



Memorandum

To: Idaho Water Resource Board
 From: Remington Buyer
 Date: April 19, 2023
 Re: Environmental Resources Technical Working Group Meeting Report –Meeting #10

REQUIRED ACTION: None

Background

The Environmental Resources Technical Working Group (ERTWG) is established to study and discuss the potential impacts of Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) planned recharge activities on aquatic, wildlife, recreational resources, and on water quality, of the ESPA, Snake River and tributary water bodies. The working group may recommend actions to be undertaken by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to minimize and/or mitigate the potential impacts of managed ESPA recharge activities.

The working group is convened at least twice annually, to consider:

- impacts of past recharge activities on ESPA and Snake River aquatic, wildlife and recreational resources, and on water quality;
- whether additional information should be gathered, to better understand the potential impacts of past and/or future recharge activities on ESPA, Snake River and tributary water resources;
- whether protocols for managed recharge activities should be recommended to the IWRB, to ensure potential impacts of recharge activities on water resources are adequately considered, including potential impacts on ESPA discharges and Snake River flows necessary to support aquatic species and maintain aquatic and riparian habitats.

A steering committee was established for the working group, to develop a governance structure for the working group. In the summer of 2022, the steering committee determined that a meeting report should be drafted following the conclusion of regularly scheduled working group meetings. The written working group meeting report would be provided to the IWRB, to inform the Board of the findings of the working group. This report summarizes the discussions of the working group meeting held April 19, 2023.

Attendees

The following is a list of the individuals who attended the meeting:

| Individual | Association | Representation |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Remington Buyer | IDWR | Idaho Water Resource Board |
| Neal Farmer | IDWR | Idaho Water Resource Board |
| Tom Bassista | IDFG | IDFG |
| Marie Kellner | Idaho Conservation League (ICL) | ICL |
| Stephen Pfeiffer | Idaho Rivers United (IRU) | IRU |
| Kathryn Elliott | IDEQ | IDEQ |
| Nicholas Howell | IDEQ | IDEQ |
| Raphael Erickson | IDEQ | IDEQ |
| Sue Switzer | IDEQ | IDEQ |
| Travis Thompson | Barker Rosholt Simpson PLLC | A & B Irrigation District Burley Irrigation District Milner Irrigation District North Side Canal Company Twin Falls Canal Company |

Meeting Minutes

1. Remington Buyer started the meeting at 2pm with introductions before handing the presentation over to Neal Farmer, who gave a presentation on winter 2022/23 managed recharge operations, and the forecast for summer 2023 recharge operations.
2. Remington concluded the meeting by announcing the next ERTWG meeting will be November 1, 2023.