

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS32336C1 / H0197

With the current state of the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer (ESPA) in a state of decline it is imperative that the legislature codify parts of the recharge program that must occur to protect this resource for future generations. Currently the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) has water rights that come into priority in the ESPA but rather than using that water to recharge the aquifer they have been allowing the water to be used for purposes that do not help build aquifer health.

FISCAL NOTE

The proposed legislation does not change general fund appropriation. The existing resources and structures that have been developed over a considerable time can accommodate the water that comes into priority to be recharged.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).