

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF)	
ENERGY IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE FUNDING TO)	
SUPPORT THE RAFT RIVER BASIN HYDROLOGIC)	A RESOLUTION
PROJECT)	

1 WHEREAS, Governor Otter directed the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to develop a water
2 sustainability policy and support water sustainability and aquifer stabilization projects across Idaho to
3 address declining groundwater levels, existing or potential conjunctive administration water use conflicts,
4 alternative water supplies and long-term water management needs; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) has been losing approximately 216,000 acre-
7 feet annually from aquifer storage since the 1950's resulting in declining ground water levels in the aquifer
8 and declining spring flows from the aquifer; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the State Water Plan, approved by the 2012 Legislature, recognized that measurement,
11 data collection, quantification and monitoring of Idaho's water supply and use are essential for sound water
12 resource planning, management and administration; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Sustainability Policy Section of the State Water Plan identifies the need to obtain
15 more accurate water supply, water measurement and forecasting information, and a need to disseminate
16 water supply forecast to water users in cooperation with other federal and state agencies; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the State Water Plan includes a goal to accomplish managed recharge in the ESPA
19 averaging 250,000 acre-feet annually; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the 2016 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 136
22 directing the IWRB to develop the capacity to achieve 250,000 acre-feet of annual average managed
23 recharge to the ESPA by December 31, 2024; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Raft River Basin contributes tributary underflow to the ESPA, was designated a
26 Critical Ground Water Area in 1963, and is experiencing large groundwater level declines. It contains
27 117,000 acres of agriculture dependent on a sustainable water supply and supports the only operating
28 commercial geothermal power plant in Idaho; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and the Idaho Geologic Survey
31 developed a four-year proposal for a hydrologic characterization of the Raft River Basin (Raft River Basin
32 Hydrologic Project, "project") and the IWRB funded Year 1 of the project in September 2019 for \$203,500;
33 and
34

35 WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) may allow a facility that has
36 been found in violation of an environmental regulation to implement supplemental environmental projects
37 (SEP) in lieu of or to reduce a cash penalty; and
38

39 WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office (DOE) is undertaking SEPs
40 in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action taken by the IDEQ for alleged violations of the
41 requirements of the Hazardous Waste Management Act; and
42

43 WHEREAS, the IWRB previously entered into contracts with DOE in 2017 and 2018 to implement
Resolution No. 10-2020

44 SEPs to drill ESPA monitoring wells and characterize the Big Lost basin; and
45

46 WHEREAS, the IWRB in collaboration with IDWR proposed to DOE a three-year SEP to fund a
47 variety of tasks in the project that include the addition of up to 12 new aquifer monitoring wells in the Raft
48 River basin and the completion of a water quality sampling campaign for a total cost of \$832,000; and
49

50 WHEREAS, IDEQ approved implementation and funding for this DOE SEP in June 2020 in the
51 amount of \$832,000; and
52

53 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes the execution of a contract with
54 DOE for the funding of this SEP; and
55

56 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee, Brian
57 Patton, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts with DOE to implement the SEP.

DATED this 30th day of July, 2020.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

**IN THE MATTER OF FLOOD
MANAGEMENT GRANTS**

RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDS

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 646 passed and approved by the Idaho Legislature transferred
2 \$800,000 from the General Fund to the Water Management Fund for a Flood Management Grant
3 Program administered by the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) to be used for the purpose
4 of flood-damaged stream channel repair, stream channel improvement, flood risk reduction, or
5 flood prevention projects; and
6

7 WHEREAS, House Bill 646 allows for the award of grants larger than \$50,000 for the Flood
8 Management Program, at the discretion of the IWRB; and
9

10 WHEREAS, House Bill 646 directs the IWRB to require the availability of fifty percent (50%)
11 matching funds for all projects to be considered under the grant program; and
12

13 WHEREAS, House Bill 646 directs the IWRB to prioritize projects on a competitive
14 statewide basis; and
15

16 WHEREAS, on April 3, 2020 the IWRB adopted criteria for the award of Flood Management
17 Grants, and
18

19 WHEREAS, several of the 2019 Flood Management Grant Projects were completed under
20 budget totaling \$280,000. These remaining 2019 funds when combined with the 2020 legislative
21 appropriation total \$1,080,000 that may be awarded for 2020 Flood Management Projects; and
22

23 WHEREAS, fourteen (14) Flood Management Grant applications were received by the
24 deadline of Friday June 19, 2020 and the applications were evaluated, scored and ranked
25 according to the criteria adopted by IWRB; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the Finance Committee met on July 8, 2019 and discussed the projects, but did
28 not provide a specific recommendation to the IWRB and
29

30 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the award of Flood
31 Management Grants as specified in the Application Ranking Sheet attached to this resolution.

DATED this 30th day of July, 2020.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST


VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

2020 Flood Management Grant Application Ranking and Awards

Entity	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs	Final Evaluation Score (135 Pts)	Final Rankings	Awarded Funding
Lewis Soil Conservation District - Alpine Road	\$18,425.30	\$46,709.30	114	1	\$18,425.30
Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District - Louse Creek	\$24,687.00	\$58,028.00	111	2	\$24,687.00
City of Bellevue - Lower Howard Preserve	\$57,880.00	\$120,980.00	102	3	\$57,880.00
Twin Falls Canal Co. & City of Twin Falls	\$51,000.00	\$101,924.00	97	4	\$51,000.00
Flood Control District No.10 - Boise River North Channel	\$47,500.00	\$95,000.00	97	5	\$47,500.00
Flood Control District No.10 - Boise River Canyon Reach 1	\$175,000.00	\$350,000.00	97	6	\$175,000.00
City of Orofino - Orofino Creek	\$200,000.00	\$1,221,640.00	93	7	\$200,000.00
Idaho Soil & Water Cons. Dist. - Lower Cottonwood Creek	\$27,935.20	\$55,890.20	93	8	\$27,935.20
Idaho Soil & Water Cons. Dist. - Sill Creek	\$10,960.28	\$22,069.28	93	9	\$10,960.28
Idaho Soil & Water Cons. Dist. - Clear Creek	\$18,570.60	\$37,157.60	89	10	\$18,570.60
Raft River Flood Control Dist. No.15	\$80,525.00	\$161,050.00	83	11	\$80,525.00
Pioneer Irrigation District - Mason Creek	\$148,500.00	\$297,000.00	80	12	\$148,500.00
Total funds requested	\$860,983.38	\$2,567,448.38			\$860,983

Total: \$860,983

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE LOST VALLEY
RESERVOIR EXPANSION

RESOLUTION TO subordinate a portion of the
IWRB's Water Right Application No. 67-7590
to Lost Valley Reservoir Company's Water
Right Application No. 67-7938

1 WHEREAS, the Idaho State Water Plan recognizes that surface water development will play a role
2 in meeting Idaho's future water needs, it supports assessment and development of new high potential
3 storage facilities; and
4

5 WHEREAS, an enlargement of the Lost Valley Reservoir, located in the Weiser River Basin north of
6 Council, Idaho is identified in the 2012 Idaho State Water Plan as a reservoir site with apparent high
7 potential for development; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Lost Valley Reservoir Company Board (LVRC) is investigating a potential raise of
10 the Lost Valley Dam (Lost Valley Project, Project) to increase reservoir capacity from approximately 10,000
11 acre-feet to as much as 30,000 acre-feet to provide additional water supply for irrigation, recreation, fish
12 and wildlife, and other purposes based on interest; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the LVRC filed a water right application for 20,000 acre-feet of additional storage water
15 in 1993 (No. 67-7938) and later completed initial design and cost estimates for construction of the Lost
16 Valley Project. In 2013, the LVRC began investigating environmental compliance requirements and
17 updating hydrologic analyses; and
18

19 WHEREAS, in 1982, IWRB filed a water right application No. 67-7590 for the proposed Galloway
20 Dam on the Weiser River. The application contemplates a total storage capacity of up to 1,500,000 acre-
21 feet; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the priority date of IWRB's water right application would reduce the fill potential of
24 the new Lost Valley Reservoir space and limit the economic viability of the Lost Valley Project; and
25

26 WHEREAS, subordinating a portion of water right application No. 67-7590 would allow the new
27 Lost Valley Reservoir space to be filled prior to the reservoir formed by the Galloway Dam;
28

29 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB will subordinate up to 20,000 acre-feet of its
30 water right application to LVRC's water right application so long as LVRC can demonstrate the following
31 conditions are met:
32

- 33 1) Within three (3) years of the date this resolution, LVRC must advance coordination with the
34 United States Forest Service (USFS) such that the USFS has published the Notice of Intent to
35 prepare the EIS for the Project; and
36

- 37 2) LVRC must obtain a water right permit, approved by the Director of the Idaho Department
38 of Water Resources, for the increased storage capacity in the Lost Valley Reservoir in
39 accordance with criteria set forth in Idaho Code § 42-203A; and
40
41 3) Construction of the proposed Lost Valley Dam Project must be complete within ten (10) years
42 of the date of this resolution; and
43

44 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LVRC may apply for extensions to complete
45 conditions 1 and 3 if LVRC can demonstrate good cause and due diligence in the development of the Lost
46 Valley Project.
47

48 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is not an endorsement of the
49 Lost Valley Reservoir Project, LVRC's water right application, or an approval of the Project by the Board
50 under Idaho Code § 42-1737. The IWRB reserves the right to review the Project pursuant to its authorities
51 under Title 42, Idaho Code.

DATED this 30th day of July 2020.



ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST 

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary