

Water District 1 Report – May 28th, 2024

Milner Spill persists as inflows below Blackfoot surpass irrigation demand, while American Falls and Lake Walcott remain at full capacity. The situation at Milner is fluid, with the spill potentially stopping at anytime. Currently, the flow past Milner is about 1,500 cubic feet per second (cfs), and releases from Palisades are around 11,000 cfs. Factors such as an increase in diversions, a reduction in releases from Palisades, or a decrease in gains from areas other than above Palisades could cause the spill to cease.

With the potential for Milner Spill to cease being imminent, the "Refill 2" water right for Jackson and Palisades is projected to be in priority basin-wide. This refill water right (1-10621B), with an effective water right priority date for administration of May 1, 2014, allows for the refill of space evacuated during flood risk management operations. The "Refill 2" water right will accrue new fill as long as the total system natural flow exceeds total system diversions. With snowpack still present above Heise, we anticipate one more significant push of unregulated inflows above Palisades in early June when that snow melts. This should provide additional accrual to the "Refill 2" water right, and the Day of Allocation may closely follow that runoff.

Over the past few days, the total system natural flow (22,500 cfs) has been nearing the threshold of total system diversions (21,200 cfs). If the system natural flow falls below system diversions before the high elevation snowmelt above Heise picks up, irrigation water rights will experience priority cuts. Daily projected priorities are posted at Water District 1 each weekday. Managers looking to minimize storage charges should closely monitor these projections.

Water District 1 is looking to hire a new engineer to join our team. Please see the job announcement attached to the end of the report for more information.

Calendar

May 30th – Nez Perce Subcommittee Meeting at 10 AM at IDWR's Eastern Regional Office.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84400817311?pwd=PclYlTtgHeKZnng0nqTLvcokm4W6M7.1>

Meeting ID: 844 0081 7311

Passcode: 716673

Phone: +1 253 215 8782 US

June 10th – 11th Idaho Water User Association – Water Law & Resource Issues Seminar

Sun Valley Resort. Please call 208-344-6690 or visit www.iwua.org/events for more information.

June 13th - Upper Snake River Advisory Committee Meeting at 10 AM.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87590895766?pwd=imCGeK6ljUj8ctpmbUX9Hj7wtbkubr.1>

Meeting ID: 875 9089 5766

Passcode: 460137

Phone access: +1 669 444 9171 US

Contact Cooper Fritz at 208-525-7161 or Cooper.Fritz@idwr.idaho.gov for more information.

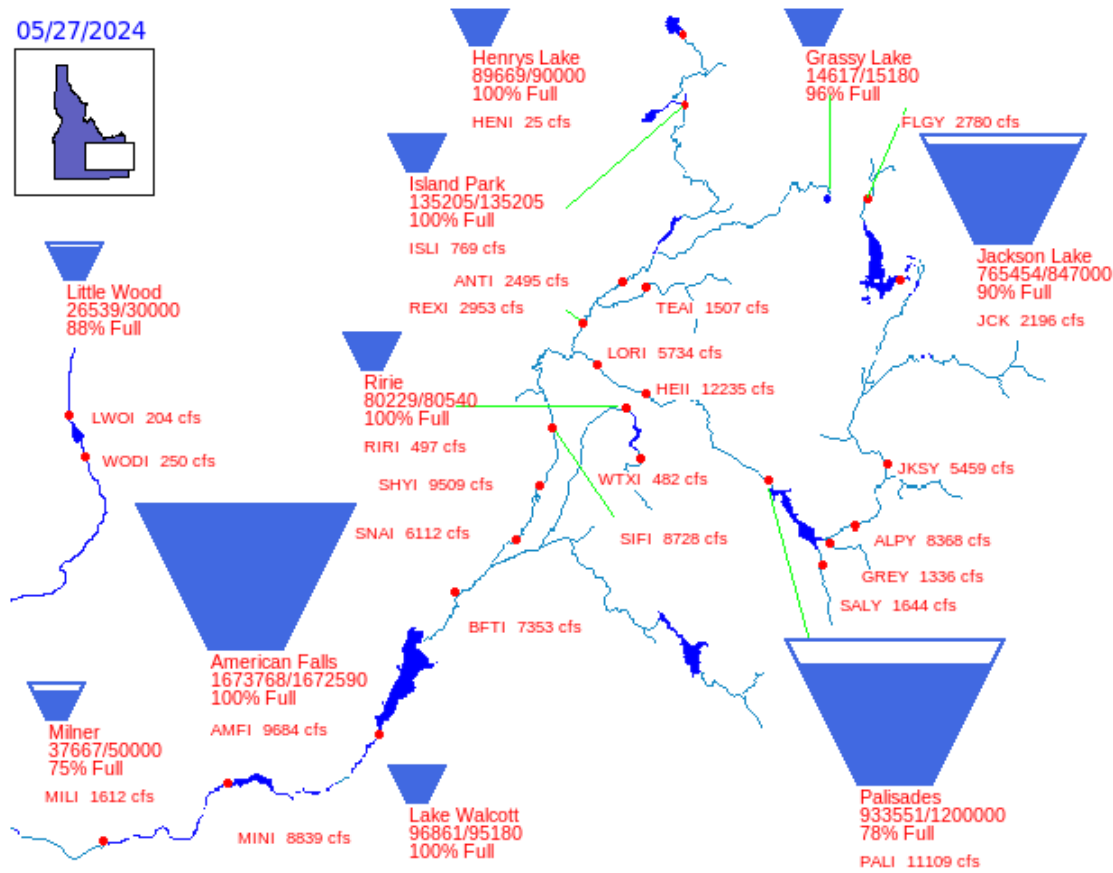
June 15th - Henry's Fork Days in Last Chance. Please visit <https://www.henrysfork.org/hf-days> for more information.

June 27th - Committee of Nine Meeting at 10 AM at the Pocatello Airport. Agenda and zoom information will be posted to the website prior to the meeting.

Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region

Major Storage Reservoirs in the Upper Snake River Basin

05/27/2024



PROVISIONAL DATA - Subject to change

Average daily streamflows indicated in cubic feet per second.

Reservoir levels current as of midnight on date indicated.

Click on gaging stations (red dots) for streamflow hydrographs.

Upper Snake River system is at 91 % of capacity.

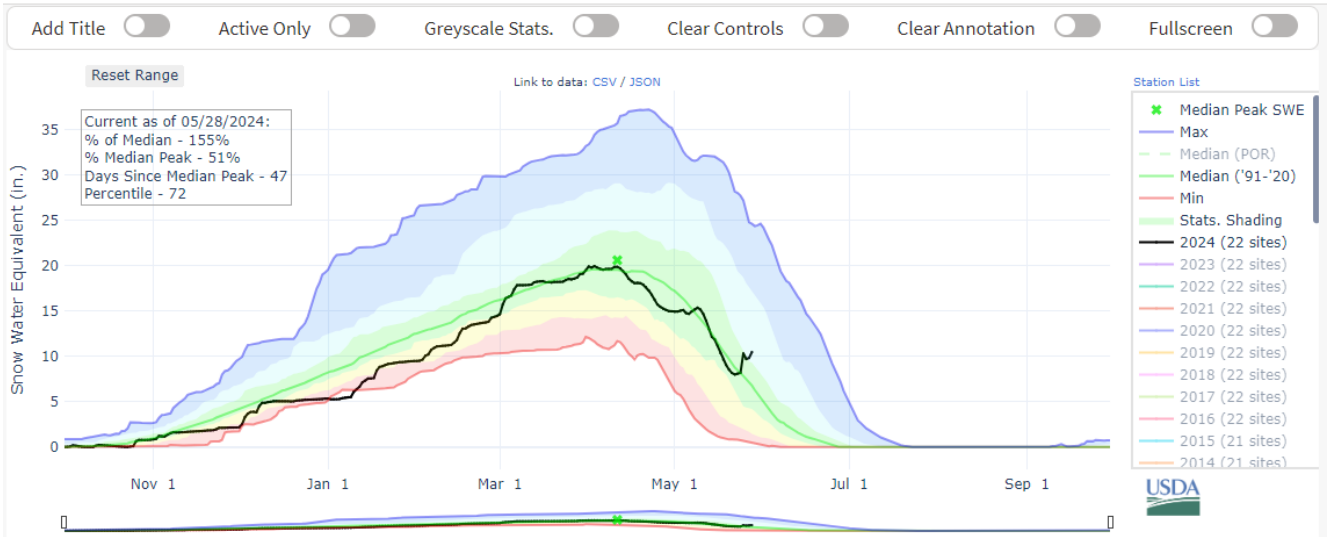
(Jackson Lake, Palisades, Grassy Lake, Island Park, Ririe, American Falls, Lake Walcott)

Total space available: 346010 AF

Total storage capacity: 4045695 AF

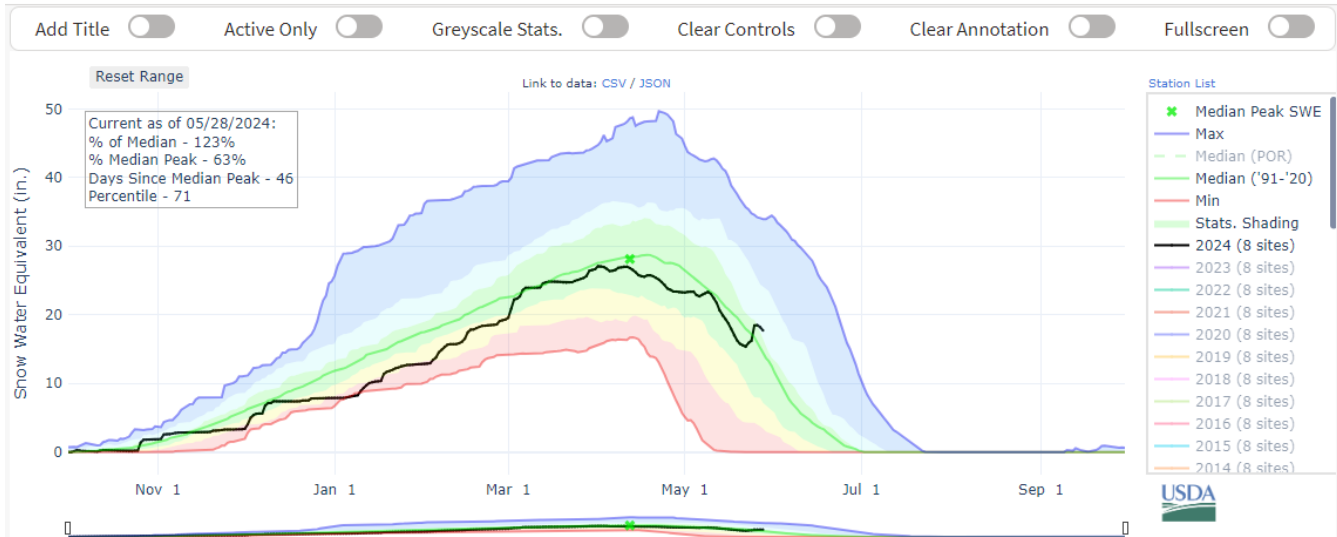
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE RIVER ABOVE HEISE

NWCC Home Site Plots Basin Plots Interactive Map Report Generator Update Reports Forecast Plots Webservices Cont



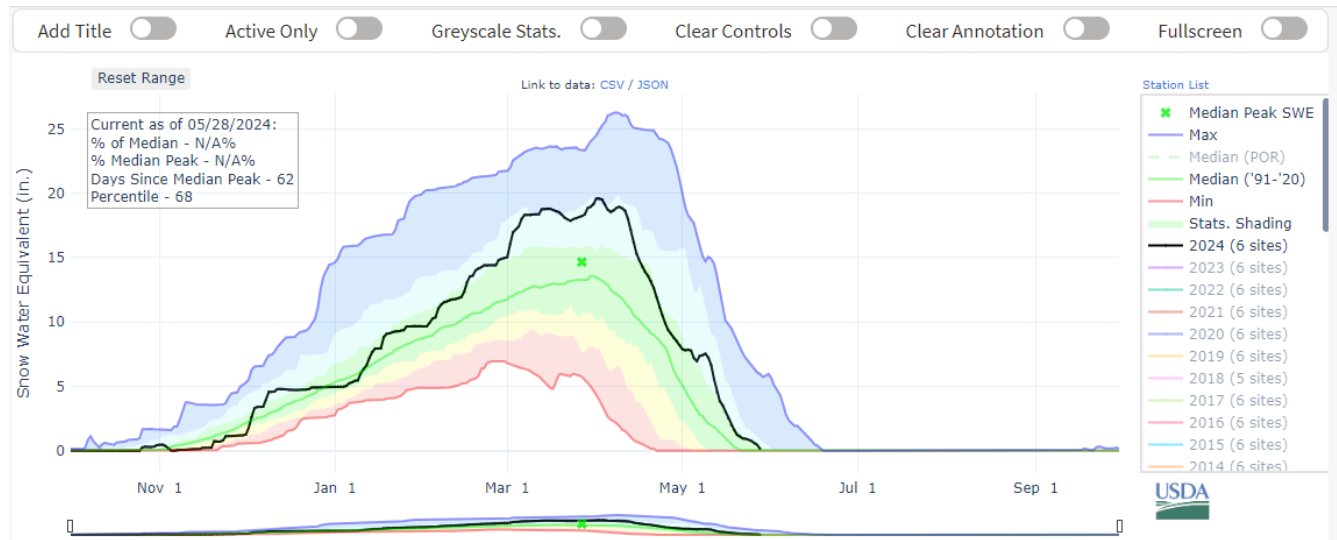
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN HENRYS FORK-TETON

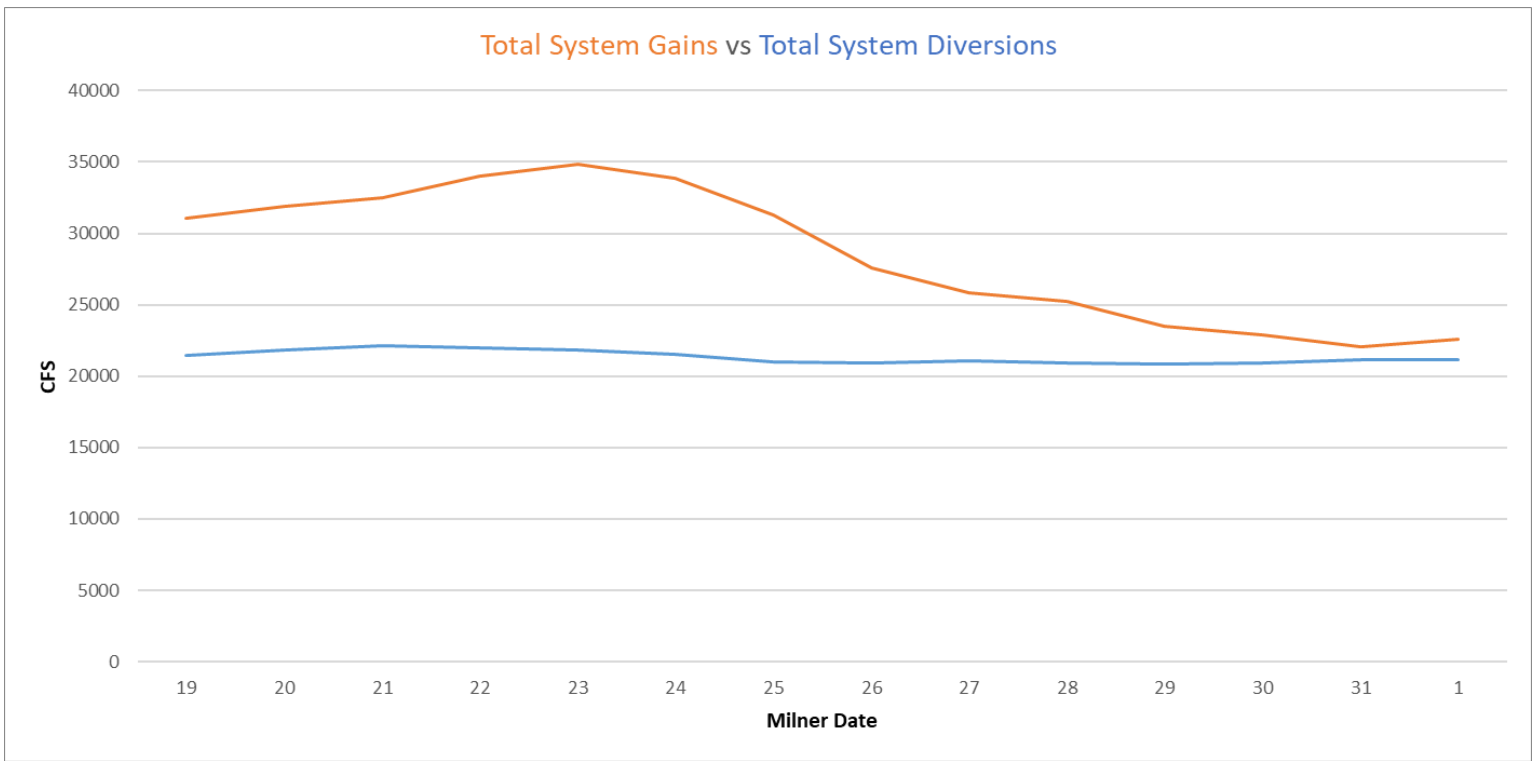
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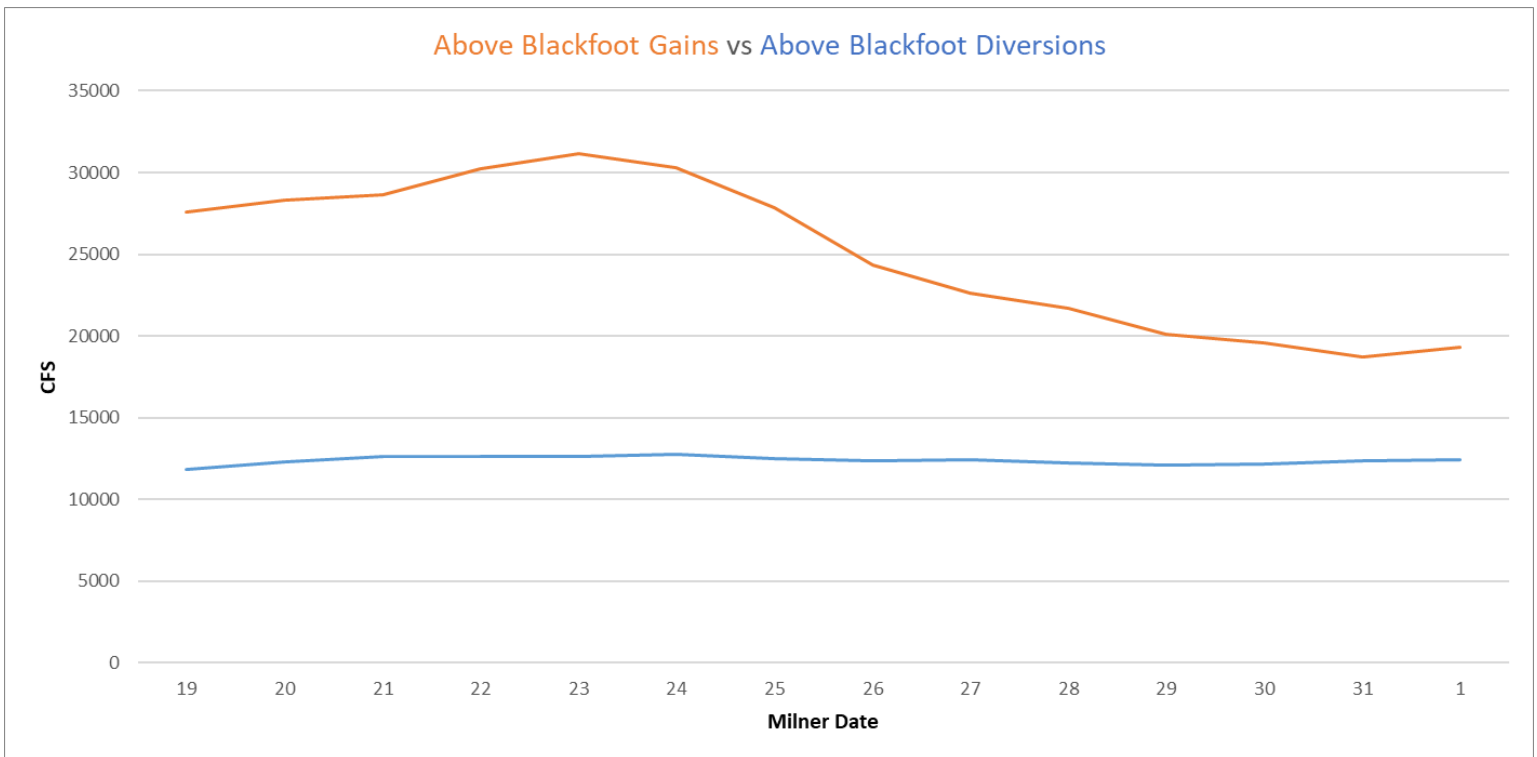
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN WILLOW-BLACKFOOT-PORTNEUF

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- Soft indicator for whether reservoir water rights are on and the system is filling, or reservoir water rights are cut with the system drafting and cuts into irrigation water rights. Cuts into irrigation water rights won't occur until total system diversions exceed total system gains.



- Soft indicator for when priorities at Blackfoot split. A split typically occurs when diversions above Blackfoot exceed gains above Blackfoot.



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

State of Idaho Opportunity

Location: Idaho Falls, Idaho
Salary: \$69,800 to \$79,200
Closing Date: Open till filled.
Please send resumes to craig.chandler@idwr.idaho.gov

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) is offering an exciting opportunity for a motivated individual to engage with Idaho's water sector and to develop skills and expertise as a water resource professional. This position is located at the IDWR Eastern Regional Office in Idaho Falls. It is open to engineering interns who are working towards professional licensure.

This position supports the technical needs of Water District #1 (WD1) for surface water administration in Eastern Idaho. WD1's administrative area encompasses the Snake River upstream from Milner Dam and includes major reservoirs such as American Falls, Palisades, Jackson, Island Park, Walcott, Henrys, and Ririe. The responsibilities of this position include collecting and documenting hydrologic data, measuring open channel and closed conduit flow rates, working with sensors and telemetry equipment, programming data loggers, evaluating and designing water measurement devices and structures, working with software related to hydraulics and water right accounting, and initiating enforcement actions when necessary. More information about the products and services provided by WD1 can be found at www.waterdistrict1.com.

The position provides a unique opportunity to develop your engineering career in natural resources. At IDWR, employees experience autonomy, work-life balance, field work, and a professional office environment. This position will also offer opportunities for professional growth as a water resource specialist, through participation in courses focusing on hydraulics, hydrology, sensors, data loggers, programming, as well as leadership and management training.

This position may be eligible for a relocation reimbursement in accordance with the [State Moving Policy and Procedures](#).

There are two job classification levels for this opening: Engineer, Intern; Engineer, Associate. Through on-the-job training, classroom training, and achievement of team goals and agency goals, there will be opportunities to progress to the next full working-level job class in the Engineering career track including Engineer, Staff; Engineer, Technical 1; and Engineer, Technical 2.

As an Engineer-In-Training (EIT) you will enter at the Engineer Intern or Associate level, depending on your level of experience.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES

- Apply hydraulic engineering principles to evaluate, measure, and track a variety of open-channel and closed-conduit water systems, such as rivers, streams, canals, and pipelines.
- Apply hydrologic engineering principles to evaluate snowpack, runoff, precipitation, reach gains, and streamflow forecasts and understand their impact on district administration.
- Apply water resource engineering principles to river routing, reservoir operations, flood risk management, hydroelectric power generation, and irrigation demand and understand their impact on district administration.
- Review engineering designs and technical reports for accuracy and feasibility.
- Design measurement structures such as weirs and flumes.
- Collect, process, and compile flow rate and volumetric records for diversions and flow stations.
- Work with computer programs related to hydraulics and water right administration.
- Work with water level sensors, velocity sensors, and program data loggers to track diversion flow rates and volumes.
- Work with radio, cellular, and satellite telemetry systems for real time data transmission.
- Write technical reports and give presentations to the public.
- Interact with water users, consultants, attorneys, and other governmental agencies regarding issues related to water right administration.
- Enforce water rights and curtail diversions as directed by the watermaster.
- May supervise professional and/or technical staff.

ENGINEER INTERN AND ENGINEER ASSOCIATE LEVELS

Minimum Qualifications

Candidates must meet one of the following criteria within 6 months of employment offer:

(One of the top three bulleted criteria below must be completed before the start of employment)

- Certification by the Idaho Board of Professional Engineers as an Engineer-In-Training
- OR Certification as an EIT from another jurisdiction that included graduation from a four-year engineering curriculum accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (EAC/ABET)

- OR graduation from a four-year engineering curriculum accredited by the EAC/ABET PLUS verification that the candidate has passed the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination
- Valid driver's license

* The Engineer Intern level is met based on the minimum qualifications listed above.

* The Engineer Associate level is met based on the minimum qualifications listed above AND at least two years of work experience post-certification.

Desired qualifications and experience

- Proficiency with Microsoft Excel in writing comprehensive formulas, working with large data sets, and working with macros.
- Experience with flow rate measurement of open channel or closed conduit systems.
- Good knowledge of hydraulic engineering principles such as fluid statics, fluid dynamics, hydraulic machines, and pipeline hydraulics.
- Good knowledge of open channel flow concepts such as critical flow, flow controls, and flow measurement with weirs.
- Some knowledge of Idaho water law.
- Conflict resolution skills and experience interacting with angry, upset, or hostile people.

Benefits

The State of Idaho offers a robust total compensation package, including medical, vision, and dental insurance; PERSI retirement benefits; paid sick, vacation, and parental leave; and 11 paid holidays per year. For additional information related to benefits and/or State programs, please visit <https://dhr.idaho.gov/StateEmployees/Benefits.html>.*

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work occurs in an office and field environment. Field inspections are required and involve walking over rough terrain, exposure to variable weather conditions, and lifting and carrying up to 30 pounds. Out-of-town day trips and occasional overnight trips are required.

To learn more about the Idaho Department of Water Resources, please visit our website: <https://idwr.idaho.gov>

OUR MISSION

To serve the citizens of Idaho by ensuring that water is conserved and available to sustain Idaho's economy, ecosystems, and resulting quality of life.

EEO/ADA/Veteran

The State of Idaho is committed to providing equal employment opportunities and prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals based on their status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities and prohibit discrimination against all individuals based on their race, color, religion, political affiliation or belief, sex, national origin, genetics, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

The State of Idaho is committed to access and reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities, auxiliary aids and services are available upon request. If you require an accommodation at any step in our recruitment process, you are encouraged to contact (208) 334-2263 (TTY/TTD: 711), or email ada.coordinator@dhr.idaho.gov.

Preference may be given to veterans who qualify under state and federal laws and regulations.