



AGENDA

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Special Board Meeting No. 11-24

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

2:00 p.m. (MT) / 1:00 p.m. (PT)

Brad Little

Governor

Jeff Raybould

Chairman

St. Anthony

At Large

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen

Vice Chair

Lewiston

At Large

Dean Stevenson

Secretary

Paul

District 3

Dale Van Stone

Hope

District 1

Albert Barker

Boise

District 2

Brian Olmstead

Twin Falls

At Large

Marcus Gibbs

Grace

District 4

Patrick McMahon

Sun Valley

At Large

Idaho Water Center
Conference Room 602 C & D
322 E. Front St.
BOISE

Livestream available at <https://www.youtube.com/@iwrp>

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Allocation for Blackfoot to Minidoka Reach Gain Fund*
3. Non-Action Items for Discussion
4. Next Meeting & Adjourn

* Action Item: A vote regarding this item may be made at this meeting. Identifying an item as an action item on the agenda does not require a vote to be taken on the item. **Americans with Disabilities:** If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please make advance arrangements by contacting Department staff by email jennifer.strange@idwr.idaho.gov or by phone at (208) 287-4800.

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF ALLOCATING WATER
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT FUNDS

RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR NEAR
BLACKFOOT TO MINIDOKA REACH GAIN
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

1 WHEREAS, the Water Management Account (WMA) was created pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-
2 1760 and is administered by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) for certain purposes; and
3

4 WHEREAS, on July 1, 2024, through Resolution No. 32-2024, the IWRB approved a Fiscal Year 2025
5 spending plan for appropriations made to the WMA under following legislation:
6

- 7 • House Bill 285, Section 1; passed by the 2019 Idaho Legislature (FY 2020)
- 8 • Senate Bill 1121, Section 1; passed by the 2021 Idaho Legislature (FY 2022)
- 9 • House Bill 769, Section 6; passed by the 2022 Idaho Legislature (FY 2023)
- 10 • House Bill 361, Section 1; passed by the 2023 Idaho Legislature (FY 2024)
- 11 • Senate Bill 1411, Section 3; passed by the 2024 Idaho Legislature (FY 2025)
- 12

13 WHEREAS, the WMA Spending Plan considers projects currently identified on the IWRB's Regional
14 Water Sustainability Projects (RWSP) Priority List, Aging Infrastructure Grants, certain IWRB approved
15 loans, and other potential projects and programs; and
16

17 WHEREAS, in accordance with direction from the Idaho Governor and Legislature, the IWRB has
18 supported efforts to stop the decline of ground water levels in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA)
19 through the development of a managed aquifer recharge program and funding other projects intended
20 to reduce ground water use from the ESPA; and
21

22 WHEREAS, on August 27, 2024, Idaho Governor Little announced that Idaho would commit \$10
23 million to improve the long-term health of the ESPA and directed the IWRB to support this effort with
24 funds from the WMA in addition to other existing IWRB funding commitments for ESPA improvement
25 projects; and
26

27 WHEREAS, on September 13, 2024, the IWRB reallocated \$10 million of the \$70 million budgeted
28 for the future Dworshak/Clearwater River Pipeline project to ESPA improvement projects; and
29

30 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB further allocates \$5 million of the \$10 million
31 reallocated for ESPA improvement projects on September 13, 2024, to projects designed to improve reach
32 gains in the Near Blackfoot-to-Minidoka reach of the Snake River.
33

34 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IWRB will develop procedures for accepting
35 and approving project proposals for the use of this \$5 million.

DATED this 6th day of November 2024.

JEFF RAYBOULD, Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
DEAN STEVENSON, Secretary