



# Legislative Reports 2011



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Special points of interest:

\* Governor Otter's State of the State " speech may be viewed in its entirety at [www.state.id.us](http://www.state.id.us)

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**2011 State of the State and Budget Address:** Governor Otter called for "statesmanship" and "sound public policy" from new and returning legislators. In the coming months they must reconcile a state revenue shortfall of over \$300 million with what Otter termed a "modest but responsible 3-percent growth rate. In this budget go-around there are no federal stimulus dollars or reserve accounts to fill the gaps. But, citing \$415,000 here and \$1 million there, about \$78 million has been identified in state coffers to offset the revenue shortfall. Most state agencies could face 2-percent and possibly even 4-percent as Otter vowed to protect public education. He also asked legislators to encourage economic development by promoting a business climate that will stimulate hiring and investment.

**Idaho Water Supply "Cautiously Optimistic":** At its first meeting in the new water year, the Idaho Water Supply Committee sees a "La Nina" pattern continuing to the benefit of snowpacks, reservoir storage and summer irrigation.

**Treasure Valley Comprehensive Aquifer Management Process (CAMP):** The drivers in the Treasure Valley CAMP are future and potential water conflicts, unlike the very present and real conflicts on the Eastern Snake Plain, leaving this Advisory Committee to struggle with a sense of purpose. They began their January 7th meeting by discussing and drafting a vision statement. The Committee is facing a self-imposed March deadline to finalize its recommendations to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB).

**Rathdrum Prairie and ESPA CAMP:** The IWRB should be receiving a final report from the Rathdrum Prairie CAMP Advisory Board soon. Meanwhile, the ESPA CAMP remains bogged down in funding, leaving some to question whether or not the Implementation Committee can move forward. Those who remain committed to the process indicate that the original concept of a large, regional entity may be replaced by collaborative efforts of smaller, more local entities committed to putting projects on the ground.

**Legislation & Rules:** Most water-related legislation vetted for this session appears to be mostly housekeeping with one significant exception, an Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) rule establishing an Anti-degradation Implementation Policy for Idaho. In an unusual move to garner support from stakeholders, IDEQ will attempt to draft guidance at the same time that the negotiated rule is presented to the legislature. It is questionable whether or not this rule will survive the session even with their support. Without the rule, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency could be forced to impose its own rule due to a lawsuit filed last year against that agency by the Idaho Conservation League. The Guidance Committee met for the first time last week, beginning its work on Chapter 6 "General Permits". IDEQ's rules are up for review in the House and Senate, on Tuesday (1/18/11) and Wednesday (1/19/11).

## CALENDAR

### Tuesday, January 18

Ag Lobbyists, Lock, Stock & Barrel - Noon

IWUA Legislative Committee  
Boise, DoubleTree Riverside  
North Star Room, 1 p.m.

**House Environment, Energy, & Technology: Harwood Subcommittee Rules, EW41, 1:30**

**58-0101-0904** Control of Air Pollution in Idaho

**58-0101-1002** Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho

**58-0105-1001** Hazardous Waste

**58-0123-0901** Administration Procedure before the

Board of Environmental Quality

**58-0102-1001** Water Quality Standards

**58-0108-1001** Public Drinking Water

**58-0117-1001** Reclamation and Reuse of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater

**58-0120-0901** Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program

### Wednesday: January 19

#### Food Producers

Idaho Grain Center, 8:30 a.m.

**Food Producers Legislative Luncheon, Yen Ching, - Noon**  
**Senate Resources & Environment: WW55, 1:30 Rules**

**58-0102-1001** Water Quality Standards, **58-0117-1001**

Reclamation and Reuse of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater

**58-0123-0901** Administrative Procedure Before the Board of Environmental Quality

**26-0134-1001** Idaho Protection Against Invasive Species Sticker

### Thursday: January 20

**IPCO IRP, Boise, IPCO,**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Idaho Water Resource Board** Work Session, Boise,  
Idaho Water Center, 1 p.m.

### Friday: January 21

**Idaho Water Resource Board, Boise, Idaho Water Center, 8:30 a.m.**

## Committee Schedules

### Key Senate Committee Schedules:

Agriculture: T, Th, morning, Room WW53

Finance: Daily, morning, Room C310

Health & Welfare: M,T,W, Th, afternoon, Room WW54

Local Government & Taxation: T,W,Th, afternoon, Room WW53

Resources & Environment: M,W, F, afternoon, Room WW55

State Affairs: M, W, F, morning, Room WW55

### Key House Committee Schedules:

Agricultural Affairs: Even days, afternoon, Room EW 20

Appropriations: Daily, morning, Room C310

Environment, Energy & Technology: Even days, afternoon, Room EW41

Resources & Conservation: Odd days, afternoon, Room EW40

State Affairs: Daily, morning, Room EW40

**January 27:** IDEQ Anti-degradation Guidance Advisory Committee  
Boise, IDEQ Headquarters, 8:30 a.m.

### **JFAC Budget Hearing Schedule for select agencies:**

**February 2** *Department of Environmental Quality*  
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

*Department of Water Resources*  
9:40 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

*Office of Energy Resources*  
10:40 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

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