



# Rental Pools in Idaho

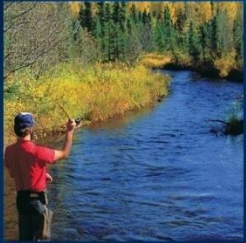
Inland Northwest Drought Forum

October 18, 2013

Brian Patton, Idaho Department of Water Resources

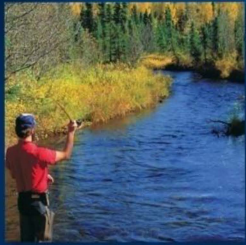
## Rental Pools

- In certain river basins storage systems were built and reservoir space contracted to various water-using entities
- First “informal” trades between storage spaceholders in 1919
- Rental pools provide a mechanism for storage space holders to make their storage available to others if they don’t use it all in a given year



## Rental Pools

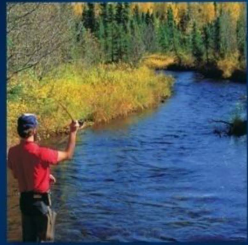
- Rental Pools allow temporary transfers of storage water allocations
- State's goals are to:
  - ✓ Encourage highest beneficial use of water
  - ✓ Provide water for new and supplemental uses
  - ✓ Generate funds to improve water facilities
- Temporary transfers of natural flow and ground water rights are handled through the Idaho Water Supply Bank





## Rental Pools

- First known rental of storage water between water users was in 1919 in Upper Snake Basin
- Statutory framework was formalized in 1979 as recommended in 1976 State Water Plan
- Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) is charged with\*
  - ✓ Creation of new rental pools
  - ✓ Appointment of Local Committee for operation
  - ✓ Approval of operating procedures
  - ✓ Oversight and review of operations



\*Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Rental Pool has different relationship due to Fort Hall Water Rights Agreement

# Rental Pools

- **Payette River Basin**

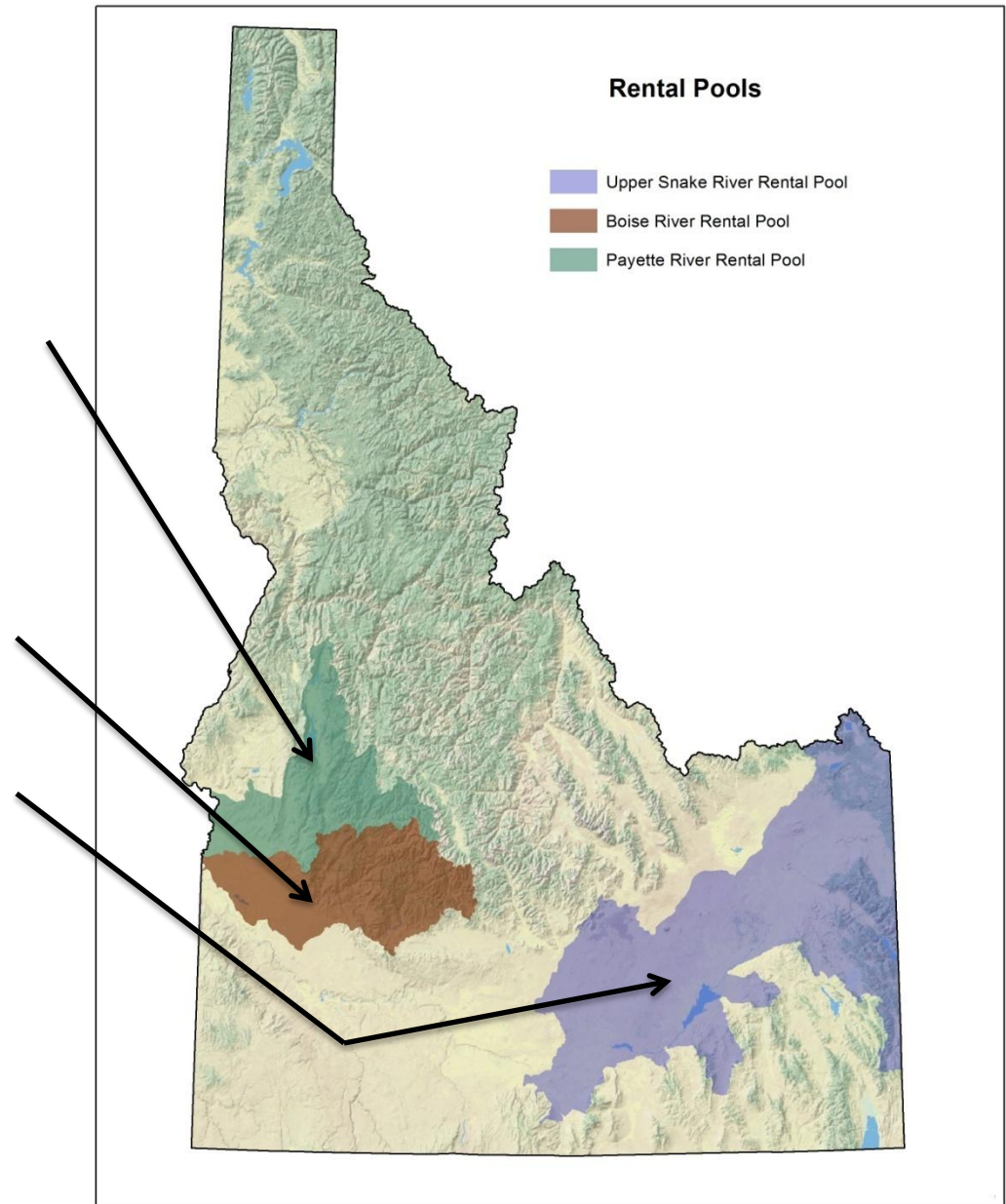
(Water District 65 and 65-K Rental Pools)

- **Boise River Basin**

(Water District 63 Rental Pool)

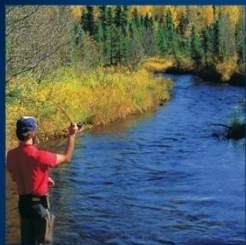
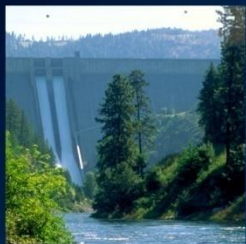
- **Upper Snake River Basin**

(Water District 1 and Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Rental Pools)



## Rental Pool Operations

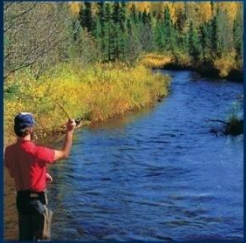
- IWRB appoints local committee to manage the rental pool (water district advisory committee)
- Local committee develops procedures for the operation of their rental pool, which require IWRB approval
- Procedures include pricing structure and other operational requirements





# Rental Pool Operations

- Local committees delegate daily management to Watermaster
- Annual Report submitted to IWRB



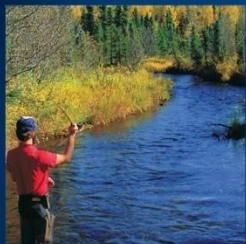
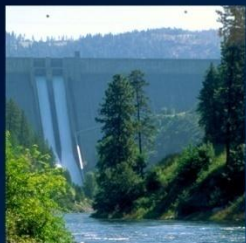
## Rental Pool Pricing

### •Boise (Water District 63)

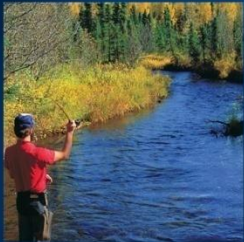
Total Price	Amt. to WD63	Amt. to Spaceholder	Amt. to IWRB
\$17/AF	\$1.30/AF	\$14.27/AF	\$1.43/AF

### •Payette (Water District 65)

	Total Price	Amt. to WD65	Amt. to Spaceholder	Amt. to IWRB
In-Basin	\$3.50/AF	\$1.30/AF	\$2.00/AF	\$0.20/AF
Out-of-Basin	\$17/AF	\$1.30/AF	\$14.27/AF	\$1.43/AF







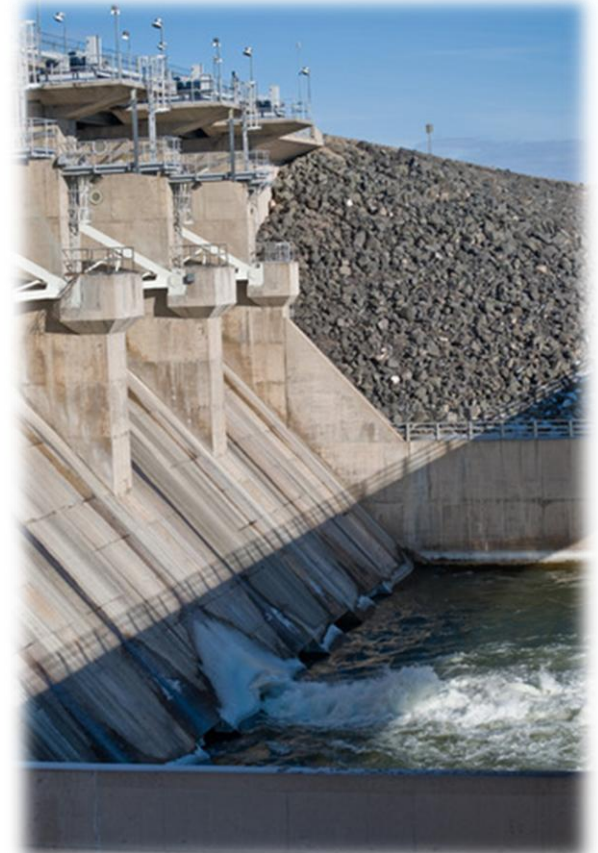
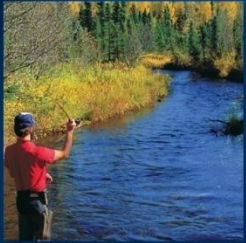
## Rental Pool Pricing

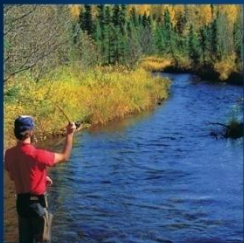
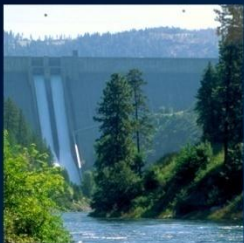
### •Upper Snake (Water District 01)

	Total Price	Amt. to WD01 Admin. Fee	Amt. to Spaceholder	Amt. to IWRB
In-Basin	Variable based on water supply	\$1.05/AF	Variable	10% of amt. to spaceholder
In-Basin Private Lease	Negotiated	\$1.05/AF	Negotiated	10% of amt. to spaceholder
Out-of-Basin Flow Augmentation	\$17/AF	\$1.05/AF	\$14.50/AF	\$1.45/AF
Out-of Basin Supplemental Pool (hydro)	Negotiated	\$1.80/AF	Negotiated	10% of amt. to spaceholder

## Rental Pool Pricing

- BOR's release of "uncontracted" space for downstream flow augmentation must be run through Rental Pools, but only Water District administration fee is assessed
- Price for flow augmentation water set by Nez Perce Water Rights Agreement
- The Water Districts use funds received for administration of Rental Pool and projects for more efficient distribution of water
- The IWRB uses funds received to provide loans state-wide for rehabilitation and improvement of water infrastructure





## Rental Pool Use

The use of the three rental pools (Boise, Payette, Upper Snake) averages as shown:

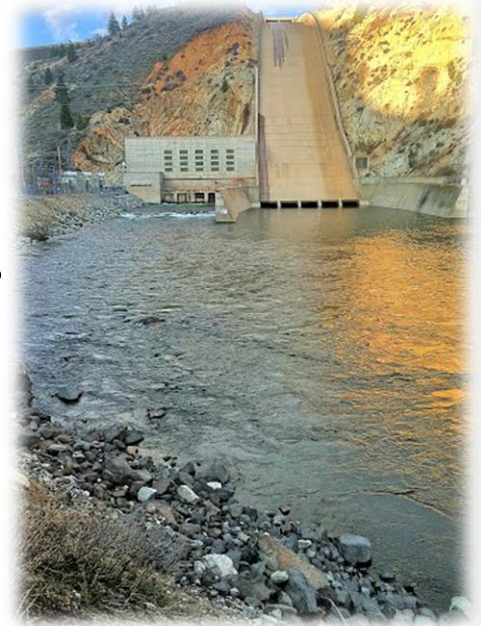
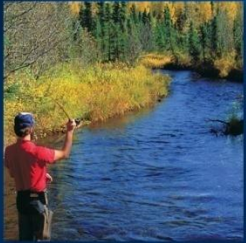
Rental Pool	Average Annual Rental Pool Use (past 10 years)*	Approximate Basin Storage Volume	Approximate Acres in Basin Irrigated by Surface Water
Boise	8,898 AF	1 million AF	300,000 acres
Payette	67,234 AF	800,000 AF	200,000 acres
Upper Snake	214,953 AF	4 million AF	1,200,000 acres

\*Does not include release of BOR uncontracted space



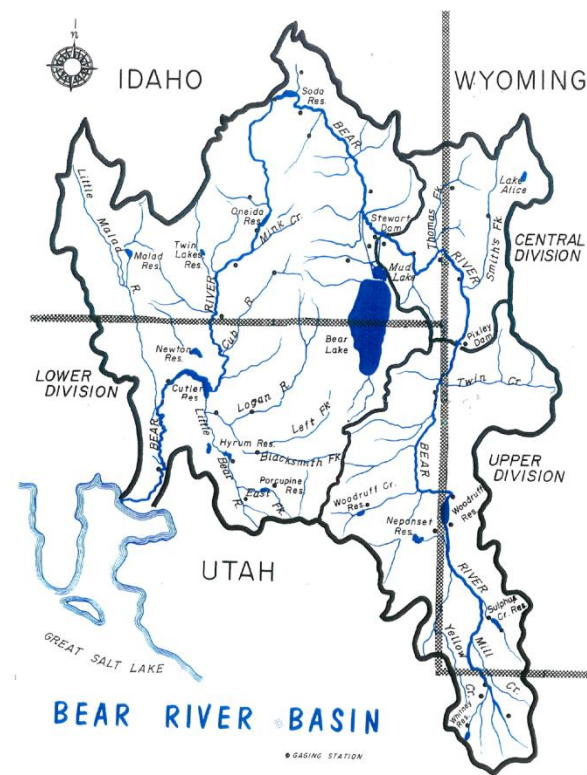
## Rental Pool Uses Over the Years

- ✓ Reallocate irrigation supplies among users
- ✓ Rentals from Upper Snake for hydropower in 1970's & 80's – still occur in good water years
- ✓ Rentals by BOR for downstream ESA flow augmentation began in early 1990's
- ✓ Rentals from Upper Snake by junior ground water users on Eastern Snake Plain to provide replacement water (mitigation) to senior surface water users began in early 2000's
- ✓ We expect growing M&I uses in Treasure Valley to make use of Boise Rental Pool in future



## Future Rental Pools?

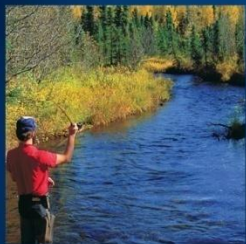
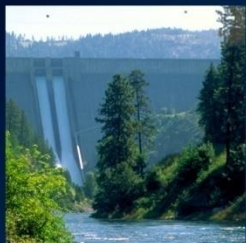
- Establishing Rental Pool in Bear River Basin has been promoted by Idaho
- Interstate nature of Bear River and interstate use of water stored in Bear Lake has complicated this issue



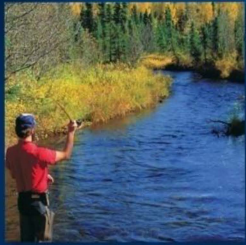


## Key Take-Away for Rental Pools

- Rental Pools provide flexibility in Idaho's major storage systems to accommodate changing needs for water, including
  - ✓ Reallocating irrigation supplies among users
  - ✓ Flow augmentation for downstream endangered species needs
  - ✓ Mitigation needs of junior ground-water users
  - ✓ Hydropower generation
- Accomplished in a way that provides funds to spaceholders, water districts, and the IWRB to improve water facilities







# Questions?