



## IDAHO WASHINGTON AQUIFER COLLABORATIVE

iwac.us

P.O. Box 1822  
Post Falls, ID 83877

Terry Pickel - President  
BiJay Adams - Vice President  
Rob Lindsay - Secretary  
Ron Wilson - Treasurer  
Dan Kegley – Past President

Our Water. Our Future.

The Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) works to maintain and enhance water quality and quantity for present and future generations by developing management strategies which benefit the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer and the Spokane River watersheds.

November 8, 2022, Via Zoom - Representatives Present

|        | Organization  | Representative                                      | Email Address   |
|--------|---|---|---|
|        | Avista  | Chris Moan  | chris.moan@avistacorp.com   |
|        | Avondale Irrigation District  | Bob Chandler  | bobchandlercda@gmail.com  |
|        | Bar Circle S Water Company  | Rob Turnipseed                                      | avondalecon@frontier.com  |
| √      | City of Coeur d’Alene Water, Director<br>City of Coeur d’Alene Asst. Director | Terry Pickel<br>Kyle Marine                         | tpickel@cdaid.org<br>kmarine@cdaid.org  |
| √<br>√ | City of Post Falls  | John Beacham<br>Craig Borrenpohl<br>Alyssa Gersdorf | jbeacham@postfallsidaho.org<br>cborrenpohl@postfallsidaho.org<br>alyssag@postfallsidaho.org |
| √      | City of Spokane Water Department  | Doug Greenlund                                      | dgreenlund@spokanecity.org  |
|        | Coeur d’Alene Tribe of Indians  | Rebecca Stevens                                     | rstevens@cdatribe-nsn.gov   |
|        | Consolidated Irrigation District No. 19                                       | Shane Sheppard                                      | consolidatedirrigation@comcast.net  |
|        | East Greenacres Irrigation District   | Ron Wilson  | ron@eastgreenacres.org  |
|        | Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board  | Ken Windram   | ken@harsb.org   |
|        | Hayden Lake Irrigation District   | Branden Rose  | branden@haydenirrigation.com.   |
| √      | Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District   | BiJay Adams<br>Jeremy Jenkins                       | bijay@libertylake.org<br>jjenkins@libertylake.org   |
|        | JUB Engineering   | Cory Baune  | cbaune@jub.com  |
|        | Moab Irrigation District  | Scott Inch  | moabirr20@gmail.com   |
|        | Model Irrigation District   | Rick Neal<br>Ryan Neal                              | rickaneal@gmail.com<br>ryan.o.neal509@gmail.com   |
|        | Modern Electric Water Company   | Jason Beesley                                       | jbeesley@mewco.com  |
|        | North Kootenai Water & Sewer District   |   |   |
| √      | SAJB Program Leader   | Tonilee Hanson                                      | sajbinfo@gmail.com  |

|   |   |                                     |   |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| √ | <b>Spokane Co. Environmental Services</b>     | Rob Lindsay                         | rlindsay@spokanecounty.org                        |
|   | <b>Spokane County Water District No. 3</b>    | Kelly Williquette<br>Justin VanDyke | scwd3engr@comcast.net<br>jvandyke@scwd3.org       |
| √ | <b>Vera Water and Power</b>                   | Todd Henry                          | thenry@verawaterandpower.com                      |
| √ | <b>Whitworth Water District</b>               | Tim Murrell<br>Matt Wright          | tim@whitworthwater.com<br>matt@whitworthwater.com |
| √ | <b>IWAC Past President and GSI Consultant</b> | Dan Kegley                          | dmkegs@outlook.com                                |
|   | <b>City of Spokane Valley</b>                 | Henry Allen                         | hallen@spokanevalley.org                          |
|   | <b>U of I Extension</b>                       | Jim Ekins                           | jekins@uidaho.edu                                 |
| √ | <b>WA Department of Ecology</b>               | Chris Beard                         | chbe461@ecy.wa.gov                                |
| √ | <b>Parsons Behle &amp; Latimer</b>            | Norm Semanko                        | Nsemanko@parsonsbehle.com                         |

## AGENDA

**Welcome and Introductions** – IWAC President Terry Pickel welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. President Pickel announced that he will retire from Coeur d’Alene Water Department in October of 2023.

**Agenda Additions or Revisions** – No additions or revisions were requested.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes** – President Pickel called for additions or corrections to the October 11, 2022, meeting minutes. Doug Greenlund requested the following correction to his “Around the Table” remarks. *“Spokane Water toured CDA water onsite generation systems. The City is evaluating fluoridation options.”* The meeting minutes, as corrected, were approved by consensus.

**Financial Report** – Ron Wilson was sick and not in attendance. Doug Greenlund moved to pay the invoices received for Anne Francis Web Design and SAJB Administrative Support. BiJay Adams seconded the motion. President Pickel called for the vote and the motion to pay IWAC bills passed unanimously.

On 11/10/22, Treasurer Ron Wilson sent the following report. Accounts payable included SAJB Program Manager Tonilee Hanson’s administrative support check #3820 for \$2,500 and IWAC website maintenance check #3821 for \$76.50. The account balance as of 10/31/22 was \$41,179.88.

IWAC UEI Update: On November 17, 2022, after much persistence and follow-up by Treasurer Wilson IWAC received a Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number which replaces the DUNS number. Treasurer Wilson sent the UEI to Curtis Cooper at IDEQ for IWAC’s source water protection grant application. Huge thanks and appreciation to Treasurer Wilson for everything he did to acquire the UEI.

## Old Business

**Outdoor Watering Nerds Update** – Alyssa Gersdorf and President Pickel participated in a sub-committee meeting on 11/3/22 to begin development of the Nerds Aquifer Protection Story Map. The Spokane River Forum purchased the ArcGIS subscription and Tonilee Hanson is learning how to create a Story Map.

Below is a draft outline of an Aquifer Protection Story Map created by Alyssa Gersdorf.

1. Where does our water comes from – details on the aquifer, what it is, how it was formed. Brief history/geology lesson.
2. Why is our aquifer unique – sole source aquifer, sensitive resource aquifer, crosses two states. Talk about connection to Spokane River.

3. Why we need to protect the aquifer – unconfined so susceptible to pollution. If contamination occurs, it would be expensive to clean up and might not be possible depending on circumstances.
4. Sources of pollution: stormwater, rain on grass, chemicals on ground, etc. Talk about how to reduce chemicals.
5. Water Conservation – why is it important and ways to conserve water. Highlight IWAC and SAJB efforts.

Terry Pickel drafted supporting information shown below:

1. **What are threats to aquifers?** Stressors that can deplete aquifers include changes in precipitation and snowmelt patterns; withdrawal of ground water for drinking, irrigation, and other human uses; and impervious paved surfaces that prevent precipitation from recharging ground water. Some deep aquifers may take thousands of years to replenish. Dec 29, 2021
2. **What material makes the best aquifer?** Unconsolidated materials like gravel, sand, and even silt make relatively good aquifers, as do rocks like sandstone. Other rocks can be good aquifers if they are well fractured.
3. **What is the greatest threat to groundwater aquifers?** Groundwater sources continue to face many threats from the effects of agricultural intensification, urbanization, and population growth. When carrying out a global groundwater quality assessment, three major threats include anthropogenic contaminants, naturally occurring contaminants and climate change. Mar 4, 2021
4. **What can I do to reduce pollution?** Groundwater contamination can last for years and be difficult and expensive to clean up. Pollution prevention is the key. We urge you to look at the ways you can help.
5. **At home**
  - properly dispose of all waste; don't dump chemicals down drains or on the ground
  - test underground fuel oil tanks for leaks; if possible, replace them above ground
  - safely store all chemicals and fuels
  - minimize the use of chemicals; always use according to directions
  - have on-site septic systems pumped and inspected every five years
  - examine on-site wells and surrounding land areas, test wells as often as pollution risk demands
6. **At work**

**Waste disposal:**

  - properly dispose of all waste
  - ensure proper wastewater discharge connections; if possible, eliminate floor drains
  - properly use and maintain on-site septic systems
  - plug and cover waste dumpsters

**Hazardous materials:**

  - safely store, handle, and use chemicals and fuels
  - monitor underground fuel and chemical tanks; if possible, replace above ground
  - contain storage and loading areas
  - reduce or substitute use of chemicals

**Storm water:**

  - keep chemicals and waste safe from rain
  - isolate drains from storage and loading areas
  - use deicing salt and pesticides sparingly

**Other good management practices:**

  - conduct an environmental audit
  - develop a pollution prevention plan
  - regularly inspect high risk areas
  - devise an emergency response plan

**In town**

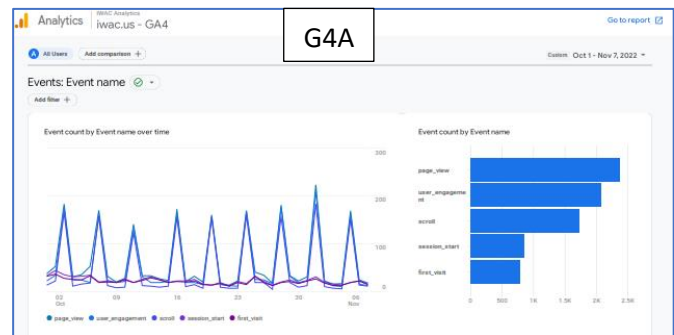
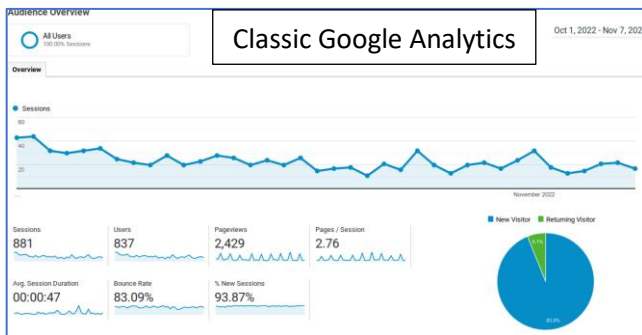
  - ensure that land use plans and regulations protect important water supply aquifers and well fields
  - support protection legislation and programs
  - inform and educate residents and businesses about groundwater
  - consider important aquifers when acquiring open space
  - monitor and inspect important well fields and recharge areas
  - conduct household hazardous waste collections
  - ensure that town facilities practice good pollution prevention

Discussion of the Aquifer Protection Story Map followed. Members appreciated the work Alyssa and Terry put into the outline and content details to date. Below are questions, ideas, and suggestions from IWAC members for further developing the Story Map.

- Is the audience single family homeowners? Yes.
- Include point and non-point pollution (herbicides, fertilizers, pesticides).
- Water quality and water quantity are inextricably linked, and the “Nerds” visitors need to understand the link between quantity and quality. Think about parallel paths between quality and quantity.
- The media campaign introducing “Outdoor Watering Nerds” can develop a number of ads that focus on different topics and provide “More Information” links that take the viewer directly to website pages.

Tim Murrell, Whitworth Water District, volunteered to participate in developing the Story Map.

**IWAC Website Google Analytics** – Tonilee Hanson shared images of the Classic Google Analytics and the new version G4A. Anne Francis, Web Design, has transitioned IWAC to accessing both the Classic and G4A analytics.



The G4A analytics are designed to track the value of each page and the revenue generated by each visitor.

| Event name                            | Event count            | Total users          | Event count per user | Total revenue |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
|                                       | 7,850<br>100% of total | 782<br>100% of total | 10.08<br>Avg 0%      | \$0.00        |
| 1 <a href="#">page_view</a>           | 2,300                  | 782                  | 3.03                 | \$0.00        |
| 2 <a href="#">user_engagement</a>     | 2,066                  | 540                  | 3.87                 | \$0.00        |
| 3 <a href="#">scroll</a>              | 1,730                  | 356                  | 4.86                 | \$0.00        |
| 4 <a href="#">session_start</a>       | 855                    | 782                  | 1.10                 | \$0.00        |
| 5 <a href="#">first_visit</a>         | 778                    | 776                  | 1.00                 | \$0.00        |
| 6 <a href="#">click</a>               | 45                     | 33                   | 1.36                 | \$0.00        |
| 7 <a href="#">file_download</a>       | 14                     | 12                   | 1.17                 | \$0.00        |
| 8 <a href="#">view_search_results</a> | 2                      | 2                    | 1.00                 | \$0.00        |

Tim Murrell asked questions that Tonilee could not answer in the meeting. Following the meeting, web designer Anne Francis provided these answers to Tim’s questions.

1. Classic Google analytics will sunset July 1, 2023.
2. You have only 6 months (until January 2024) to access the Classic analytics data.
3. There is no way to move Classic analytics data into new G4A because the data collected is not the same. It would be comparing apples to oranges; see this article

<https://www.searchenginejournal.com/ga4-historical-data/447519/#close>

The article linked above also has instructions on exporting Classic analytics data 3 ways: 1) with an expensive tool GA360, 2) manually, or 3) using the Google Analytics Sheets Add-On that connects your Classic analytics directly to Sheets.

**IWAC Tablecloth, Banner, Brochure** – Tonilee Hanson shared tablecloth and banner samples in October. Members discussed options and expressed interest in having a more professional presence at public events. Tonilee will bring additional sample ideas and costs to the December meeting. The goal could be to have the event materials ready for the Service Truck Rodeo on February 22, 2023.

**Virtual Tour of Demonstration Gardens** – IWAC members discussed examples of native and drought tolerant gardens to include in a virtual garden tour. The tour could also be formatted as an ArcGIS Story Map. Please send additional examples of regional water conservation, native, and drought tolerant gardens.

### New Business

**2023 Aquifer Atlas Review and # of copies to purchase.** Members requested information on the cost per Atlas before deciding on a number to purchase.

### Updates Around the Table

**Doug Greenlund**, City of Spokane, shared that the good news so far this year is there have been no snow events that required “all city plowing.” In the event of ‘all city plowing’ all departments, including the Water Department, help out and take plowing shifts.

**Rob Lindsay**, Spokane County Public Works, provided an update on staffing changes in the Water Resources area of Public Works. Ben Brattebo is the Water Programs Manager. Amy Sumner is the Water Resources Manager (Mike Hermanson’s old position). Nicki Feiten is Project Manager for Saltese Flats Restoration Project, and an advertisement is out for a Water Resources Specialist.

**Tim Murrell**, Whitworth Water District, shared some of the challenges they have had with leaks, contractors, and paving. BiJay Adams offered to send information regarding the Public Works Trust Fund Application.

**BiJay Adams**, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, shared that the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of backflow testing requirements resulted in 100% participation. An incident occurred in sprinkler blow-out in which air was injected into a home service line due to improper installation. There is no universal code on where the blow-off valve and backflow assembly must be placed. This opens up the risk of contamination. A universal plumbing code is needed. The legislature needs to give water purveyors the authority to tell installers and homeowners where the backflow assembly should be located. More public education is needed.

**Chris Beard**, WA Department of Ecology, shared that Ecology is busy filling the backlog of vacancies.

**Dan Kegley**, GSI Water Solutions and IWAC Past President, shared that GSI is working for SAJB to identify the most significant gravel pits out of the 100 identified to narrow the focus of the study. Once the gravel pits are identified the next steps will be to research the regulatory agencies and issues.

**Tonilee Hanson**, Spokane Aquifer Joint Board, shared that the annual Potential Contaminant Source Inventory will expand to search for locations where PFAS and PFOA are being released into the environment.

**Terry Pickel**, CDA Water Department, shared that projects are winding down for the winter. One project will require the contractors to rebuild a path which was incorrectly installed. Replacement is estimated at \$85,000.

**Adjourn** - There being no further business this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022, President Pickel adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.

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President Terry Pickel

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Vice President, BiJay Adams

**Handouts sent via e-mail:** IWAC Agenda, IWAC October Meeting Minutes. Previous IWAC meeting agendas, minutes, supporting documents and presentations can be found at <http://www.iwac.us/category/meetings/>.