



Hagerman Valley Springs Water Symposium

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10:00 am

Gooding County Extension Office
203 Lucy Lane
Gooding, ID

The purpose of the symposium is to begin to develop a plan to improve the spring flows in the Hagerman Valley. This plan will be submitted to the CAMP Committee and Idaho Water Resource Board. We will hear from experts the results of several studies and information that is available to prepare a plan that will attempt to solve the spring flow problems in the area. The goal is that after the presentations from those people who are knowledgeable in the hydrogeology of the area, the group of individuals who have been invited will be able to make recommendations to the local representatives of the CAMP Committee to improve spring flows. If the area is to see results improving spring flows it will take a concerted effort of all involved. People invited have considerable knowledge of the area and have already invested a great deal of time and effort in this project.

SPEAKERS

Neil Farmer, Special Projects Coordinator, IDWR

Mr. Farmer will discuss the results of the hydrogeology studies in the Hagerman Valley including the results of a test borehole directly above Curren Tunnel. This important information addresses the sensitivity of flow patterns in the springs of the area.

Alan Wylie, Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Model Specialist, IDWR

There is confusion on the resulting output of the ESPA model when changes are made based on the affect of changes in recharge and the impact of groundwater pumping. The lower Hagerman Valley springs do not appear to respond like the rest of the area. Mr. Wylie is an expert in how the model works and what it tells us. Interpretation of the results over time is an important consideration for making sound decisions and recommendations of where recharge should take place and how long it will take to affect an area.

David Clark, Idaho Water Center Associate Director, USGS

David has extensive experience in measurement of springs in the valley. His interpretation of what has caused the reduced spring flows and why they were much higher in this part of the valley before large scale surface or groundwater irrigation projects could help us understand how to correct the current low flows.

Dr. Gary Johnson, Associate Director, Idaho Water Resource Research Institute

Dr. Johnson and his colleagues have spent most of their careers studying the water in the Snake River and its tributaries. His knowledge of how the aquifer system works and what is unique in the Hagerman Valley will help participants make better recommendations to improve the decreased spring flows.

Bill Quinn, Aquifer Recharge Coordinator, IDWR

Bill Quinn, with IDWR, is responsible for coordinating all of the aquifer projects in Idaho. Before the IWRB had a recharge water right, the big question was "Where are we going to get the water?" This past year there was water available and the Board put it to use. Will this continue, and will the board continue to spread the water around as new sites are developed?

