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Water Resource Board

Considerations for CAMP Implementation Committee

Joint IWRB Planning and Aquifer Stabilization Committee

October 23, 2019

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Background of Implementation Committee Concept

CAMP document states: "*The Board will establish an Implementation Committee to assist in Implementation of the Plan. The Implementation Committee will assist the Board in the prioritization, development, implementation, and monitoring of management actions. The Implementation Committee will recommend actions and objectives to stabilize and improve spring flows and aquifer levels and effect changes in river flows. The Implementation Committee will include, but not be limited to, interest groups currently represented in the Advisory Committee. The Implementation Committee will also establish a coordination process that provides for the sharing of information on river and aquifer management actions and provides opportunity for public involvement. The Implementation Committee will serve at the pleasure of the Board and provide a forum for public participation. The Board's staff and/or contractors will facilitate the work of the Implementation Committee and provide the technical information needed for its deliberations. The Board will continue to make all final decisions concerning Plan project priorities, implementation, and funding.*"

Background of Implementation Committee Concept

- Implementation Committee was based on idea that water users would be assessed to pay for CAMP Implementation
- Idea was that assessed funds would flow to the Board's Secondary Aquifer Fund
- Implementation Committee would then help Board prioritize spending for aquifer management
- Draft assessment legislation (never passed) makes link clear
- Implementation Committee was to also serve other functions: public participation, provide information, build stakeholder support, etc.

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Background of Implementation Committee Concept

- Advisory Committee that helped develop CAMP was largely continued over as the Implementation Committee after Legislature approved the CAMP in 2009
- Implementation Committee met throughout 2009 to work on the assessment legislation and other items
- The assessment legislation was not passed by the 2010 Legislature
- Implementation Committee lost momentum and stopped meeting

Implementation of Aquifer Management Actions

Aquifer management actions being implemented, but differently than proposed in CAMP document

- ✓ Managed Recharge – state paying for and managing the recharge program
- ✓ Demand Reduction – GW users implementing reduction of use per IGWA-SWC Settlement
- ✓ GW-SW Conversions – being installed by water users where it makes sense
- ✓ Cloud Seeding – joint program paid for by Idaho Power, State, and water users

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Implementation Committee

Re-establishment of CAMP Implementation Committee has been requested by several parties, including:

- ✓ Idaho Power
- ✓ A&B Irrigation District
- ✓ North Side Canal Company
- ✓ Clear Springs Foods
- ✓ Burley Irrigation District
- ✓ Twin Falls Canal Company
- ✓ City of Twin Falls
- ✓ Trout Unlimited

Implementation Committee

- Given changed conditions, however, does the Implementation Committee envisioned in the CAMP document make sense?
  - ✓ Don't have central management of aquifer management actions
  - ✓ IWRB only has management over recharge and partial management over cloud seeding
- Other Committees working on parts of ESPA management exist:
  - ✓ IGWA-SWC Settlement Agreement Steering Committee
  - ✓ Recharge Program Environmental-Technical Working Group
  - ✓ Pending Committee – ESPA Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee formed by Director after final establishment of GWMA

Implementation Committee

- Do these other committees (partly) fill the role envisioned by the CAMP Implementation Committee?
- What does IWRB want the CAMP Implementation Committee to do? What is its function?
- Would the CAMP Implementation Committee create "Committee Overload" given the existing and pending committees working on ESPA matters?
- What are risks in activating CAMP Implementation Committee?
- What would gained by activating the CAMP Implementation Committee?

Implementation Committee

- What would be lost if CAMP Implementation Committee not activated?
- What do the requesting stakeholders want from the CAMP Implementation Committee?
- Would a committee with a more limited scope -- like a Recharge Program Advisory Committee -- be sufficient?

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Questions and Discussion