

The goal of Idaho's source water assessment (SWA) program is to develop information that enables public water system (PWS) owners, operators, consumers, local governments, and communities to initiate and promote actions to protect their drinking water sources. Each source water assessment involves three primary components:

- Determining the area of contribution for each source (source water delineations)
- Identifying potential sources of contamination within the source water delineation
- Determining the susceptibility of the water supply to potential contaminants

SWA Online

www.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline

DEQ has developed an online application for the public to access source water assessment information for their public water system. The website includes the following features:

- Susceptibility Summary: An indication of how susceptible the source is to contamination
- Potential Contaminant Inventory: Sources of potential contamination that could impact water quality
- Dynamic and Static Maps: Visual presentations of potential contaminant information

Inside this brochure you will find detailed information on each of these components.

Questions?

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Web Resources

Drinking Water Protection in Idaho

www.deq.idaho.gov/drinking-water

Presents an overview of drinking water protection plans. Communities are encouraged to use this resource to document the management tools they plan to use to protect drinking water sources.

Source Water in Idaho

www.deq.idaho.gov/source-water

Contains information on the purpose and components of source water assessments as well as access to a database housing source water assessment reports for water systems in Idaho.

Emergency Preparedness for Public Water Systems

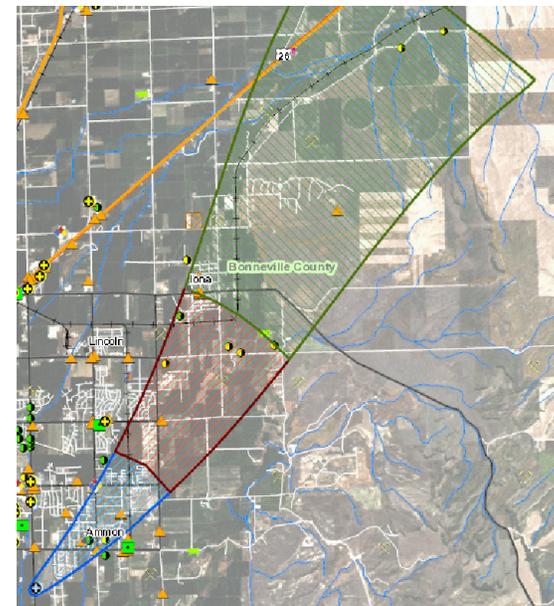
www.deq.idaho.gov/emergency-preparedness-for-public-water-systems

Advises public water systems on when to call and what to do in the event of a contamination emergency.



Printed on recycled paper, DEQ July 2013. PID 0205, CA 30060. Costs associated with this publication are available from the State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code.

DEQ Source Water Assessment Online Application



A map-based tool to help communities protect their drinking water sources



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
www.deq.idaho.gov



Getting Started

To access SWA Online, go to:

www.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline

1. Click on “Go to login.”
2. If this is the first time you have used this website, click on “register” to get a password.
3. Enter your email address in the field and click on the “Register” button. A password will be emailed to you.
4. After you receive your password, return to the login page and enter your email address and password, then click the “Login” button.
5. To find the source water assessment for your system, use the search criteria to enter your PWS number, county, or PWS name.

Susceptibility Summary

The susceptibility of the water source to contamination is ranked high, moderate, or low according to the following considerations:

- System Construction
- Potential Contaminant Inventory / Land Use
- Hydrologic Sensitivity

System Construction	Potential Contaminant Inventory/ Land Use				Hydrologic Sensitivity
	IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbials	
M	M	M	M	M	H
H = High Susceptibility, M = Moderate Susceptibility, L = Low Susceptibility					

IOC: inorganic contaminant (e.g., nitrate or arsenic)

VOC: volatile organic contaminant (e.g., gasoline or oil)

SOC: synthetic organic contaminant (e.g., pesticides)

The source water delineation, susceptibility summary, potential contaminant inventory, and relevant maps are summarized in a report that city officials, water system operators, and the public can use to protect drinking water.

Potential Contaminant Inventory

DEQ identifies the potential contaminants that could impact water quality within each source water delineation using GIS databases. This information comes from state and federal agencies and is updated annually to ensure accuracy.

The table below is an example of the potential contaminant inventory that is generated for each PWS within its source water delineation.

TOT (Years)*	Potential Contaminant Source	Potential Contaminants	Name
0 - 3	Feedlot	IOC, Microbes	Feedlot
3 - 6	Remediation Site	VOC, SOC	Campground
6 - 10	Mine Site	Site Specific	Gravel Pit

* TOT refers to the time-of-travel or the time it takes water in the aquifer to reach the source. For the SWA process, times are divided into 0-3 years, 3-6 years, and 6-10 years.

Potential Contaminant Examples



Fertilizer



Septic systems



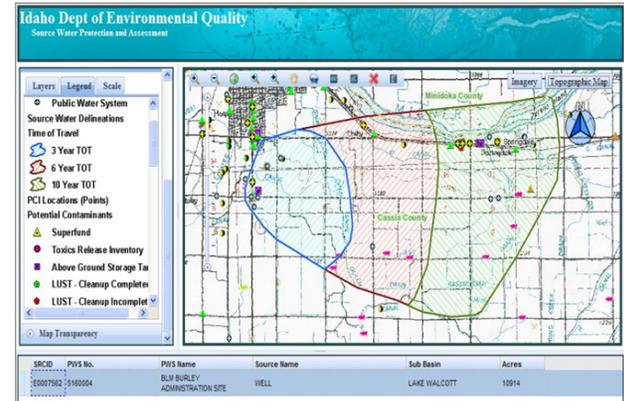
Leaking underground tanks



Confined animal operations

Dynamic Map

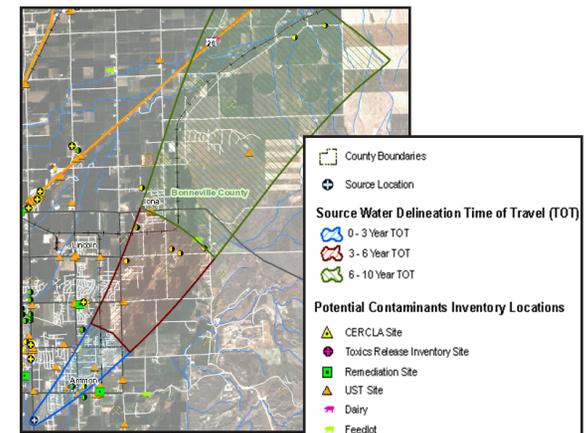
The dynamic mapping feature can be used by local government officials, water professionals, PWS operators, and citizens to find information about their drinking water source.



The dynamic mapping feature is interactive, giving the user options to zoom, query, and search; compare drinking water sources; and get real-time updates. The website is updated annually with the latest information on PWS delineations and potential contaminants.

Static Map

Each PWS source has a potential contaminant inventory table that corresponds to a static map with a legend that can be used for protection plans or other protection activities.



Example static map