

Planning and Tech Services Division

1. Administrative Support for Idaho Water Resource Board. The administrative and clerical support necessary for Water Resource Board meetings, hearings, and other activities. (Manager Brian Patton)
2. State Water Plan. The Water Resource Board is responsible for developing and updating the statewide plan laying out policy direction for the development, management, and use of Idaho's water resources. (Manager Brian Patton)
3. Comprehensive River Basin Plans. The Water Resource Board is responsible for developing and updating river basin-level plans, which become components of the State Water Plan upon legislative adoption. Legislative adoption of a basin plan may establish "Natural" or "Recreational" protections for selected river reaches. (Manager Brian Patton)
4. Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plans. The Water Resource Board is responsible for developing Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plans (CAMP). The CAMPS determine what projects, programs, or management actions are needed in the various aquifers to ensure that water supply needs are met over the long-term. It is intended that the Water Resource Board, through its financing and project authorities, will actively implement the CAMPS. Upon legislative adoption, a CAMP becomes a component of the State Water Plan. (Manager Brian Patton)
5. Idaho Water Resource Board Financial Program. The Water Resource Board provides financing for water projects by canal companies, irrigation districts, cities, and others, or for projects undertaken by the Board itself, utilizing the Boards Revolving Development Account, Water Management Account, and its revenue bonding authorities. (Manager Brian Patton)
6. Water Resource Board Projects. The implementation, operation, and administration of Water Resource Board projects. The Board has the authority to construct, acquire, and operate water projects that it deems to be in the public interest. This includes management of the Board's storage, hydropower, and water rights assets. This includes undertaking projects in the Eastern Snake Plain area to reduce conflicts between competing water users, and undertaking projects in the Upper Salmon Basin to reduce conflicts between water users and the needs of endangered species. Also includes feasibility studies leading to projects, including the studies underway for potential new storage projects. (Manager Brian Patton)
7. Minimum Stream Flows. The appropriation of water for minimum streamflow purposes. The Water Resource Board is the only entity allowed to appropriate and hold water rights for the purpose of instream flow maintenance. (Manager Brian Patton)

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8. Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan Implementation. The passage of the ESPACAMP by the 2009 legislature through HB 264 charges the IWRB with implementing the ESPACAMP, designed to effectuate an average annual 200,000 –to- 300,000 acre-foot water budget change to the ESPA through a variety of projects and programs. Additional CAMPS, now under development for the Treasure Valley and Rathdrum Prairie aquifers, will likely have similar implementation requirements. (Manager Brian Patton)
9. State Water Bank and Rental Pools. The Board is charged with operating the State Water Bank, including storage water rental pools. The operation of the natural flow part of water bank is performed by the Water Allocations Bureau. For storage water rental pools the Board appoints the local Water District Advisory Committee to operate the rental pool. (Manager Brian Patton)
10. Water Resource Data Acquisition. Water resource data acquired by Technical Services primarily include water level measurements in wells, but also include measurements of aquifer properties via well tests, geologic logging, and flow measurements of springs, canals, and laterals. The measurements are part of monitoring ground water management areas, aquifer or basin studies, and assessing other projects or permit applications. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
11. Water Resource Data Management. The Technical Services Bureau develops and maintains databases to manage information so that it can be effectively used by the Department, other government agencies, and the general public. Most of the data are managed on a Microsoft SQL Server relational database system. Spatial vector data are maintained on the “X-Drive”, and imagery is maintained on the Y-Drive”. The analysis of multiple layers of data to perform complex integrations and to produce maps and other illustrations requires accurate and complete databases. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
12. Statewide Ground Water Quality Monitoring. The Statewide Ground Water Quality Monitoring Network consists of about 1,600 wells and springs in major aquifers. Approximately 100 of these sites are sampled every year. The remaining sites are sampled on a once-every-five-year rotational basis for a total of 400 sites annually. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
13. Environmental Data Management System (EDMS). EDMS is a database management system holding ground water quality monitoring results from 1600 wells and springs in the Statewide program and results from other state-funded monitoring. IDWR entered into the Idaho Ground Water Protection Interagency Cooperative Agreement in 1996 (revised in 2008) with other State agencies to facilitate cooperative ground water protection programs including agreements for submitting data to IDWR and for facilitating the efficient transfer of information. The database can be queried for test results via the IDWR web page. (Manager Rick Raymondi)

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14. Development of Spatial Data using GIS. The Geospatial Technology Section develops and maintains a natural resource geographic information system (GIS) and a comprehensive baseline water resources data system for Idaho. The spatial data developed include watershed maps and hydrography, inventories of irrigated and non-irrigated cropland classifications within irrigation district boundaries, and cropland acreages irrigated with sprinklers versus flooding. Multiple layers of data are correlated using GIS to perform investigations, examinations, and interpretations regarding water resource use, availability, storage, and distribution. GIS analyses have been performed to support the CAMP process and the Director's Orders. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
15. Remote Sensing and Image Processing. Remote sensing and image processing are used at IDWR to gather basic data and information covering large parts of Idaho, particularly with respect to the waterways and irrigable land in the state. Mapping of irrigated land using remote sensing is important to IDWR's role in water rights regulation, to the general understanding of irrigation practices, and to the Director's function in responding to Delivery Calls. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
16. Evapotranspiration (ET) Modeling. ET is the consumptive use of water evaporated from soil and transpired by plants and is an important and relatively large component of the water budget in basins where surface and ground water are diverted for irrigated agriculture. IDWR performs modeling using the METRIC (Mapping EvapoTranspiration at high Resolution and Internalized Calibration) energy balance model with Landsat data producing data and maps that quantify consumptive use. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
17. Water Right Accounting. The water rights accounting computer program is used to distribute the natural flow and the storage water according to priority in the Snake, Bear, Boise Payette and Big Lost River Basins. IDWR staff provide the technical support on all five basins and run the model for four of the basins. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
18. Geothermal Monitoring and Resource Evaluation. The Idaho Department of Water Resources is responsible for administering the State's low temperature and high temperature geothermal resources. Beginning in the 1970's, IDWR began geothermal data collection and studies. In the 1980's, three areas became stressed with respect to wellhead pressure/water level declines, and the Director issued Ground Water Management Orders for the Twin Falls, Boise Front, and Banbury geothermal areas. Since then, IDWR has maintained a comprehensive geothermal database and has worked with geothermal producers in attempts to stabilize declines in the aquifers. (Manager Rick Raymondi)

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19. River and Reservoir Simulation (Planning Model). The IDWR planning model was developed by the Hydrology Section as a tool to evaluate development and operational alternatives for the State's surface water supplies in support of the State Water Plan. The planning model uses a monthly time step of historic hydrologic data adjusted to present conditions of development. IDWR has used the model to run numerous studies including evaluation of new storage alternatives, enhanced flow studies, managed recharge water availability, curtailment scenarios, other ESPA CAMP water budget adjustments, and fish flow augmentation. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
20. Ground Water Modeling. Ground water models are used by the Technical Services Bureau to analyze complex aquifer systems and the interactions between surface water and ground water resources. Model results are used to facilitate the ESPA CAMP process, the evaluate mitigation plans, and in the Development of the Director's Orders. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
21. Water Supply Analysis/Forecasting. Water supply analysis and forecasting are used to manage our current water resources and to plan for the future needs. Both water supply analysis and our ability to forecast are part of the Director's Orders. This cost center also supports the development of the Comprehensive State Water Plan. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
22. Aquifer Management Plans (CAMPs) – Technical Studies and Monitoring. CAMPs are being developed for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer, the Spokane Valley – Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRP), and the Treasure Valley Aquifer. The Technical Services Bureau supports the planning process by performing necessary studies and testing to define aquifer conditions, by providing maps and other information to support decision-making, by developing and maintaining computer models to simulate aquifers and the river and reservoir systems, and by performing monitoring to obtain necessary information to support CAMP implementation. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
23. Hydrologic Evaluations. The Technical Services Bureau provides support and consultation to the Director and the Administrators, to the Idaho Water Resource Board, and to other Agency bureaus by performing hydrologic evaluations. Services provided include evaluating water right applications and transfers, performing ground water investigations, providing technical support to Watermasters, cooperating with the USGS in the investigation of water resources and gauging of stream flow, developing findings of fact for the Director's Orders, testifying in administrative hearings, and supporting the CAMP process. (Manager Rick Raymondi)
24. Maintain and Serve IDWR Data and Information to the Public. The internet mapping applications offered by IDWR vary in detail and scope, from the representation of water rights and location of wells to the prediction of water usage. IDWR map and GIS data publishing tools and applications make it easier for citizens to locate, query, view, and evaluate Idaho's water resources. The public can also download GIS data and print maps through our internet applications. (Manager Rick Raymondi)

Water Management Division

25. Applications for New Water Rights. IDWR evaluates applications for new water rights, including temporary water rights, and issues approvals or denials according to statutory criteria. This cost center also includes evaluating applications to amend water right permits. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
26. Water Right Licensing. IDWR conducts examinations to confirm the beneficial use of water established in connection with permits to appropriate water and issues water right licenses or voids the permits depending on the results of the examinations. This cost center also includes processing of proofs of beneficial use and requests for additional time to submit proof and certifying non-IDWR (private sector) water right examiners as components of the overall water right licensing program. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
27. Statutory Water Right Claims. IDWR receives and maintains records of claims to water rights established before the mandatory permitting requirement or established as an exception to the mandatory permitting requirement. This cost center includes some Notices of Diversion as an Alternative to Instream Stock Watering. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
28. Water Right Changes. IDWR evaluates applications to change the points of diversion, places of use, seasons of use, and/or purposes of use of water rights and issues approvals or denials according to statutory criteria. IDWR also processes similar applications for temporary changes in drought emergencies. This cost center includes extensions of time to avoid forfeiture and some Notices of Diversion as an Alternative to Instream Stock Watering. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
29. Water Right Ownership. IDWR records up-to-date ownership, mailing address, and security interest information for established water rights, permits to appropriate water, and applications to appropriate water. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
30. Water Supply Bank for Natural Flow Water Rights. On behalf of the Idaho Water Resource Board, IDWR operates a water supply bank allowing individuals to rent natural flow water rights that have been leased or sold to the bank. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
31. Water Right Record-Keeping and Customer Service. IDWR creates and maintains records of all water rights, makes the records available to the public in paper and electronic formats, and assists the public with water right research. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)

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32. Water Districts. Supervise distribution of water within water districts from public water sources including streams, rivers, reservoirs and ground water. Supervision includes assistance and support to water districts and watermasters to assure that districts are operated in a manner consistent with state law. Additional program duties include creation and/or modification of water districts; review, QA and maintain/archive annual water district reports, including water delivery records. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
33. Water Measurement. Implement requirements or orders for installation of measuring devices and controlling works in water districts, water measurement districts or other areas; establish and maintain minimum acceptable standards for measuring devices, and establish/implement standard and procedures for measurement and reporting of water diversions/water use; collect and archive water measurement data from diversions in water districts, water measurement districts or other areas, including development and maintenance of water measurement databases and applications to collect or report measurement data; and create and supervise water measurement districts. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
34. Water Right/Water Use Enforcement. Investigate potential unauthorized water uses in response to complaints from the public or as part of a systematic review of water use within water districts; enforce Department orders or requirements for installation of measuring devices and controlling works, as well as requirements for measurement and reporting of diversions; establish, maintain and document procedures for water right and water use enforcement, including enforcement of measuring device and controlling works requirements. (Manager Jeff Peppersack)
35. Adjudication Claims Investigation in SRBA. The statutory-based process IDWR uses to receive, review, and recommend to the adjudication court water right claims consistent with Idaho law. Presently, this process applies to late claims granted by the Court in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) and in the Northern Idaho Adjudications (NIA). The department serves as a technical advisor and assists the court, which will make a final determination resulting in a decree of water rights. (Manager Don Shaff)
36. SRBA Partial Decree Preparation. The statutory-based process IDWR uses to resolve objections to water right claims recommended in the Director's Report to the SRBA Court. Process is intended to provide a timely and organized approach to review objection(s) and resolve with the party filing the objection and any responses; failing that, the department serves as a technical advisor and assists the court which will make a final determination resulting in a decree of water rights. The cost center maintains the decrees of the court to have a single set of water right records for the state. (Manager Don Shaff)

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37. North Idaho Adjudication (NIA). The statutory-based process IDWR uses to catalog and confirm through the court all water rights in Northern Idaho and to which property those water rights belong, thereby binding all property owners and parties to the court decree of those water rights. IDWR is mandated to receive, review, and recommend to the adjudication court water right claims consistent with Idaho law. The department serves as a technical advisor and assists the court which will make a final determination resulting in a decree of water rights. (Manager Don Shaff)
38. Safety of Dams. The statutory-based process IDWR uses to assure that dam projects (and similar containment structures) do not pose unnecessary risks to the public, and are constructed in accordance with applicable safety standards. (Manager Chuck Galloway)
39. Floodplain Management. The process IDWR uses to plan, coordinate, and implement a statewide floodplain management program. (Manager Chuck Galloway)
40. Groundwater Protection. The statutory-based process IDWR uses to protect the integrity of the groundwater resource through a program of well permitting, driller licensing, and field inspection of well construction to ensure well drillers possess necessary knowledge and skills and constructs wells in a manner that prevents waste, comingling, or contamination. (Manager Chuck Galloway)
41. Stream Channel Protection. The statutory-based process IDWR uses to protect the state's streams and their banks against unnecessary and unauthorized alterations. (Manager Chuck Galloway)

Management Support Functions

42. Public Awareness. The public information cost center resides within the framework of the department's Management and Support program. Activities include responding to information inquiries from the news media, legislators, other agencies, water stakeholders, the general public and IDWR and IWRB staff. Public information participates in a strategic "issues management" role. Public information acts as an information "gate keeper" so IDWR/IWRB have one unified message that's approved and vetted by management. Media stories are also tracked and checked for accuracy with attempts to correct errors. Feedback is also provided to management and staff about IDWR/IWRB media content and assesses public reaction of management policy and program decision or rulings. (Manager Bob McLaughlin)
43. Human Resources. The process of conducting HR activities, including recruitment, hiring, retention, salaries, benefits, timesheets/payroll, job classifications, performance management, career development, problem solving, and disciplinary actions, according to statutes, rules and guidelines set out by the Division of Human Resources and the Division of Financial Management. (Manager Ranae Sanders)

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44. Financial. The process of managing and monitoring the financial activities for the department including the Idaho Water Resource Board. Activities include accounts payable, accounts receivable, budgeting, auditing, forecasting, analyzing data and reporting, based on sound financial principals, rules and regulations of the State of Idaho and policies established by the State Controller's Office. (Manager Debbie Allen)
45. Purchasing. The process of conducting procurement and property management activities, including products, services, and/or equipment by means of bidding or direct purchase, receiving, inventorying, and delivering goods, all in accordance with internal and State policy, rules and regulations. (Manager Janet Garrett)
46. Information Technology. The structured process that includes the study, design, development, implementation, support and management of computer based information systems, including both software applications and computer hardware. IT provides and maintains a contemporary system to allow department employees to convert, store, protect, process, transmit, and securely retrieve information necessary to accomplish the department's mission in an efficient and effective fashion. (Manager Glen Gardiner)