IN THE MATTER OF BOISE RIVER BASIN FEASIBILITY STUDY

RESOLUTION TO DETERMINE THE IWRB'S CONTRACTING PREFERENCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A RAISE OF ANDERSON RANCH DAM, USE OF WATER, AND OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF THE NEW STORAGE SPACE

1 WHEREAS, on October 24, 2017, the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) passed a resolution 2 authorizing its chairman to execute the necessary agreements with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation 3 (Reclamation) and to contribute the necessary fifty percent (50%) non-federal cost-share to carry out the 4 Boise River Basin Feasibility Study (feasibility study) to evaluate raises to the Anderson Ranch, Arrowrock and 5 Lucky Peak Dams to provide additional water storage capacity on the Boise River; and

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7 WHEREAS, in March 2018, the IWRB and Reclamation executed a Memorandum of 8 Agreement/Reimbursable Agreement No. R18-MR-11-171 to formalize roles, work and funding 9 responsibilities associated with the feasibility study. No other parties participated or provided funding for 10 the feasibility study; and

WHEREAS, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act, P.L. 114-322) provides study and potential construction authority and Federal funding proportionate to Federal benefits. The act states that continuing authority only applies to projects determined to be feasible before January 1, 2021, and that projects can only receive Federal funds under the WIIN Act if recommended by the Secretary of the Interior and designated by name in Federal appropriations legislation; and

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WHEREAS, under Secretarial Order 3355, issued on August 31, 2017, NEPA reviews conducted by the
 Department of Interior must be completed within 12 months of publishing the Notice of Intent in the Federal
 Register; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Idaho Legislature passed and approved House Joint Memorial 4 (HJM 4) and House Bill 285 (HB 285) which affirmed support for the construction of new water infrastructure in Idaho, in particular, the raising of Anderson Ranch Dam, and urged the State of Idaho's congressional delegation to take further actions necessary to ensure completion of the feasibility study and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis within the proposed timeframe and, as determined in the feasibility study, advance the project through additional congressional action to authorize construction and provide further WIIN Act funds; and

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WHEREAS, based on site visits and review of available technical information for the three dams, Reclamation concluded that evaluation of the feasibility of raises to all three dams could not be completed before January 1, 2021 and recommended focusing study efforts on a raise of Anderson Ranch Dam; and

WHEREAS, through a resolution signed and dated July 27, 2018, IWRB authorized Reclamation to focus the study analyses on a raise of the Anderson Ranch Dam with the intent to determine project feasibility

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before January 1, 2021; and 36

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38 WHEREAS, Reclamation issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Feasibility 39 Report (DFR) on July 31, 2020 which identified a 6-foot raise of Anderson Ranch Dam and an additional 29,000 40 acre-feet of storage space as the preferred alternative; and

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42 Whereas, the WIIN Act requires Reclamation's project partner(s) to pay the non-federal share of 43 capital costs, or post authorization costs, of the project upfront and requires the project to be under 44 construction by December 16, 2021; and

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46 WHEREAS, in the DEIS, Reclamation evaluated two different approaches to develop a contract for 47 construction, use of water, and operations and maintenance of the new storage space pursuant to WIIN Act 48 Section 4007. In the first option (Option A), IWRB would be the sole contractor with Reclamation. In the 49 second option (Option B), Reclamation would enter into contracts with multiple entities, including the IWRB 50 and other existing Reclamation contractors. Both options are subject to deadlines set forth under the WIIN 51 Act; and

53 WHEREAS, in Option A, as the sole contractor with Reclamation, IWRB would be required to enter 54 into an agreement for construction of the raise, including providing for all of the upfront funds necessary to 55 pay the non-federal share of costs prior to construction. IWRB could potentially pay in installments for 56 discrete portions of the project. When allocating the non-federal portion of the space, the IWRB would enter 57 into sub-contracts with interested water users. IWRB would be authorized to contract with Water District 63 58 water users, or the IWRB could place some portion of the water in the Water Supply Bank to be rented under 59 water bank rules. IWRB would determine an equitable price structure to recover project costs and would 60 not be constrained to the Reclamation pricing or the structure outlined in Reclamation's Feasibility Study; 61 and

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63 WHEREAS, in Option B Reclamation would enter into separate contracts with multiple entities, 64 including the IWRB and other existing Reclamation contractors. Under this option, IWRB would be required to provide upfront funds for IWRB's portion of the non-federal project costs only. Reclamation would 65 determine how to solicit and select other existing Reclamation spaceholders, determine pricing and financial 66 67 capability, ability to provide upfront funding, and negotiate contracts with the parties. Reclamation can only 68 contract directly with current spaceholders and has limitations on the type of entities it can contract with; 69 and

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71 WHEREAS, Reclamation has requested IWRB express its preference for contracting the new storage 72 space so it can be considered in the Final Environmental Impact Statement; and

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74 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, IWRB believes that contracting with Reclamation for all the new 75 storage space not identified by Reclamation as receiving a federal benefit (the non-federal portion of the 76 space) will be the most efficient and best method to ensure stakeholder and state support for reasonable 77 financing for the Project. Therefore, IWRB prefers to contract with Reclamation under Option A, and then 78 negotiate directly with potential spaceholders for the new storage space generated by a raise of Anderson 79 Ranch Dam and how the new storage space will be allocated and priced.

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81 NOW THEREFORE BE IT FUTHUR RESOLVED, in accordance with HJM 4 and HB 285 and given the

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- 82 complexities of project development, financing, and the constrained implementation timeline, the IWRB
- 83 recommends the Option A contracting alternative to provide greater certainty of congressional action to
- 84 authorize construction and provide further WIIN Act funds.

DATED this 19th day of November 2020.

chase

ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

IN THE MATTER OF AQUIFER STABILIZATION AND CLOUD SEEDING IN THE UPPER SNAKE, WOOD, AND BOISE RIVER BASINS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ONE-TIME FUNDING FOR THE COOPERATIVE CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM'S 2020-2021 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 547, passed and approved by the 2014 legislature, allocates \$5,000,000 2 annually from the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) for statewide aquifer 3 stabilization, with the funds to be deposited into the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and 4 Implementation Fund; and

6 WHEREAS, cloud seeding was identified as a strategy in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer 7 Comprehensive Management Plan (ESPA CAMP) for which stabilization and recovery of the ESPA is a 8 principal goal, and was identified as a strategy in the draft Treasure Valley Comprehensive Management 9 Plan; and

WHEREAS, a well-managed cloud seeding program can increase winter snowpack as much as 10%
 or more, and thereby increase surface water runoff, resulting in more surface water for all uses, including
 aquifer management projects, and less supplemental ground water pumping; and

15 WHEREAS, the Idaho Power Company (IPC) established a remote-operated "Pilot Program" and 16 brought its operational experience gained from its Payette River Basin program to the Upper Snake River 17 Basin as a result of the ESPA CAMP; and

WHEREAS, discussions between the IWRB, IPC, and other water users resulted in the creation of a Collaborative Cloud Seeding Program (Program) to expand IPC's cloud seeding operations in the Upper Snake River Basin and establish IPC run programs in the Boise River Basin, and Wood River Basin with support from the IWRB and water users; and

24 WHEREAS, the IWRB's 2017 through 2021 Fiscal Year Budget Resolutions for the Secondary 25 Aquifer Stabilization and Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund (Fiscal Year 26 Budget Resolution) authorized expenditure of funds for operation and maintenance (O&M) costs 27 associated with the Program and further stated the IWRB's goal that both the State and the water users 28 financially participate with IPC in the Collaborative Cloud Seeding Program; and 29

30 WHEREAS, the IWRB has paid one third of the total Program O&M costs since the 2017-2018 31 winter cloud seeding season; and

- WHEREAS, water users in the Boise, Wood and Upper Snake River basins have historically contributed different percentages of the cost for annual cloud seeding activities per basin, with the lowest individual basin contribution during the 2019-2020 cloud seeding season being approximately 17 percent of total basin costs; and
- 38 WHEREAS, IPC has paid a larger portion these Program expenses by covering the remainder of the 39 total annual cost for O&M; and
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WHEREAS, in accordance with IWRB direction, a Cloud Seeding Benefits Allocation Study (Benefits
 Analysis) is underway to quantify the amount of additional water received by different water user groups
 in each corresponding basin as a result of Cloud Seeding. The Benefits Analysis is intended help identify
 an equitable funding cost-share distribution among program beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, the IWRB, through its 2021 Fiscal Year Budget Resolution, authorized payment for one third of the total estimated costs for O&M and one-time funding to help offset Program O&M funding shortages in each basin while the Benefits Analysis is being completed and a more equitable cost-share distribution determined; and

51 WHEREAS, IPC estimates the total cost for O&M for the 2020-2021 Cloud Seeding season will be 52 \$2,493,000, and the IWRB will assume payment of up to \$831,000, approximately one third of the total; 53 and

55 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB agrees to commit additional one-time funding 56 to help offset anticipated O&M funding shortages from the water users in each basin and to equalize the 57 percentages being paid by the water users in each basin while the Benefits Analysis is being completed 58 and a more equitable cost-share distribution is determined for the individual basins.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditures not to exceed
 \$417,000 from the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund, for the 2020 2021 cloud seeding season in addition to O&M funding up to \$831,000 already approved in the 2021 Fiscal
 Year Budget Resolution; one-time authorized expenditures per basin shall not exceed the following and
 are contingent upon anticipated water user contributions as identified below:

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Basin	Total Program O&M Cost	Water User Cost Share (Approx 17%)	IPC Share (1/3)	IWRB Share (1/3)	One-Time IWRB Contribution (Approx 17%)
Boise River	\$601,000	\$100,000	\$200,333	\$200,333	\$100,333
Wood River	\$536,000	\$89,000	\$178,667	\$178,667	\$89,667
Upper Snake River	\$1,356,000	\$225,000	\$452,000	\$452,000	\$227,000
Total	\$2,493,000	\$414,000	\$831,000	\$831,000	\$417,000

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee,
 Brian Patton, Executive Officer to the IWRB, to execute the necessary agreements or contracts with
 program participants.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2020.

Chase

ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

Resolution No. 20-2020

Page 2

IN THE MATTER OF THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD RECHARGE PROGRAM

RESOLUTION REGARDING AGREEMENT NOT TO DIVERT A PORTION OF IWRB WATER RIGHTS 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609 DURING THE 2020–2021 RECHARGE SEASON

1	WHEREAS, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) has been losing approximately 216,000 acre-
2	feet annually from aquifer storage since the 1950's resulting in declining ground water levels in the aquifer
3	and reduced spring flows to the Snake River; and
4	
5	WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 Legislature allocated \$5 million from
6	the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB) Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management,
7	and Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund) for statewide aquifer stabilization; and
8	
9	WHEREAS, the legislature provides \$5 million annually to the Secondary Aquifer Fund through the
10	Department of Water Resources budget for aquifer management; and
11	
12	WHEREAS, the 2016 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 136
13	directing the IWRB to develop a program of 250,000 acre-feet of annual average natural flow managed
14	recharge to the ESPA by December 31, 2024; and
15	
16	WHEREAS, numerous other parties are also undertaking actions for management of the ESPA
17	through various agreements, including the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators, the Surface Water
18	Coalition, the Southwest Irrigation District, the A&B Irrigation District, the Coalition of Cities, and others;
19	and
20	
21	WHEREAS, the IWRB has developed water delivery agreements with several canal companies and
22	irrigation districts and invested more than \$20.4 million in infrastructure to develop the aquifer recharge
23	program, which currently has annual average operations costs of about \$3.7 million; and
24	
25	WHEREAS, since 2015 when management of the ESPA began in earnest, about 2.2 million acre-
26	feet have been added to storage in the ESPA from IWRB recharge and other management actions, total
27	outflow from the Thousand Springs has increased by approximately 850 cfs, and the Sentinel Well Index
28	has increased by about 3.5 feet; and
29	
30	WHEREAS, the IWRB holds water rights 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609 which collectively allow
31	the diversion of up to 7,769 cfs from the Snake River at or upstream of Milner Dam for aquifer recharge;
32	and
33	
34	WHEREAS, consistent with Idaho State Water Plan Policies 4B, 4E, 8A and the 2009 Swan Falls
35	Reaffirmation Agreement, the water rights held by the IWRB may be used to their full extent such that
36	the flows at Milner Dam are reduced to zero at any time of the year; and
37	
38 39	recognizes that, consistent with Idaho State Water Plan Policies 4B, 4E, 8A and the 2009 Swan Falls
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Reaffirmation Agreement, it is appropriate for it to work cooperatively with all stakeholders to explore and develop a managed recharge program that achieves, to the extent possible, benefits for all uses including hydropower below Milner Dam; and

- 44 WHEREAS, discussions regarding use and management of the Snake River flows above Milner 45 during the winter time under the IWRB's water rights 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609 and the IWRB's 46 Aquifer Recharge Program as outlined in the ESPA CAMP are ongoing and will require the involvement of 47 all stakeholders;
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB agrees not to divert 200 cfs of its recharge water rights 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609, during the time period of December 1, 2020 through February 15, 2021. Provided, however, that if the IWRB does not reach 250,000 acre-feet of recharge during 2020– 2021 recharge season, Idaho Power Company will provide an acre-foot for acre-foot replacement for the shortfall from its American Falls Reservoir Storage, up to a maximum of 4,258 acre-feet.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, while the IWRB agrees not to divert 200 cfs of its recharge
 water rights 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609, the IWRB recognizes that the 200 cfs may be used by new
 or existing water users and it cannot guarantee that any of the 200 cfs will remain in the Snake River past
 Milner or will reach Idaho Power Company's downstream hydropower projects.
- 60NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman to execute the61necessary agreements with Idaho Power Company regarding this agreement not to divert 200 cfs of water62rights 01-7054, 01-7142, and 01-10609 during a portion of the 2020–2021 recharge season.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this agreement not to divert is for a portion of the 2020–
 2021 recharge season and will set no precedent for the IWRB's future use of water rights 01-7054, 01 7142, and 01-10609 or for its Managed Aquifer Recharge Program under the ESPA CAMP.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2020.

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ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

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IN THE MATTER OF FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT UPDATED CRITERIA

1	WHEREAS, House Bill 646 passed and approved by the 2020 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, in April 2020 the IWRB adopted a resolution establishing criteria for the award
17	of flood grant projects, and
18	
19	WHEREAS, the IWRB authorized \$860K in flood grants at the July 2020 IWRB meeting
20	utilizing the funds from HB 646 and some additional funds from flood grant projects that had
21	come in under budget in a prior year, and
22	MULTEREAS as a second time increase indepatities detuning the UNAR (MARP as a second source) as the staff is
23	WHEREAS, some reporting issues were identified during the IDWR/IWRB annual audit, staff is
24	recommending the twice adopt opulated Flood Management Grant Criteria that adjusts the strict
25	reporting dates included in the original chteria.
20 27	NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IW/RB adopts the attached undated criteria
28	for the award of Flood Management Grants.

DATED this 19th day of November 2020.

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ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman Idaho Water Resource Board

2 ATTEST VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

2020 IWRB Flood Management Grant Program UPDATED Criteria

The Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) Flood Management Grant Funding Program provides financial assistance on a competitive statewide basis to Flood Control Districts, Drainage Districts, Irrigation Districts, Canal Companies, Municipalities, Counties and other public entities interested in pursuing <u>flood damaged stream</u> <u>channel repair, stream channel improvement</u>, <u>flood risk reduction</u>, and <u>flood prevention projects</u>. (See HB 712, HB 285, HB 646; Statutes 42-1760; IDAPA 37.02.02)

Pursuing flood damage repair and improvement projects can help prevent or reduce flood damage in Idaho's streams and rivers. To be considered for grant funding, entities must be able to provide evidence of flood damage, or evidence of conditions that create the risk of flooding in a stream channel and submit a funding request document outlining the proposed repairs and/or improvements to the stream channel.

Eligible Entities: Flood Control Districts, Drainage Districts, Irrigation Districts, Canal Companies, Municipalities, and Counties. Other public entities are eligible to apply.

Eligible Geographic Area: Statewide

Program Budget:

- \$800,000
- No more than 50% (\$500,000) of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district. This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands.

Funding Amount: up to \$200,000 per project; one project per application

- Funding awards will be reallocated unless Flood Management work begins prior to November 1, 2020.
- Funding will not be distributed unless the project is fully permitted. Sponsor is responsible for providing permit documentation to IWRB staff.

Matching Funds for Projects:

- Entities requesting funding for flood management grant projects must provide at least 50% matching costshare funding with non-state dollars. Projects that include higher cost share amounts will receive a higher ranking during project evaluations
- In-kind services can be used for 30% of the total projects costs. Legal/Administrative in-kind services are limited to 5% of total project costs.
- EXAMPLE: For a \$100K project, sponsor would have to provide at least \$50K in matching cost share funding. Of the \$50K, the sponsor could provide up to \$30K in in-kind services of which \$5,000 could be in legal/administrative costs and \$20K in cash to meet the matching cost-share requirement)

Evaluation Criteria: To maximize the effective and efficient use of available funds, applications and sponsor's grant document will be evaluated, scored (135 point scale), and ranked according to the following criteria:

First Time Applicants (5 points)

First time applicants will receive points (5 points)

Effectiveness of Project (60 points)

- What is the urgency of the project and anticipated costs? (10 points)
- What are the objectives and benefits of the project? (10 points)
- How does the proposed project solution address the objectives? (10 points)
- How will the project measure success of its objectives, and describe the proposed monitoring plan. (5 points)

- Is the proposed budget and schedule realistic and is the budget appropriate for the scope of work provided? Has the applicant provided detailed construction expenses documenting how money will be spent to complete the project? (15 points)
- Are project sponsors using relevant and appropriate information to develop the proposed project? (Sponsor should include references to relevant studies, assessments, reports, management plans, etc.) How will the project account for expected future changes to hydrology, sediment regimes, or water supply? (10 points)

Readiness of Project (50 points)

- Lead sponsor of project is identified and there is a description of other affected stakeholders and jurisdictions. (10 points)
- Project sponsors will provide documentation that affected local stakeholders and jurisdictions have been consulted. If the project is located within a Flood Control District, the sponsor <u>must</u> provide documentation showing the Flood Control District supports the project, otherwise the project will be declared ineligible. (10 points)
- Specify cash matching funds that will be provided for the project, including any in-kind services. Indicate what funding sources are secured or pending. The applicant must provide at least 50% matching cost share funding with non-state dollars. In-kind services can be used for 30% of the total projects costs. Legal/Administrative in-kind services are limited to 5% of total project costs. (10 points)
- Projects that propose matching cost-share amounts above 50% will receive additional points in the ranking (1 point for each additional 1% increase up to 70% to receive up to 20 additional points).

Organization Capacity (20 points)

- What is the sponsor's history of successful accomplishments on projects similar to this one? The sponsor shall provide several past project examples, if possible. (10 points)
- What level of sponsor and consultant staffing will be directed toward the implementation of the proposed project? Discuss the number of sponsor and consultant staff and amount of time dedicated for each for the project. Will the project utilize volunteers? If so, how? Include brief resumes or list of qualifications for each member of the project team. (10 points)

Application Process:

Application Submittal Notice: April 3, 2020

Application Deadline: June 19 2020

Project Funding Recommendations: July 2020 Finance Committee

Funding Awarded: July 31, 2020 Board meeting

Payment Process:

- Funds will be distributed upon sponsor submitting funding reimbursement requests to the IWRB.
- Sponsor funding requests shall include a cover letter which shall include a description of the project activities, dates for performing the project activities, and contractor or supplier invoices.
- A total of 5% shall be retained from each payment request until the project has been completed, and the applicant has fulfilled their deliverable requirements. The 5% award-withholding will be included with the final payment request disbursement.

IWRB Districts are as follows:

District No. 1: Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho counties.

District No. 2: Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore and Owyhee counties.

District No. 3: Camas, Gooding, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia, Blaine, Lincoln, Minidoka, Lemhi, Custer and Butte counties.

District No. 4: Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bingham, Bonneville, Power, Bannock, Caribou, Oneida, Franklin and Bear Lake counties.

* No more than 50% (\$500,000) of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district. This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands.

IN THE MATTER OF RAFT RIVER BASIN HYDROLOGIC PROJECT TO SUPPORT ESPA RECHARGE AND MODELING EFFORTS

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR PHASE 2 COMPONENTS OF THE RAFT RIVER BASIN HYDROLOGIC PROJECT

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 547 passed and approved by the 2014 Legislature allocates \$5 million 2 annually through 2019 from the Cigarette Tax to the Idaho Water Resource Board's (IWRB) Secondary 3 Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund) for statewide aquifer 4 stabilization; and 5 6 WHEREAS, House Bill 256 passed and approved by the 2019 Legislature allocated \$5 million in 7 ongoing General Fund dollars to the IWRB's Secondary Aquifer Fundy to statewide water sustainability 8 and aquifer stabilization; and 9 10 WHEREAS, many aquifers across Idaho are declining or have existing or potential conjunctive administration water use conflicts, including the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA), which has been losing 11 12 approximately 216,000 acre-feet annually from aquifer storage since the 1950's resulting in declining 13 ground water levels in the aquifer and declining spring flows from the aquifer; and 14 15 WHEREAS, the State Water Plan, approved by the 2012 Legislature, recognized that 16 measurement, data collection, quantification and monitoring of Idaho's water supply and use are essential 17 for sound water resource planning, management and administration; and 18 19 WHEREAS, the Sustainability Policy Section of the State Water Plan identifies the need to obtain 20 more accurate water supply, water measurement and forecasting information, and a need to disseminate 21 water supply forecast to water users in cooperation with other federal and state agencies; and 22 23 WHEREAS, the State Water Plan includes a goal to accomplish managed recharge in the ESPA 24 averaging 250,000 acre-feet annually; and 25 26 WHEREAS, the 2016 Idaho Legislature passed and approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 136 27 directing the IWRB to develop the capacity to achieve 250,000 acre-feet of annual average managed 28 recharge to the ESPA by December 31, 2024; and 29 30 WHEREAS, the Raft River Basin contributes tributary underflow to the ESPA, was designated a 31 Critical Ground Water Area in 1963, and is experiencing large groundwater level declines. It contains 32 117,000 acres of agriculture dependent on a sustainable water supply and supports the only operating 33 commercial geothermal power plant in Idaho; and 34 35 WHEREAS, the last comprehensive hydrologic study of the Raft River Basin was conducted 40 36 years ago by the United States Geologic Survey; and 37 WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and the Idaho Geologic Survey 38 developed a proposal for a four-year hydrologic characterization of the Raft River Basin (Raft River Basin Hydrologic Project, "project") which involves data gathering and analysis, installation of stream gages and 39

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- 40 monitoring wells, water quality sampling, and development of a conceptual hydrologic framework and
 41 water budget; and
- 43 WHEREAS, IDEQ approved funding of a three-year DOE SEP for the IWRB to implement a variety 44 of tasks throughout the project that include the addition of up to 12 new aquifer monitoring wells and the 45 completion of a water quality sampling campaign for a total cost of \$832,000; and
- WHEREAS, the project is broken into multiple phases. The IWRB funded Phase 1 of the project in
 September 2019 for \$203,500; and
- 50 WHEREAS, Phase 2 will include development of a water budget and hydrogeologic framework 51 over three years at an estimated cost of \$375,000, and continuation of a contracted field technician for 52 one year at an estimated cost of \$100,000, and IDWR seeks funding from the IWRB to complete these 53 Phase 2 project components; and
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes expenditures not to exceed \$475,000
 in Fiscal Year 2021 from the Secondary Aquifer Fund for expenses associated with Phase 2 of the Raft
 River Basin Project.
- 59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB authorizes its chairman or designee, Brian Patton, to 60 execute the necessary agreements or contracts to implement the Raft River Basin Project.

DATED this 19th day of November, 2020.

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ROGER W. CHASE, Chairman Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST

VINCE ALBERDI, Secretary

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