

Idaho Water Resource Board | Cloud Seeding

Cloud Seeding Program Authorization Criteria

I. Request for Authorization & Program Criteria

- a. Either a program's sponsor or its operator may submit a Request for Authorization to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB), or its designated representative, in written or electronic format.
- b. A program that receives funding or is otherwise sponsored in whole or in part by the IWRB (IWRB Sponsored Program) is not required to submit a Request for Authorization. However, IWRB Sponsored Programs must comply with the Terms of Authorization referenced in Part II.
- c. A Request for Authorization shall include a summary of the proposed program operations, including, at a minimum, the following information:
 1. Name and contact information of program sponsor(s), and operator
 - ii. The geographic area(s) of operation
 1. Target watershed(s)
 2. Map of program infrastructure, including general flight path(s) and/or approximate location of ground equipment.
 - iii. Seeding agent(s) proposed (*AgI, liquid propane, dry ice, other*)
 - iv. Method(s) of seeding
 1. Quantity and type of [each] ground generator, including rate of output for the disbursed material
 2. Quantity and type of [each] aircraft
 - a. Quantity, type, and amount of primary seeding agent for [each] pyrotechnic used
 - b. Description including quantity, type, and amount of primary seeding agent or rate of dispersion, for any other type of airborne seeding proposed
 3. Description and quantity of any other seeding devices proposed
 - v. Planned season of operations
 - vi. Operational experience
 1. Number of years the operator has provided cloud seeding services
 2. Geographic location(s) of operation
 3. Type of seeding operated
 - a. Winter or summer
 - b. Seeding equipment used (ground based, airborne, other)
 - c. Average number of seeded hours per season for each type of seeding equipment operated
 - vii. Number of meteorologists that will support the operation of the project or program, with summary of qualifications.
 - viii. Proposed criteria for the suspension of operations to prevent flooding, mitigate for avalanche risk, or any other risk that may be applicable to the area of operations.

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II. Terms of Authorization

- a. An authorized cloud seeding project or program shall meet the following criteria:
 - i. Maintain accurate records of all seeding operations, including periods of operation, location(s) of operation, number of seeding hours by device, and description of any periods of suspension.
 - ii. Follow all current and future regulations (state, federal) that may be applicable to the operation of the program.
 - iii. Review and/or update the project or program's operational suspension criteria at least every 5 years in accordance with existing conditions and industry standard practice.
 - iv. Program operator shall maintain insurance that covers a reasonable estimate of potential liability, for the duration of operations, with an insurance company properly licensed to do business in Idaho and shall provide the IWRB with a copy of its certificate of insurance or certified endorsements as applicable.
 - v. Submit an annual report on operations, or copies of NOAA Form 17-4 & 17-4A, to the IWRB by August 1. The annual report shall include, at a minimum:
 1. Period(s) of seeding operation
 2. Location(s) of seeding operation
 3. Number of seeding hours by device
 4. Description of any periods of suspension
 5. Copies of all required state or federal reporting documents
 - vi. Inform the IWRB, or its designated representative, through written or electronic communication of any changes to the program's operator, the general area(s) of operation, proposed period of operation, type of seeding device(s) used, or type of seeding agent(s) used in the operation of the program.