ATTACHMENT B

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session - 2021

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND DIRECTING THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD TO CONTINUE TO WORK EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH LOCAL WATER USERS TO COMPLETE A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT THAT RESOLVES CURRENT TENSIONS AND CONFLICTS OVER THE USE OF LEMHI BASIN HIGH FLOWS THAT, TO THE BEST OF THE ABILITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING PARTIES AND IN THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE AND RESOLUTION, IS CONSISTENT WITH PAST PRACTICES, FUTURE NEEDS, AND IDAHO LAW.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho State Legislature adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 137 in 2020 during the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth Legislature, directing the Idaho Water Resource Board, with technical support from the Idaho Department of Water Resources, to work expeditiously with local water users to develop a comprehensive settlement that resolves current tensions and conflicts that are the result of competing water supply demands in the Lemhi River Basin and that the comprehensive settlement, to the best of the abilities of the participating parties and in the spirit of compromise and resolution, is consistent with past practices, future needs, and Idaho law; and

WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution 137 further directed the Idaho Water Resource Board to report to the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature on implementation of the resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board, with technical support from the Idaho Department of Water Resources, retained two mediators to facilitate discussions with local water users, state agencies, state legislators, and other affected parties; and

WHEREAS, the mediators have conducted nine meetings and engaged in extensive shuttle diplomacy with the participating parties since June 2020; and

WHEREAS, significant progress has been made in the Lemhi River Basin settlement discussions, including the development of a framework for resolving the current tensions over the use of Lemhi high flows consistent with past practices, future needs, and Idaho law, and in the resolution of one major contested case in the basin, consistent with the framework; and

WHEREAS, the participating parties are supportive of continuing the current effort to develop a comprehensive settlement, consistent with the existing framework and the direction provided by Senate Concurrent Resolution 137.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we direct the Idaho Water Resource Board, with technical support from the Idaho Department of Water Resources, to continue to work expeditiously with local water users to complete a com-
prehensive settlement that resolves current tensions and conflicts over the use of Lemhi Basin high flows that, to the best of the abilities of the participating parties and in the spirit of compromise and resolution, is consistent with past practices, future needs, and Idaho law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Water Resource Board report to the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature on the implementation of this resolution, including any comprehensive settlement reached by the participating parties and any proposed legislation that is needed to implement any such settlement.