

Water Exchange Collaborative

Agricultural sub-group meeting

September 14th in Shoshone

Attendants: Bill Hazen, Lynn Harmon, Mark Davidson, Pat Purdy, Jerry Bashaw, Brett Stevenson, Keri York, Dayna Gross, Carl Pendleton, Kristy Molyneux

Objectives:

- What is the demand (pretty much covered in previous meeting)
- Projects to reduce demand
- Lead? Person to report back to the larger group

We started the meeting talking about confidentiality and Mark mentioned that Peter would be drafting a confidentiality agreement.

Big Wood canal company has hired a consultant to figure out their loss and injury numbers.

Efficiency projects in the south:

- Big Wood canal company is keeping busy doing projects in the Richfield area
- Makes sense to pipe laterals, but main canals are probably too big and expensive
- Higher loss in laterals than mains
- Satisfying some of the water rights off the Dietrich Main with Milner Gooding new branch instead would free up about 4-5,000 acres.

Upper valley:

- Aquifer is storage. Recharge projects.
- Ditch canal on Lee's property? Ditching projects will have to be carefully investigated so they don't affect incidental recharge.
- Opportunities are: infrastructure (head gate improvements), recharge (into pits or incidental during times of cutting), Piping (in certain areas), fallowing.
- Changes will have to be made every year. Someone should be hired to do a yearly report on how much water is available and how many acres and then projects should be implemented based on that. Longer term projects should also be part of the puzzle (consistent and yearly recharge). We need correlation data—if you have _____ at Hailey, you get _____ at Little Wood. Coming back to target flows.

One of the key pieces to this entire puzzle is enforcement. We need to bulk up on the enforcement end.

To Do's

- Jerry Bashaw is going to call Bill Simon and see if he can come to the next meeting
- BWCC has a water expert, southern GWD has an expert—they need to communicate and share information
- Next meeting is October 6th at the Picabo conference room (Picabo Livestock main offices)
- Mark will be the spokesperson for now
- Next group meeting is September 29th, 10 am at the Hailey TNC office (116 1st Ave. N)