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Idaho Water Resource Board approves 10 flood management grants statewide

MOUNTAIN HOME – (July 25, 2022) – The Idaho Water Resource Board on Friday approved 10 flood management grants statewide at a cost of $1,069,988 at its July board meeting here in Mountain Home.

Fourteen projects were evaluated and scored by staff, according to the grant criteria. The top 10 projects recommended for approval came in just under the available budget of $1,070,000, which included $70,000 in carryover funds from 2021.

All projects must provide 50 percent matching funds and must be completed in the next year. The Idaho Legislature has made the Board's Flood Management grant program a permanent program with $1 million in annual funding.

The 10 projects approved by the Board in 2022 span location-wise from Madison County to Lewiston, Clearwater County, Rathdrum, and Boise. See brief summary below. Full detailed descriptions of each project proposed are available online on the IDWR web site.

- **Goose Creek Flood Project** - The Goose Creek Flood Control District requested $200,000 to provide a pathway for floodwater to pass under an existing irrigation canal without causing damage to the canal or interruption of irrigation service. The total project cost is $535,536.
- **City of Lewiston Flood Project** - The City of Lewiston requested $106,382 in state funds for a flood risk-reduction and prevention project. The total project cost is $212,705. The project will replace and upsize existing piping between 11th Ave and 12th Ave that has a history of backing up water in storm events, covering the road and flooding property.
- **Madison County Flood Control Diversion Project -** Madison County requested $126,392 in grant funds for a large flood-diversion structure on the Teton River. Total project costs are $252,784.
- **Boise River Project** - Flood Control District #10 requested $125,000 for the development of the Boise River Channel Maintenance plan. Total project costs are $250,000. This project will leverage the Boise River Management 2D Model Tool and engage stakeholders to determine long-term strategies for reducing flood risk in the District by maintaining channel conveyance.
- **Madison County Teton River Splitter Gate Project -** Madison County requested $47,859 in grant funds for the Teton River Splitter Gate Project. Total Costs for the project are $95,717. The

project will improve flood gates on the Teton River to manage water better at flood stage to eliminate or reduce flooding in nearby Sugar City and Rexburg.

- **Twin Lakes FCD 17 Debris Removal Project** - Twin Lakes Flood Control District #17 requested $8,000 in grant funds to remove fallen trees, limbs, and other debris from the channel of Rathdrum Creek. Total project costs are $16,000.
- **Squaw Creek Ditch Company Flood Project** - The Squaw Creek Ditch Company requested $125,000 in grant funds to move their canal away from the Squaw Creek streambed to prevent bank loss. Total project costs are $250,000.
- **Riverside Water & Sewer District Project** - The Riverside Water & Sewer District requested $200,000 in grant funds to repair a segment of riverbank next to the district's sewage lagoons adjacent to the Clearwater River. Total costs for the project are $440,388.
- **ESPAR in cooperation w/Madison County Flood Diversion Project** - The ESPAR requested $47,300 in grant funds for this project. Total project costs are $99,600. The purposes of this project are to reduce flooding in the Teton River during high water and provide incentivized managed aquifer-recharge by installing a water supply canal from the Wilford Canal into the Jenkins gravel pit near the Teton River.
- **Clearwater SWCD Garden Creek Project -** Clearwater SWCD requested $84,085 in grant funds for this project. Total project costs for the project are $176,458. This project will replace a stream-crossing culvert that plugged and overtopped during a flood event. The proposed project would rebuild 1.3 miles of road, install a stream crossing at Garden Creek, and rehabilitate the stream channel.

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