

Eastern Snake River Plain Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP)

Progress Report

ESHMC

October 28, 2008

Purpose

- ❑ Board established in Framework Plan that current supplies were not adequate to meet demand.
 - ❑ Legislature funded two year effort to complete a Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan.
 - ❑ Board hired professional facilitator and established an Advisory Committee to recommend a plan.
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CAMP Recommendations

- ❑ Long Term Goal of 600,000 acre feet average annual water budget change by 2030.
 - ❑ Phase 1 effort is 200,000 to 300,000 acre foot change in 5 years.
 - ❑ Adaptive approach that provides flexibility depending on opportunities, resources, changing needs and new information.
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Proposed Actions

- Ground Water to Surface Water Conversions.
 - Managed Aquifer Recharge
 - Demand Reduction/Conservation
 - Weather Modification
 - Minimizing loss of Incidental Recharge
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Implementation Recommendations

- ❑ CAMP Implementation Committee
 - ❑ Explore Clearinghouse to facilitate transactions.
 - ❑ Include Environmental Interests in process.
 - ❑ Develop education and outreach effort.
 - ❑ Consider Community and Industry growth needs.
 - ❑ Include enhanced monitoring and measurement to track project success.
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Conversions

- ❑ Equally above and below American Falls.
 - ❑ Include Soft and Hard conversions.
 - ❑ Opportunistically acquire water for conversions.
 - ❑ Identify and prioritize projects with emphasis on higher lift areas.
 - ❑ 100,000 average annual acre foot goal.
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Recharge

- ❑ 80,000 average annual acre foot goal.
 - ❑ 20,000 ac/ft above Blackfoot.
 - ❑ 30,000 ac/ft above American Falls.
 - ❑ 30,000 ac/ft Thousand Spring reaches.
 - ❑ Maximize uses of Board's Recharge water right, including the Wood River system.
 - ❑ Include storage water especially for late season above American Falls.
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Demand Reduction

- ❑ Buy-outs, Buy-downs and subordination agreements.
 - ❑ CREP, Fallowing and Dry-Year leasing.
 - ❑ Crop Mix/Rotation program.
 - ❑ Surface Water Conservation/Diversion and return flow reduction.
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Weather Modification

- 5 Year Pilot Program
 - Idaho Power providing leadership and resources.
 - Coordinate with on-going local effort already in operation.
 - Have made initial contact with Wyoming and will be working with local water users.
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Funding

- ❑ Phase 1, estimated \$35 - \$50 million over 5 years. Continuation of effort will require \$100,000 over 20 years.
 - ❑ 600,000 ac/ft change up to \$620 million.
 - ❑ Proposed costs 60% water users and 40% State.
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Phase 1 Funding

- ❑ Irrigated Agriculture, \$3 million/yr
 - ❑ Idaho Power, \$1-1.5 million/yr
 - ❑ Municipalities, \$700,000/yr
 - ❑ Spring Users, \$200,000/yr
 - ❑ Industrial, self-supplied, \$150,000/yr
 - ❑ Domestics, self-supplied, \$1.5 million/yr
 - ❑ State, \$1.5 to 3 million depending on how domestics included.
 - ❑ Federal, EQUIP, 2025 grants etc.
 - ❑ Recreation/Environmental, pursue funds for specific projects.
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Process

- ❑ Draft Plan is in progress and will be presented to Board October 29.
 - ❑ Advisory Committee to meet October 30 to finalize recommendations.
 - ❑ Board to meet November 5 and 6 to make final changes and adopt draft plan.
 - ❑ Draft plan presented to Interim Natural Resources Legislative Committee, mid-November.
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Process cont'd

- Draft plan will be posted and comments solicited.
 - Public meetings scheduled for December 2, 4 & 10.
 - Public Comment closes early January.
 - Board finalizes Plan and submits to legislature, mid January to early February.
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