

5-17 Swan Falls Implementation Group Meeting Minutes

1:30 – Start of meeting, introductions

1. Swan Falls Implementation Group Charter:

Director made some non-substantive changes, and the current version is finalized and ready for signature. Idaho Power and the Attorney General's office are prepared to sign. Need someone from the Governor's office to brief the Governor on the charter.

- **Action Item:** IDWR will reach out to the Governor's Office to get signature, the other parties will sign after the Governor.

2. Swan Falls AADF

No violation of minimums occurred this spring, largely due to runoff from the Bruneau River and lower than average diversion from WD 2.

Upper Snake flow augmentation for this year is yet to be determined, but if it does occur it will be a maximum of 53KAF. If flow augmentation is provided from the Upper Snake, the timing will be soon (end of May). Flow augmentation is not included in the historical Milner to Murphy reach gain calculation.

The future projections of the Swan Falls AADF show a shortfall in July/August of this year within the uncertainty range of the forecast. The shortfall within the uncertainty range could be up to 2,300 AF.

- The group needs to address non-ESPA components (e.g. return flows from major canal systems) in future discussions

3. Trust Water Tracking

IDWR has identified 4,420 trust water rights. Filters have been utilized to identify trust water rights that are de minimis rights (e.g. stockwater, non-consumptive, mitigated). IDWR is creating a GIS map that will be published in the future.

- **Action Item:** IDWR will provide the list with filters applied to the group.

IDWR is unsure if a letter will be sent this year to trust water holders due to concern over staffing to support trust water holder inquiries following their receiving a letter. The group discussed whether a press release would mitigate the pressure on staff while providing information to trust water right holders. The decision remains with the Department and the Director.

4. Technical Work Group

IDWR presented its list of technical information/analysis needs from the Swan Falls Technical Working Group (TWG). The next TWG meeting is June 15. The TWG will evaluate the list, determine resources and timelines and report the TWG's plan to the Implementation Group.

- **Action Item:** Idaho Power will send edits/additions to the technical information needs list via email.
- **Action Item:** TWG will provide a summary of plan and timeline associated with addressing the list of technical information/analysis needs for the Implementation Group.

5. Other Business

IDWR is finishing the Basin 37 moratorium today.

IDWR plans on beginning work on a moratorium upstream of Swan Falls soon. The scope, and applicability of the moratorium is yet to be determined. It is anticipated that a moratorium will replace the existing moratorium upstream of King Hill and include the area from King Hill to Murphy. It is unclear if the moratorium will include surface or ground water.

6. Next Meeting – will take place the afternoon of August 3, 2022.
7. Adjournment – at 3:00pm