

# IGWA Bulletin

AN IDAHO SHOW: FAMILY, FRIENDS, PARTNERS



#### NEW BEGINNINGS:

Three generations share Ryan Murphy's first IGWA Convention & Tradeshow. From left to right: Mike Murphy, Ryan, proud Granddad Ron Murphy and Gary Fulton of Boise Valley Pump & Well Drilling.



#### FRIENDLY FACES

Tyson, no prize for being the first to register, but we will put your picture in the newsletter. Our thanks to Wyo-Ben & all our trade show vendors.



#### INNOVATION

In the Pump House exhibit, attendees use virtual reality to test their driving skills and ability to install a Grundfos pump.

From November to April, our association gathers in different locations and venues. While the primary draw may be continuing education, it is also an opportunity to discuss the issues, challenges, and concerns facing individual well driller and the drilling industry.

In this issue of the *IGWA Bulletin*, a number of those issues are addressed. They range from water quantity to water quality, licensure, legislation, the environment, and innovative technology.

Whatever the location or the issue, a big part of the solution is an informed and active membership—in other words—YOU.



#### LONG-TIME MEMBERS

Frank and Sharon Skinner enjoy a quiet moment during the convention.



#### THANKS FOR COMING!

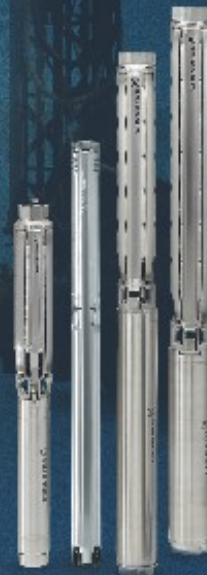
See you soon.  
LeRoy Palmer, AmeriWest Water Services, spoke at our March 6th CEC Workshop and will be in Nampa on March 22nd.



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## MEMBERS' CORNER



**House Bill 67 Low Temperature Geothermal Resources:** IGWA currently has a bill before the Idaho Legislature. The board worked with Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), Director Gary Spackman, and sponsor Rep. Terry Gestrin to develop House Bill 67, Low Temperature Geothermal. The proposed legislation gives the Director of IDWR more flexibility to exempt new geothermal water rights if certain conditions are met first. Those conditions include proposed uses for low temperature resources that do not affect pressure or heat value of other water rights. On February 13th, the bill passed from the House of Representatives to the Senate on 68-0-2 vote (0 opposition; 2 absent or excused). The Senate approved the bill 33-0-2 on February 28th. It is on its way to the Governor's desk.

**Limited Pump Installer's License:** The IGWA board is also currently working with the Idaho Division of Building Safety to determine whether IGWA can develop a Limited Pump Installer's license and test for the industry. Also under consideration is developing and offering a CEC class to prepare for that test.

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## **GOVERNOR LITTLE SIGNS TWO NEW EXECUTIVE ORDERS REDUCING REGULATORY BURDENS ON IDAHOANS**

Governor Brad Little held a press conference today (Jan. 31st) to sign two new executive orders aimed at reducing state regulatory burdens on Idaho citizens and businesses.

Executive Order 2019-02, the “**Red Tape Reduction Act**,” requires state agencies that have authority to issue administrative rules to identify at least two existing rules to be repealed or significantly simplified for every one rule they propose.

“Excessive regulation at all levels of government can impose high costs on businesses, inhibit job growth, and impede private sector investment,” Governor Little said in the executive order.

Idaho’s administrative code includes 736 chapters and 8,278 pages of regulations and at least 72,000 total restrictions. The three most regulated areas in Idaho are economic development with 3,018 pages of regulations, natural resources with 1,815 pages of regulations, and health and human services with 1,666 pages of regulations.

Executive Order 2019-02 also requires agencies to submit a business/competitiveness impact statement that identifies the impact any proposed rule will have on individuals and small businesses. It requires agencies to designate an existing employee as a Rules Review Officer to undertake a critical and comprehensive review of their administrative rules and identify costly, ineffective, or outdated regulations. The Division of Financial Management will provide Governor Little an annual report on “outlining the progress made in eliminating burdensome regulations and streamlining state government.”

Governor Little also signed Executive Order 2019-01, the “**Licensing Freedom Act of 2019**.” The executive order puts in place sunrise and sunset processes for future occupational licensing laws. The recommendations came from a report then-Lieutenant Governor Little finalized in 2018 outlining the scope of occupational licensing in Idaho.

The report found at least 442 different occupational license types administered by 13 executive branch agencies and 47 boards and commissions and at least 204,000 licensees in Idaho. The report identified 241 recommendations for improvement, modification, or elimination of licensing requirements or other regulatory burdens.

“Onerous and outdated regulations in state government present barriers to independence and prosperity for Idahoans,” Governor Little said. “The two executive orders I signed today help simplify Idaho state government and make it more accountable to citizens.”

*Feb 25 update:* – Less than one month after Governor Brad Little implemented the “**Red Tape Reduction Act**” through Executive Order 2019-02, progress is taking place to simplify and scale back Idaho’s administrative rules.

More than half of all agencies with rulemaking authority have identified their Rules Review Officer, and all of them will be in place by March 1. In addition, the Division of Financial Management just wrapped up its first training session for agency Rules Review Officers last Friday, and additional trainings will continue throughout March and April.

In just 20 years, from 1998 to 2018, the number of restrictions in Idaho administrative code grew more than 32 percent and added nearly 2,000 pages.

Executive Order 2019-02 also requires agencies to submit a business/competitiveness impact statement that identifies the impact any proposed rule will have on individuals and small businesses. The Division of Financial Management will provide Governor Little an annual report on outlining the progress made in eliminating burdensome regulations and streamlining state government.

*IDWR spent one year reviewing its licensing program and processes. Their findings indicate that the process is already streamlined. This is partly due to a close working relationship with IGWA to develop the rules that govern well drilling in Idaho. IDWR’s report was filed with the Governor’s office and is available for IGWA members as well. The study demonstrated that program fees do not cover the cost of licensing and inspection.*

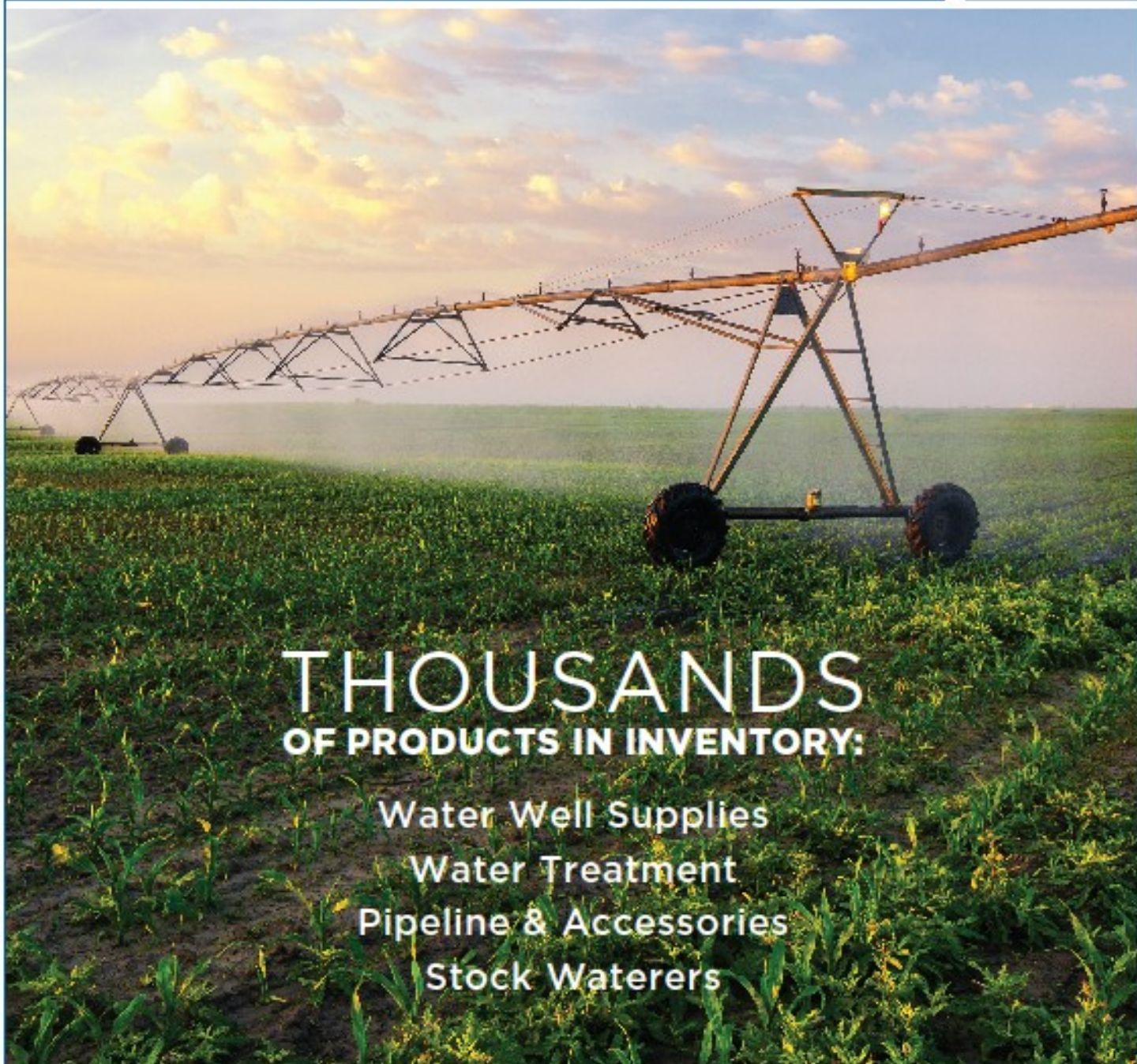




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### **NGWA Develops PFAS Resource Center**

A new online resource center on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) has been developed by the National Ground Water Association.

Located on the home page as well as under the “All About Groundwater” tab at [www.NGWA.org](http://www.NGWA.org), the resource center includes:

- A PFAS FAQ sheet
- Top 10 facts about PFAS
- NGWA’s involvement in PFAS at the federal level
- A homeowner checklist
- A list of EPA community events.

NGWA also published *Groundwater and PFAS: State of Knowledge and Practice*, a guidance document on PFAS. The guidance document, created by 36 NGWA volunteers who spent 1100 hours on it over 12 months, is a comprehensive eight-part piece exploring the potentially hazardous, and widely discussed, compounds in groundwater and soil.

NGWA published the document to identify the known science and knowledge related to PFAS compounds. It summarizes the fate, transport, remediation, and treatment of PFAS, as well as current technologies, methods, and field procedures. It can be purchased in the NGWA Bookstore at [www.NGWA.org/Bookstore](http://www.NGWA.org/Bookstore).

NGWA is also hosting educational events on PFAS this year:

- [PFAS in Groundwater Workshop: The Professional’s Challenge](#), June 18 in Westerville, Ohio
- [The PFAS Management, Mitigation, and Remediation Conference](#), June 19-20 in Westerville, Ohio
- [PFAS in Groundwater Workshop: The Professional’s Challenge](#), December 5 in Las Vegas, Nevada.





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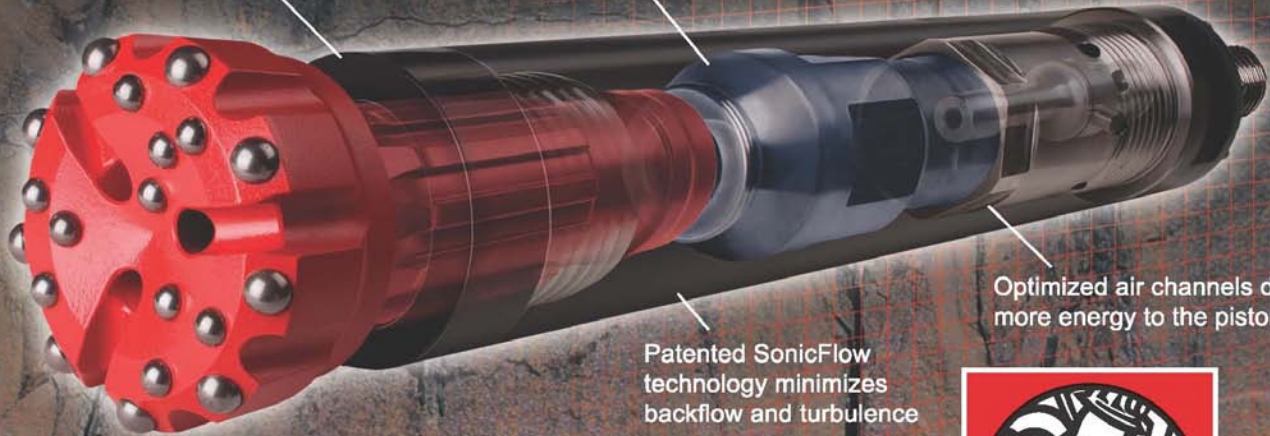
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## IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD EXPECTS TO RECHARGE 170,000 ACRE-FEET OF WATER INTO THE EASTERN SNAKE PLAIN AQUIFER IN WINTER 2018-19

BOISE - (Nov. 30, 2018) – The Idaho Water Resource Board is projecting that it will recharge approximately 170,000 acre-feet of water into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) in Winter 2018-19, a lower amount than the 250,000 acre-foot annual goal mainly because of limited water availability, combined with construction projects and canal maintenance requirements, officials said at the board meeting this week.

The board's four major Magic Valley-area partners will have shorter recharge seasons this year because of existing construction and maintenance projects in the Milner pool affecting Southwest Irrigation District, Milner-Gooding Canal, North Side Canal and Twin Falls Canal, said Wesley Hipke, recharge project manager for the board.

The board set a record in Winter 2017-18 by recharging more than 525,000 acre-feet of water into the ESPA, more than doubling the average annual goal. In June last year, hydrologists with the Idaho Department of Water Resources noted that the ESPA rose by more than 1.7 million acre-feet in one year, the largest single-year increase in 80 years. The increase was due to ESPA recharge efforts, two consecutive robust winters, the 2015 water settlement between the Surface Water Coalition and the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators (IGWA), and surplus water from high reservoir storage.

The board has recharged 63,293 acre-feet of water into the ESPA so far this year, Hipke said. The Winter 2018-19 recharge season began in mid-August, and recharge water from nine sites in the Upper Snake River Valley led to 57,147 acre-feet of water flowing into the ESPA from that region, he said.

Having only average reservoir carryover this year in the Upper Snake, combined with construction and maintenance constraints, will likely lead to a smaller volume being recharged into the aquifer, he said. Looking back to previous years with average reservoir carryover and projected drier El Nino winters, the board was only able to recharge 60,000-70,000 acre-feet of water into the aquifer. The higher amount projected for this year is due to expanded recharge infrastructure and more participating canals, Hipke said.

He added that once the construction projects are complete on Milner-Gooding Canal and the North Side Canal, the board will have even larger capacity for recharge when surplus flows exist. The board has spent more than \$20 million dollars from 2013 through fiscal year 2019 on recharge infrastructure improvements to increase managed recharge throughout the ESPA. For fiscal year 2019, the IWRB budgeted \$8 million for managed recharge infrastructure projects and investigations.

In a related issue, officials notified the board that under the 2015 water settlement, IGWA more than doubled the amount of water it was obligated to conserve under the settlement with a reduction in use by 512,508 acre-feet of water. The annual target is 240,000 acre-feet, or a reduction of 13 percent among all ground water districts in the ESPA region.

“They knocked it out of the park,” said Brian Ragan of IDWR’s Water Distribution Section.

*Continued on page 15*



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My friends,

It was great getting the chance to meet with you all again this year at the annual convention. I always enjoy presenting a class for you. I thought that this would be a great time to recap the major points, according to the state of Idaho, to create an effective loss prevention program.

### **1. Establish a Management Safety Policy**

Make a written commitment that safety and safe work procedures have a high priority, and that supervisors and employees are to be responsible and accountable for safe work practices and procedures. Sign and distribute your commitment to all employees and post a copy in the workplace.

### **2. Assign key employees responsibility AND authority for safety**

Assign supervisors the responsibility and authority to develop safe work procedures, recognize and correct physical hazards, train employees, and enforce safety rules. Hold supervisors accountable for active involvement in the safety activities listed below.

### **3. Identify, eliminate, or control hazards**

Conduct self-inspections on a regular basis to identify, eliminate, or control physical hazards and unsafe work procedures. Follow up to ensure corrective measures are taken.

### **4. Report and investigate all "near miss", property damage, and injury situations**

Ensure employees know how to report all incidents promptly so supervisors can conduct thorough and objective investigations to determine causes, recommend or make corrections, and capture accurate information. Keep records for follow-up and reference.

### **5. Train supervisors and employees in safe work procedures and job hazard identification**

Supervisors may need training in how to determine safe work practices, performing step-by-step job safety analysis, and detecting hazardous exposures. Employees need to be trained to perform routine tasks safely as well as how to operate specialized or sophisticated equipment.

### **6. Schedule safety meetings or group safety training and encourage worker participation**

Hold safety meetings that involve supervisors and employees in safety planning, enhance safety consciousness, and act as a forum for suggestions and discussions to improve safety and operational procedures. If general staff meetings are held regularly, include safety as a standing agenda item.



## **NEWS FEATURE**

### **7. Establish a Claims Management and Early Return-to-Work Program**

Select a Designated Medical Provider, develop a plan to monitor claim activity, communicate with injured employees and the Claims Examiner, and identify appropriate modified duty assignments whenever possible.

### **8. Make Safety a performance issue**

Use the safety activities outlined in your safety program to make Safety a specific performance area addressed in your written and verbal employee evaluations. Focus on participation in and compliance with your safety program, rather than simply on whether or not an accident occurred.

### **9. Maintain accurate, up-to-date records**

Accurate, up-to-date records provide a ready reference for needed or requested information. Records also help you meet statutory reporting requirements and measure progress in loss prevention, training, and production goals.

### **10. Review, assess, and communicate outcomes**

Review your safety activities and outcomes regularly to assess effectiveness. Celebrate successes, acknowledge opportunities for improvement, encourage involvement, and determine future steps. Communicate results to all staffing levels. These are some simple (or maybe not so simple), steps to improving your company and the safety of your employees.

Other resources for you to look at are: [WWW.idahosisif.org](http://WWW.idahosisif.org) , [WWW.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance\\_assistance/sampleprograms.html](http://WWW.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/sampleprograms.html) and [WWW.cals.uidaho.edu/agsafety/frmsaf01.pdf](http://WWW.cals.uidaho.edu/agsafety/frmsaf01.pdf)

Now that you are in your own space, I hope you can contemplate a little bit about what we spoke about.

Thank you for the time to speak to you.

Have a great season and be safe.

Mike

Mike Lewis, a certified EMT for over 25 years, grew up on a dairy farm in southern Idaho and traveled the world before returning to Idaho where he farmed with his family





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## LEWISTON PLATEAU DEEP AQUIFER STUDY PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO AREAS WHERE GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT MAY BE SUSTAINABLE OR LESS RELIABLE

BOISE - (Nov. 30, 2018) – Portions of the Lewiston Plateau deep aquifer that are hydraulically connected to the Snake River or other surface waters are going to be more reliable for sustaining long-term ground water pumping than areas that have little to no hydraulic connection to surface water, the study author told the Idaho Water Resource Board on Wednesday.

Dale Ralston, Ph.D., of Ralston Hydrologic Services, said the areas of the Lewiston deep aquifer that are closer to the Snake and Clearwater rivers hold more promise than areas farther to the south that are not recharged by surface water and involve pumping more than 1,500 feet to reach water.

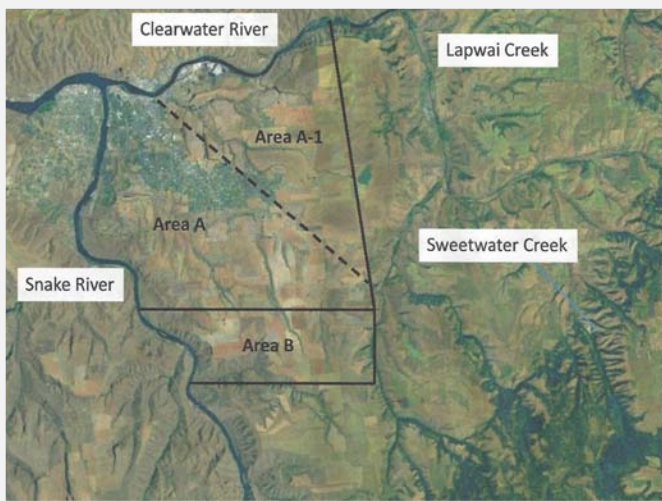
“As you go south, the take-home message is that it gets a little bleak,” Ralston told the board. “It’s not a pretty picture for long-term development.”

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, a Lewiston-based member of the board, said she found Ralston’s report illuminating. “This report is very important for our area. There are some subdivisions out there to the south, and their water supply may not be sustainable in the long-term,” she said.

The Idaho Legislature passed SCR 137 in 2016 directing the board to undertake a study of the Lewiston Deep Aquifer to determine if there is a sustainable long-term water supply. The Ralston study was authorized by the board in late 2016. Phase 1 of the study was completed in 2017, and Phase 2 was completed in late 2018.

Ralston said the purpose of the study was to develop a better understanding of the hydrogeologic setting and ground water recharge characteristics in the eastern and southern portions of the Lewiston Plateau GWMA.

The study involved the collection and analysis of geologic and hydrologic data with an emphasis on the hydraulic connection of aquifers with surface water streams including, the Snake River, Clearwater River, Lapwai Creek, and Sweetwater Creek.



“Aquifers that receive recharge only from surface sources (precipitation and irrigation) have a much less potential for large-scale well development than aquifers that are hydraulically connected to surface water systems,” he said.

Ralston provided a map showing the areas of the deep aquifer that held the most promise for sustainable use, and those that did not.

The area labeled as Area A on the map held the most potential for sustainable use, Ralston said, while Area A-1 had less potential in southern portions of the zone, and Area B would be problematic.

In other action, the board received an update on the Priest Lake Water Management Project, indicating that preliminary engineering, design and permitting work are proceeding on schedule.

A Steering Committee has been meeting on a regular basis to guide the process, said Neeley Miller of the board planning staff, and a public meeting/open house was well attended in late September. The consultant will continue to work on preliminary design and permitting tasks through mid2019, Miller said, final engineering and design is expected to be completed in late 2019, and construction should begin as early as 2020.

*Idaho Water Resource Board contact: Brian Patton, Chief, Planning Bureau, 208-287-4800*



### ***ESPA recharge cont.***

IDWR independently verifies the amount of water conserved by ground water users under the settlement agreement by monitoring 20 sentinel wells. IGWA's own accounting showed that they had reduced ground water use by 474,078 acre-feet.

The conservation gains reduce depletion of aquifer volume and will help IGWA meet future milestones in the settlement agreement, Ragan said.

In other action, the board was informed that a new study, called the "Treasure Valley Managed Recharge Feasibility Study," is getting under way to assess the potential for managed aquifer recharge in the valley. The \$200,000 study will be conducted by consultant Brown & Caldwell.

The study will examine how much water is potentially available for managed recharge, what locations may hold promise for recharging aquifers, and infrastructure requirements for developing recharge sites. The study is expected to be complete in late summer or fall 2019.

Idaho Water Resource Board contact: Brian Patton, Chief, Planning Bureau, 208-287-4800

### **Idaho Water Resource Board lauds ESPA cities settlement agreement that contributes 7,650 acre-feet annually to help restore the ESPA**

BOISE - (Jan. 31, 2019) – Idaho Water Resource Board officials lauded a recent agreement signed by 16 cities located in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) region at its regular board meeting last week. In the agreement, the cities committed to contributing an average of 7,650 acre-feet of mitigation water to the board's ESPA managed recharge program on an annual basis to do their part to restore the aquifer to sustainable levels.

Cities participating in the agreement include Bliss, Burley, Carey, Declo, Gooding, Hazelton, Heyburn, Idaho Falls, Jerome, Paul, Pocatello, Richfield, Rupert, Shoshone and Wendell.

The City of Pocatello will administer the cities' recharge water program through its water right in Palisades Reservoir, officials said. Each participating city will report the amount of water pumped from the ESPA to the board annually, said Candice McHugh, an attorney representing the cities.

The agreement is fair, and it provides room for all of the cities in the ESPA region to grow, McHugh said. Contributing 7,650 acre-feet per year is "very doable," she said. The cities encourage the board to use the cities' recharge water where it will be most beneficial, she said. The agreement also gives the cities safe harbor from any future legal water delivery calls. Other cities are welcome to join the group as time goes on, she said.

"We are really encouraged that the cities have come up with this plan. We are pleased to work with them on ESPA recharge," said Water Board Chairman Roger Chase.

Chase also encouraged the cities to conserve water and create water-metering programs where that does not occur at the present time.

*Idaho Water Resource Board contact: Brian Patton, Chief, Planning Bureau, 208-287-4800*

# COMMUNITY MILESTONES

**IGWA ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:** President David Baker, Apex Drilling; Vice-President John Bishop, Bishop Well Drilling; Director Rod Hendricks, Independent Drilling; Associate President John Sexton, Adamson Pump & Drilling; Associate Vice-President Sam Navarro, Adamson Pump & Drilling; M&S President Chad Draper, 2M Company Inc.; M&S Vice-President April Teague Tyner, Teague Mineral Products

**NEW CEC CHAIRMAN & COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Chairman Tom Richardson, H<sub>2</sub>O Well Service; Andy Clarke, Coonse Well Drilling, Eric Forsmann, Stuvenga Vessey Well Drilling. Other CEC committee members include Kelly Clovis, Independent Drilling and Tom Neace, IDWR.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE:** We would like to recognize out-going President Legrand Baker, Pump Service; Director Dan Denning, Denning Well Drilling; M&S President Trey Spath, Pentair; Associate Vice-President Curtis Johansen, Pump Service; CEC Chairman David Baker, Apex Drilling.

## HAPPY LANDINGS



**Mark Scheufler, 2M Company, Inc.:** I've talked about this for a couple of years but, **Yes, I am really retiring as of Dec 31, 2018.**

I will be just going down my to-do list to finish up on some remodeling on the house, getting the boat ready for fun and fishing and making room for an airplane when we find something we like. My wife Cheryl and I are both private pilots and we enjoy this experience together just to see the country from a birds eye view.

We purchased a spot west of Spokane, WA that is 2 minutes away

from Lake Roosevelt and our house is right on a nice grass air strip. So I plan on staying occupied and we plan on some travel in between having fun. It has been my privilege to share my experiences with the IGWA family. Best for the future for your organization.

**AND !**

**Don Shepherd, Rockmore International:** Don also retired in December 2018. His plans include spending time enjoying his grandkids.

**CRISIS FUND AUCTION & RAFFLE:** First we would like to thank everyone who donated and participated in the Crisis Fund Auction and 50-50 Raffle. This year the Auction and Raffle raised over \$6,000.

**IGWA WINNERS:** Congratulations to Door Prize Winner, Anthony Pearson, CEC Raffle Day 1 Mystery Winner \$100 Gift Card, CEC Raffle Day 2 Zach Loman, \$200 Gift Card, 50-50 Raffle Kurt Carlson.

## **Make Your Voice Heard at 2019 NGWA Groundwater Fly-In and Water Resources Congressional Summit:**

The 2019 NGWA Groundwater Fly-In and Water Resources Congressional Summit was held March 5-6 in Washington, D.C. The event was under joint sponsorship with the Irrigation Association and the Water Quality Association.

The 2019 focus topics and schedule included: A briefing session on the major issues facing groundwater professionals; Guest speakers from Capitol Hill, the Administration, and others; A day of Capitol Hill meetings arranged by NGWA staff; A networking reception with colleagues from IA and WQA; Tips for continued grassroots activities back home.





## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

**Len Assante Scholarship Program:** The Len Assante Scholarship Program was developed to nurture and support those who wish to pursue and advance careers involving the protection, distribution, remediation, and responsible utilization of groundwater resources.

**Eligibility:** Scholarships are for full-time students only (including high school seniors who are applying for scholarships to be used in their first quarter or semester of post-secondary study).

**Field of Study:** Applicants should be enrolled in a program that is groundwater industry-related, such as hydrogeology, water resource management, water well construction and supply, geology, etc.

**Award Amount:** Scholarship amounts are dependent on available funds annually.

**Application Period:** February 1 - April 15, 2019 Application forms available at [www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org)

**Farvolden Scholarships:** Farvolden Scholarships are made in memory of Robert Farvolden of the University of Waterloo and former National Ground Water Association Director of Science and Technology

**Eligibility:** Scholarships are for full-time students that submit an abstract for a poster/platform presentation at NGWA's Groundwater Week Summit. All such students whose abstracts are accepted for presentation will be evaluated at the event by two or more judges. The four students with the highest scores will receive the Farvolden Scholarships.

**Field of Study:** Applicants should be enrolled in a program that is groundwater industry-related, such as hydrogeology, water resource management, water well construction and supply, geology, etc.

**Award Amount:** Four \$500 scholarships are awarded

**Application Period:** Poster session submission deadline is April 21, 2019  
Groundwater Week

Poster Submission Information see [www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org)

**Questions?** Call 1-800-858-4844 or email [info@groundwater.org](mailto:info@groundwater.org)

### **Our Contact Information**

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Founded in 1985, the Groundwater Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operated by the National Ground Water Association that connects people, businesses, and communities through local groundwater education and action, making us all part of the solution for clean, sustainable groundwater.

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**IDAHO GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION  
ANNOUNCES  
2019 SPRING  
CEC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

**March 22, 2019  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
5750 E Franklin Road  
Nampa, ID**

**April 26, 2019  
Red Lion  
621 21st Street  
Lewiston, ID**

**Registration now open. Members \$85 Non-members \$135  
More information @ [www.igwa.info](http://www.igwa.info) or call 208 381-0294**

**Free Online Course Covers Selection and Operation of Meters with  
Pump Systems**

Groundwater professionals can take a free online, self-paced course covering the selection and operation of meters for safe and successful electrical troubleshooting of water well pump systems. The course should be able to be completed in 30 minutes.

It addresses topics such as: basics of electricity; voltage, current, and resistance; Ohm's law; phases; types of meters; new installation and troubleshooting; and more.

To register, visit [www.NGWA.org/detail/online-course/selection-and-operation-of-meters](http://www.NGWA.org/detail/online-course/selection-and-operation-of-meters).