Future water needs continue as the main focus of the Treasure Valley CAMP in November. Presentations focused on conservation, water reuse, establishing a planning range, the implications of future policy issues, and the potential for new storage.

Calvin Finch, director/Special Projects San Antonio Water System, gave a presentation on “Water Conservation and Drought Management”. His message was that water conservation is a process of using water more efficiently in day to day activities; drought management is a planned response to emergencies in water supply or normal droughts; usual business model is to discourage ratepayers from using excess water which is the revenue source.

Stephanie Radavich, United Water Idaho, talked about their conservation programs but they are a regulated utility. United Water programs are voluntary and can’t dictate use or issue citations. Their programs include charging a 25% summer tariff along with summer conservation campaign; metering all customers; providing free devices such as rain sensors; and education programs for children and adults including demonstration gardens. United Water reports that per capita water usage has been reduced by 33% over the past ten years.

Clint Dolsby, Assistant City Engineer, presented information on Meridian’s “Reclaimed Water Program”, describing how highly treated wastewater effluent is put to beneficial use and regulated by IDEQ. City of Meridian bills for Reclaimed water from both drinking water and waste water services. The cost is estimated for waste water is about $30/month. The agricultural representatives expressed concern about future conflict of reuse water could impact natural flow and more storage water would need to be released to compensate for the reclaimed water not coming back as return flows.

Helen Harrington, IDWR, led a discussion about the “Uncertainties and Unknowns” associated with future water management in the Treasure Valley. Helen talked about future water need projections ranging from 76,000 acre-feet to 83,000 and 124,000 from IDWR, WRIME and the Bureau of Reclamation respectively. She asked the committee to look at a low, medium, and high range for future demand in the Treasure Valley of about 80-90 kaf low; 123-130 kaf medium, and 160-180 kaf high.

Harrington also discussed the implications of conjunctive management for water administration when it is implemented in the Treasure Valley. Increased and/or changing water needs could result in mitigation obligations or even curtailment of junior-priority ground water users to senior priority use.

Ellen Berggren, Boise Outreach Office Army Corp of Engineers, reported on the water storage component of the Lower Boise River feasibility study. Out of 12 sites, three appear to have the best storage potential based on a weighted scoring process: 1) Arrowrock; 2) Alexander Flats; and 3) Twin Springs.

The Advisory Committee will divide into four sub-committees to address specific CAMP issues at its next meeting on November 10th. The subcomittees will meet in the morning with the whole CAMP Advisory Committee reconvening in the afternoon. eeting in the morning and in the afternoon the committee will meet as a whole.

enenergy

water

**Idaho Water Policy Group, Inc.**

**IGWA**

**IIPA**

**IRWA**

1109 W. Main, Suite 300

P.O. Box 2624

Boise, ID 83701-2624

Phone: 208 381-0294

Fax: 208 381-5272

Email: l\_tominaga@hotmail.com

btominaga@hotmail.com

*Visit our webpage:*

[www.idah2o.](http://www.idah2o.)[org](http://www.idahowaterpolicygroup.org)

**Upcoming Events**

**November 10:** Treasure Valley CAMP

Time and location TBA

**December 14:** Treasure Valley CAMP

Time and location TBA

**January 7:** Treasure Valley CAMP

Time and location TBA