



## Idahoans for Sensible Water Regulation

*When Sound Science Meets Common Sense*  
821 W. State St.  
Boise, ID 83702

November 17, 2014

To: Barry Burnell, IDEQ  
From: J. Brent Olmstead  
Re: Fish Suppression Comments

Idahoans for Sensible Water Regulation (ISWR) is a broad based coalition of Idaho Business, Industry and individuals that are committed to finding solutions that balance the needs for both a healthy environment and a healthy economy. It is with that goal in mind that we are submitting the following comments regarding the “Fish Suppression” issue and its application in regard to Idaho’s water quality standards.

Following the presentations from both the Shoshone/Bannock and Nez Perce Tribes at the October 2, 2014 negotiated rulemaking meeting at DEQ, the members of Idahoans for Sensible Water Regulation met to discuss the relevance of the aforementioned presentations.

The discussions held by coalition members included discussion of the varying factors outside of water quality that are factors impacting fish consumption in the region. Included among those factors are:

- Loss of Habitat
- Social changes directing dietary habits (availability of alternative dietary choices)
- Decline of fish numbers due to activities not controlled by the state of Idaho (increased oceanic fishing, natural predators, etc.)

The members of Idahoans for Sensible Water Regulation strongly feel that information regarding “Fish Suppression” should not be included in determining Idaho’s water quality standards. This anecdotal information cannot be accurately measured nor is it based on sound defensible science.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent Olmstead, Director  
Idahoans for Sensible Water Regulation