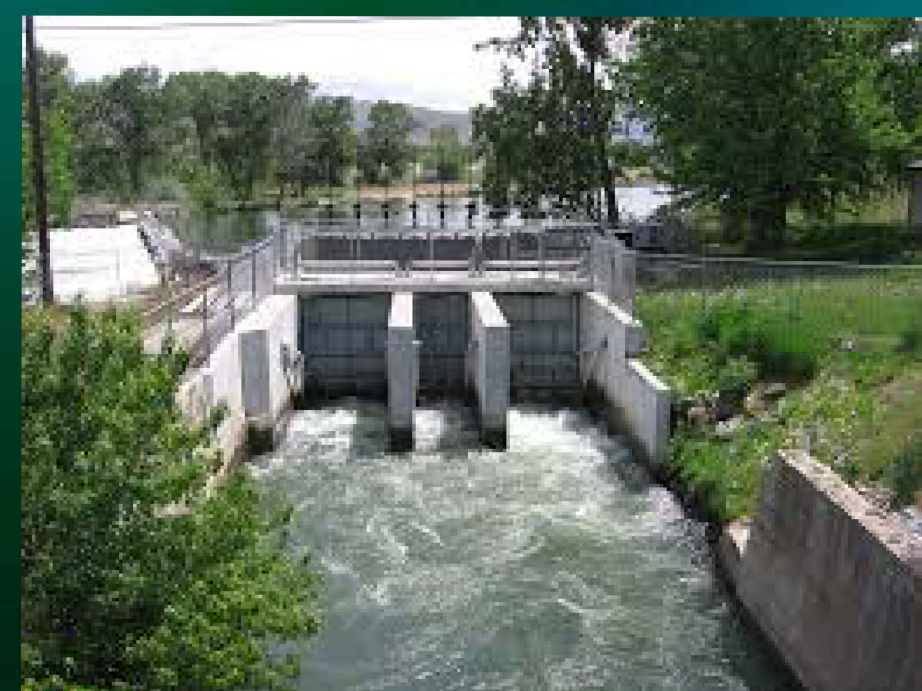
July 2010

*MERIDIAN*





# Internal Practices





## In It Together:

### A How-To Reference for Building Point-Nonpoint Water Quality Trading Programs

Designing and Operating a Trading Program (Part 2 of 3)

July 2012



# Partnerships



*Discussing Water Rights, A Western Pastime*

**Public  
Works**

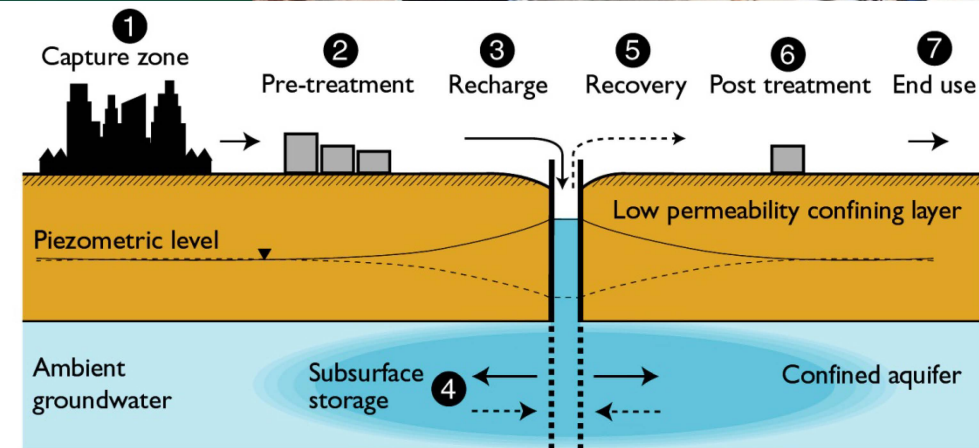


# Education & Outreach





# New Technologies







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# Sustainability

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