

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC)

Who we are, why we are here, and why your membership in IWAC is important

Water managers and residents alike are facing many complex issues in the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. Recently, scientists conducting a study commissioned by Washington, Idaho and USGS came to the conclusion that our greatest challenge will be in aligning the different values we place on the river. Finding management solutions in the face of competing values could prove costly and contentious. Our region's best hope is to bring together stakeholders to find bi-state, collaborative solutions.

The Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) is a bi-state nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote region-wide solutions to water resource issues throughout the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The Collaborative is unique, in that it is the only bi-state organization looking at the aquifer and river as a system, incorporating both water purveyors and wastewater treatment and discharge operators. Our goals include:

- developing, through a consensus process, an ongoing mechanism for water managers to research and discuss topics impacting the aquifer and river.
- promoting regional water conservation.
- development of a coordinated public awareness and education campaign.

More detailed information on our goals can be found at:

www.spokaneaquifer.org/idaho-washington-aquifer-collaborative-goals.

The Collaborative's members include Idaho and Washington water and water reclamation (wastewater) service providers. Advisory members include Avista, the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Tribes, and regulatory agencies. The Collaborative is made up of the professional and regional leaders in water resources. Our customers are the citizens of the region, who count on us to provide essential services to their homes and businesses.

Funding for the Collaborative will be through member dues. This funding is intended to cover the operational costs; board members and officers will not be paid through the Collaborative.

We hope your organization will become an active IWAC member. Our combined leadership and all voices at the table will lead to regional solutions that support all of our interests.

Sincerely,

IWAC Officers

President, Mike Galante; Vice-President, Ty Wick; Secretary, Bryan St. Clair; Treasurer, Alan Miller

IWAC Goals: In order to develop management strategies to address regional water supply and demand needs over the next 50-100 years, IWAC has developed the following goals:

IWAC Organization: Establish a working relationship between Idaho and Washington water entities with agreed upon IWAC goals, outcomes, products and interim objectives.

Water Quantity: Develop a BiState Aquifer (baseline) Status Document to validate objectively-determined and scientifically supportable data on the quantity and availability of the aquifer water system. Determine a fair and equitable method to allocate water withdrawals of the aquifer by municipal purveyors for present and future needs. Develop appropriate management strategies for maintaining/enhancing in-stream flows in the Spokane River, in the event of the removal of discharges from the river.

Water Conservation: Promote regional water conservation. Municipal purveyors and partner organizations develop a comprehensive regional conservation strategy, and work in concert on implementation within respective service areas. Develop recommendations for regional conservation efforts that include a menu of suggestions for local jurisdictions to adopt in their respective conservation plans.

Water Quality: Promote water quality. Identify future impacts on water quality as the area population grows, and commercial and industrial uses diversify in our area. Identify how water purveyors and partner organizations can have a positive impact on water quality in groundwater and the Spokane River.

Public Awareness and Education: Develop a coordinated awareness and education campaign for the aquifer system.

Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) Membership Application

Organization Name:	
Mailing Address:	Membership Options: (Choose one)
City, State, Zip Code:	\$500 = under 2000 connections <input type="checkbox"/>
Phone:	\$1,000 = 2000+ connections <input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Name:	Advisory Member <input type="checkbox"/>
Email:	Optional Contribution

Mail membership dues and application form to: IWAC Treasurer Alan Miller, 2160 W. Dakota Avenue, Hayden, ID 83835. For questions, please call 208-772-2612.