

Integrated Techniques for Enhanced Water Resource Management

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Idaho and the other western states face water resource challenges. Our climate appears to be changing, and water stored in snow packs is declining in many basins. Demands for water are increasing with new requirements for instream flows, water quality, expanded urbanization, and a variety of consumptive uses. Enhanced conservation and better flow management will help, but these techniques are not sufficient. An integrated approach which combines many techniques is needed. This presentation portrays the existing situation in Idaho, describes upcoming challenges, and provides examples of opportunities for enhanced water resource management in three example river basins – the upper Snake, the Wood, and the Boise.