

C.L. "Butch" Otter *Governor*

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Vice-Chairman St. Anthony At Large

Vince Alberdi

Secretary Kimberly At Large

Peter Van Der Meulen Hailey At Large

John Rusche Lewiston At Large

Albert Barker

Boise District 2

John "Bert" Stevenson Rupert District 3

Dale Van Stone Hope District 1

AGENDA Idaho Water Resource Board

Work Session on the Mountain Home Airforce Base Sustainable Water Project September 14, 2017 9:00 a.m.

Hampton Inn Cottonwood A Meeting Room 3175 Foothills Ave. MOUNTAIN HOME, ID

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Background on Mountain Home Aquifer
- 3. Establishment of Water District 161 & Measurement Order
- 4. Water Users from the Aquifer & Economic Importance
- 5. History of MHAFB Sustainable Water Project
- 6. Status of MHAFB Sustainable Water Project
- 7. Comments from U.S. Air Force
- 8. Comments from Elected Officials/Other Dignitaries

* The Board will break for lunch at approximately 11:45 a.m.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.: The Board will depart for a Field Trip to the MHAFB Sustainable Water Project

Transportation will be provided for Board members, IDWR staff, and invited guests due to limited seating.

Americans with Disabilities

The meeting will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please make advance arrangements by contacting Department staff by email <u>nikki.regent@idwr.idaho.gov</u> or by phone at (208) 287-4800.

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Hydrogeology of the Mountain Home Plateau

Presented by Craig Tesch, P.G. September 14, 2017





Overview

- Hydrogeology
- Administrative Management Areas
- IDWR Groundwater Monitoring Network
- Groundwater Level Declines
- Water Budget



Regional Aquifer

- Part of the larger Western Snake Plain Aquifer
- Primarily in basalts and sediments of the Bruneau Formation
- Depth to water >300 ft
- Recharge
 - Precipitation (9-11 in.)
 - perched aquifer leakage
 - stream infiltration
- Discharge primarily through
 - irrigation consumptive use
 - springs & underflow
- Used for municipal and large scale irrigation



Perched Aquifer

- Shallow, perched system, composed of sediments
- Flanks of the foothills and around the city of Mountain Home
- Depth to water 10 to 200 ft
- Used for domestic and small irrigation purposes
- Extent of connection to the regional system is relatively unknown







Basalt and Sediments

Glens Ferry Formation Sediments

Idaho Batholith

Groundwater Flow

General Water Table









- Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area (CGWA)
 - Established May 7, 1981
 - Area does not have sufficient ground water to provide a safe supply for current or projected uses
 - No new appropriations
- Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area (GWMA)
 - Established November 9, 1982
 - Area approaching a CGWA
 - New appropriations may be allowed if shown not to injure existing rights







- Reasons for Designation
 - Rapid agricultural development
 - Water level declines
 - Pending applications for additional development







IDWR Groundwater Monitoring Network

- 26 wells measured semi-annually
- Primarily irrigation wells in the regional system (250-450 ft)
- Some domestic wells in the perched system (< 100 ft)
- Transducers in two wells near Canyon Creek







Groundwater Level Change in the Mountain Home Area Fall 1981 to Fall 2016

Legend

- IDWR Monitoring Wells
 Cinder Cone Butte CGWA Boundary
 Mountain Home GWMA Boundary
- County Boundary

Water Level Change (ft)

Declines 120 to 130
Declines 110 to 120
Declines 100 to 110
Declines 90 to 100
Declines 80 to 90
Declines 70 to 80
Declines 60 to 70
Declines 50 to 60
Declines 40 to 50
Declines 20 to 30
Declines 10 to 20
Declines 0 to 10
Rises 0 to 10
Rises 10 to 20















- Harrington (2004)
 - MH GWMA extended to the TVHP boundary
 - -30,900 AF/yr deficit







Water Budget

- Harrington (2004)
 - MH GWMA extended to the TVHP boundary
 - -30,900 AF/yr deficit
- Tesch (2012)
 - Cinder Cone CGWA
 - -9,399 AF/yr deficit





Overall Ground Water Budget

Inflow - Outflow = +/- Storage 43,000 - 74,000 = - 31,000 AF Reference: Harrington, 2004





- Mountain Home Plateau contains both a GWMA and CGWA
- Groundwater level declines of <u>~120 feet</u> over the last 35 years in the southwest area of the Cinder Cone CGWA (~3.5 ft/yr)
- Groundwater level declines of <u>~50 feet</u> over the last 35 years near the Air Force base (~1.4 ft/yr)
- Water budget deficit in the regional system
- Mountain Home regional aquifer is <u>recharge limited</u>; consumptive use exceeds the rate of recharge





END



Water Budget Ondrechen (2004)

Basin Inflow and Supply		Supply/Use (AFA)
Canyon Creek yield Little Camas Creek (imported) Rattlesnake Creek yield Ditto Creek and adjacent areas Precipitation on rocky areas	Total	$20,900 \\ 9,500 \\ 3,800 \\ 4,100 \\ \underline{4,400} \\ 42,700$
Loss to Snake River Use by irrigated crops Use by Municipal and Air Base	Total	1,500 69,600 <u>2,500</u> 73,600
Inflow Minus Use		-30,900

Water Resource Board



Water budgets for the consolidated hearing study area and the Cinder Cone comparison area

Item	Component	Consolidated Hearing Study Area	Cinder Cone Comparison Area
1	Acres within Recharge Area	45.490	52.492
	Precipitation (AFA)	-,	
2	within Recharge Area	75,420	88,989
3	Actual Evapotranspiration (AFA) within Recharge Area	66.147	76.240
4	Acres within Non-recharge Area	177,447	181,307
5	Precipitation within Non-recharge Area (AFA)	175,662	162,111
6	Recharge from Precipitation in Non-recharge Area	2 656	2 025
7	Irrigated Lands CIR (AFA)	884	13.131
8	Surface Discharge Out of Area (AFA) 8a) Blacks Creek 8b) Indian Creek Reservoir Evaporation 8c) Canyon Creek Total Surface Discharge Out of Area (AFA)	506 360 866	9,877 9,877
9	DCMI Consumptive Use Breakdown Recharge + Non-recharge Areas (AFA): 9a) GW Rights 9b) Springs 9c) Surface Water 9d) Permit Volume Total DCMI Consumptive Use (AFA)	317 6 170 2,566 3,059	797 136 99 132 1,165
	Recharge (AFA)	11.052	4 007
10	[ltem#2-#3+#6-#8]	11,063	4,897
11	Recharge (cfs)	15.27	6.76
12	Net Recharge (AFA) [Item#10-#7-#9]	7,120	-9,399
13	Net Recharge (cfs)	9.83	-12.97



WD161 - Mountain Home Area Water District

Presented by Tim Luke, IDWR IWRB Work Session on the MHAFB Sustainable Water Project Date September 14, 2017



Brief Irrigation Development history:

- About ½ of surface water rights developed by ~1915 – not much else until after WWII. Rest developed before end of 1980s.
- Groundwater development started mostly after WWII and occurred mostly in 60s and 70s, also mostly ended in late 1980s.

Actual Acreage irrigated less than the 98K-acre area shown.

Regulation History

- 1891 1943: Various water use disputes, litigation & adjudication of water rights in separate surface water drainages in Basin 61
 - Resulted in designation of five water districts over time
 - Four of five 5 districts currently active
- 2012: Water District 02 created, Snake River from Milner to Murphy
 - Includes some irrigated lands in Basin 61 along Snake River



Regulatory History – Moratoriums, CGWA, GWMA

- GW declines have been observed near pumping centers since the 1960s.
- 1981: Cinder Cone Butte Critical Groundwater Area designated.
 - Based on 1981 IDWR Study that estimated withdrawal at 1.5X recharge
- 1982: Mountain Home Groundwater Management Area designated
 - Based on 1982 IDWR study that withdrawals exceed recharge
- 1984 Swan Falls agreement Trust Water Area
 - Swan Falls controversy results in moratorium from 1977 thru 1988
- 1992 Snake River Moratorium (supplemental uses exempted)
- 1993 Snake R. Moratorium Order amended to exclude MH area
- 1996 2006 Advisory Committee develops draft Management plan

Regulatory History

- 2012: I-84 corridor study determines ground water supplies are limited
- 2016: Water District 161 formed and measurement order issued





Reasons for Creating Water District 161

- SRBA is complete
 - SRBA Court issued Final Decree August 24, 2014
- Administration is required for both surface & ground water rights
 - maintain current/accurate water right records
 - measure and report water use
 - address unauthorized uses, if any &/or as found
 - assure diversions within water right limits/descriptions
- Potential regulation of ground water rights in GWMA/CGWA
 - Director may limit ground water use until there is sufficient supply
 - Director may require measurement & reporting of gw use
 - necessary to evaluate withdrawals vs. recharge
 - necessary if limiting water use
- Potential conjunctive administration of surface & ground water rts.
 (or administration of senior gw rts. vs. junior gw rights)

Goal of these administrative activities/designations are to exercise statutory authority to manage and sustain the resource



Water District is part of water mgmt. toolkit:

- Water use (measurement)/data collection)
- Water Right regulation



WD Stats:

- Approximately 480 ground water rights within WD
- Approximately 270 water users
- Potential for >100K acre-feet of gw diversion Likely closer to 80K
- About 340 360 wells will require meters and reporting
- Adopted 2017 budget of about \$45K local assistant watermaster

Measurement Order Details:

- Order applies to irrig. diversions > 5 acres & non-irrigation diversions >0.24 cfs
 - Most domestic and stockwater uses exempt
 - Some sub-divisions included
- Meters to be installed by 2019 irrigation season (or January, 2019 for non-irrig.)
- Up to 340 360 wells will require meters and reporting
 - (some of these wells not used due to non-use, CRP etc.)
- Standard flow meters = magnetic ("mag") flow meters
 - Variances limited
 - Mag meters about \$2,500 \$3,500 for 10" diameter plus install
 - Meters should be read several times per year
 - Data entered/stored to IDWR database (WMIS)





Water District Current Status:

- 2017: district begins operations
 - Watermaster: Nick Miller, IDWR Western Regional Mgr.
 - Assist. watermaster: Ed Van Etten, Mtn. Home (started summer 2017)
 - Adopted 2017 budget of about \$45K local assistant watermaster
 - Advisory committee selected
 - Inventory of Groundwater Wells by Assistant WM
 - Over 120 wells inventoried
 - Some flow meter installations begin
 - Local users working towards possible cost-share grant opportunities



Near-term WD Activities/Goals:

- Full time local WM in 1-2 years (phase out IDWR staff)
- 2019 Flow meters installed and data collection begins in earnest.
 - Some follow-up compliance may be required with IDWR assistance
- IDWR will initiate review of imagery and water rights place of use 2017-2018
 - Notify users of any potential discrepancies & need for corrections via transfers



Potential Future Water District Management Activities:

- Diversion data used for more detailed supply-demand analysis.
- Respond to delivery calls, implement management or mitigation plans?
- Future is uncertain.



Questions?

VALLEY



Mountain Home Aquifer – Water Uses and Economic Importance

Presented by Brian Patton P.E., Executive Officer, Idaho Water Resource Board



September 17, 2017













<u>Topics</u>

Uses of Water from the Mt. Home AquiferEconomic Importance





Water Uses from the Mountain Home Aquifer

- Irrigated Agriculture
- City of Mountain Home
- Mountain Home AFB
- Rural Domestic

TOTAL ESTIMATE

69,900 AF/yr (IDWR)

4,720 AF/yr (SPF 2017)

1,630 AF/yr (SPF 2016) (has been higher in past) ?

76,250 AF/yr





Economic Importance of Water Use - Agriculture

- Elmore County No. 8 in Idaho counties for total value of agricultural products sold (USDA) – Idaho is No. 2 or 3 agricultural state in the West
- Elmore County total market value of ag products sold is \$350M (USDA 2012) – adding multiplier brings total economic impact to \$600M
- Elmore County has about 90,000 irrigated agricultural acres with 30,000 acres supplied from aquifer





Economic Importance of Water Use - City

- Population of 14,000
- Business and industry
- Supports agriculture and AFB







Total Economic Impact

Direct Impact

Multiplier Impact

• 5,306 Direct Jobs

\$1.02 Billion annually

\$474 Million annually

\$546 Million annually





2015 Economic Impact Analysis by MHAFB

- Direct Impact \$342 Million annually
- 4,274 Direct Jobs

Did not report Multiplier Impact or Total Economic Impact







Questions?



MATERIALS MAY BE PROVIDED AT THE

IWRB MEETING

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Water Resource Board



Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB) Water Supply and Pipeline Project

Idaho Water Resource Board Meeting September 14th, 2017

Randall A. Broesch P.E. • Water Projects Section• Staff Engineer





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Owner's Advisor Update

- Project Delivery Method Selection
- Procurement Services 2 Step Process
 - Pre-SOQ meeting August 24th / Submittals due September 26th
 - RFP scheduled to start in January 2018
- Raw Water Characteristic Study
- Water Treatment Pilot Study
- Technical Project Components
 - Cost Estimating
 - IDEQ Permitting/Certifications
 - Topographic Survey
 - Geotechnical Investigations















Work In Progress







- Environmental Assessment (EA) Conducted by MHAFB & BLM
- Water Utility Service Agreement (WUSA)
- Revenue Bond Financing
- Procurement of Design-Build-Operate Services
- Revenue Bond Financing
- Water Right Process
- Permitting























Randall A. Broesch P.E.• Water Projects Section • Staff Engineer

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