

Source Water Protection



All communities depend on clean drinking water supplies to protect and enhance:

- Public health
- Environmental quality
- Economic development
- Public finance
- Quality of life

Source Water Protection

Program Overview



Ed Hagan

Idaho Department of
Environmental Quality



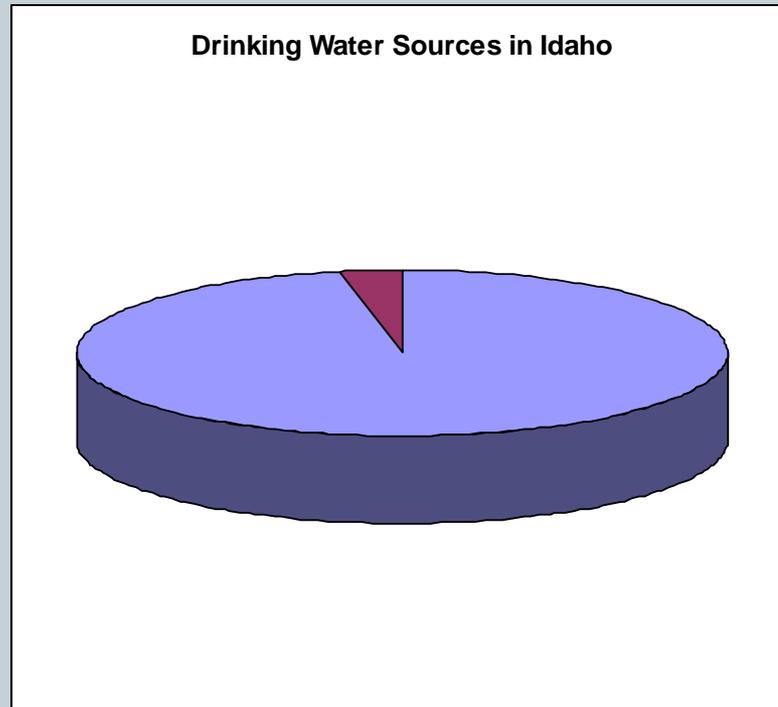
What is Source Water?



Source water is drinking water **prior** to reaching the public water system.



Idaho's Drinking Water Sources



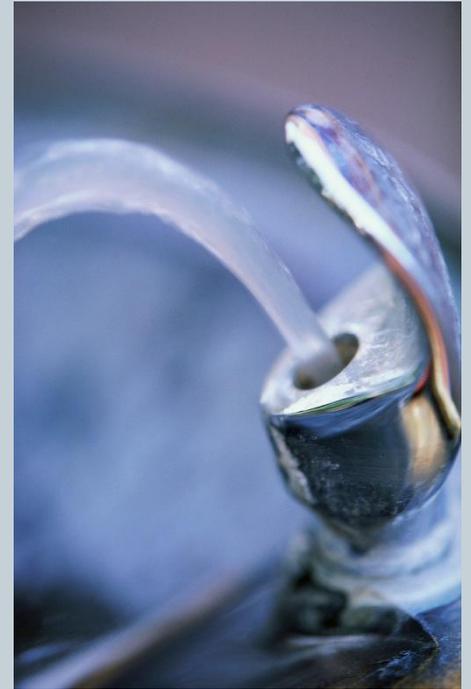
 Ground Water Source (Wells and Springs)	3183
 Surface Water Source	<u>102</u>
Total Sources	3285

Regulations at the tap...



Safe Drinking Water Act

- National Primary Drinking Water Regulations are legally *enforceable* standards (MCLs) that apply to public water systems. (Benzene, Nitrate, etc.)
- National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (i.e. discoloration) or aesthetic effects (i.e. taste, odor) in drinking water. (iron)



Regulations at the source...



Idaho Ground Water Quality Rule:

- Sets numerical and narrative standards that apply to all ground waters of the state.
- Primary Constituent Standards (based on protection of human health) and Secondary Constituent Standards (based on aesthetic qualities) – both enforceable

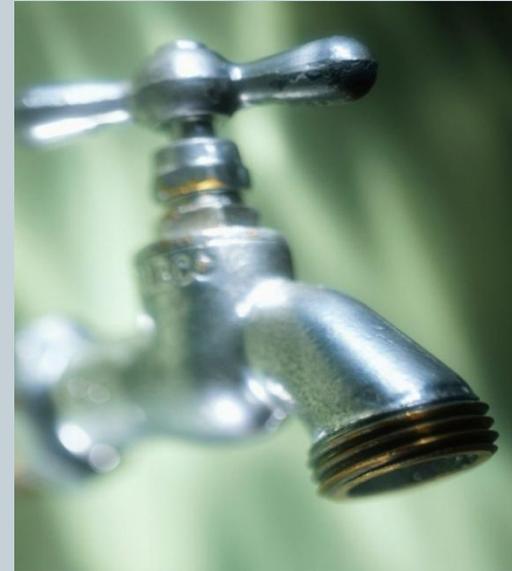
Clean Water Act:

- Protection of surface water
- Allows states to set numerical standards.
- Often as stringent or more stringent than Drinking Water MCLs

DEQ Programs...



Drinking Water Program:
Protection of drinking water
at the tap



Source Water Program:
Protection of drinking water
at the source

Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments



- 1986 Wellhead Protection Program
- 1996 Source Water Protection Program



DEQ's Source Water Program



Assessment

- **Delineation**
- **PCI**
- **Susceptibility Analysis**
- **Report**



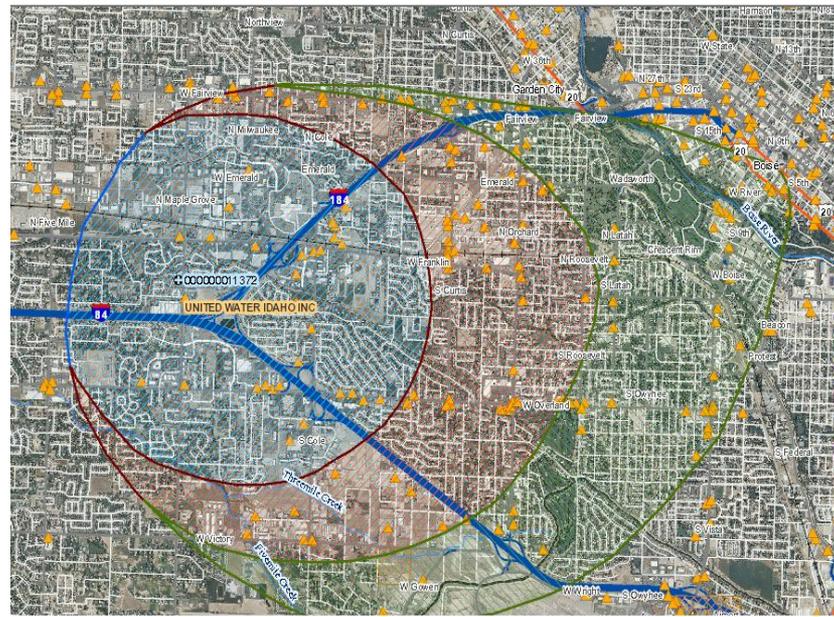
Protection

- **Planning**
- **Implementation**

Source Water Assessments



Source Water Assessments provide valuable information on a communities drinking water source.



Source Water Assessment



Delineation



Potential Contaminant Inventory



Susceptibility Analysis



Distribute to the Public

Source Water Assessment



The source water assessment provides:

- Information on public drinking water sources and the risks to those sources
- Data for informed land use decisions
- Tools to develop protection plans and programs

www.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline/

DEQ's Source Water Program



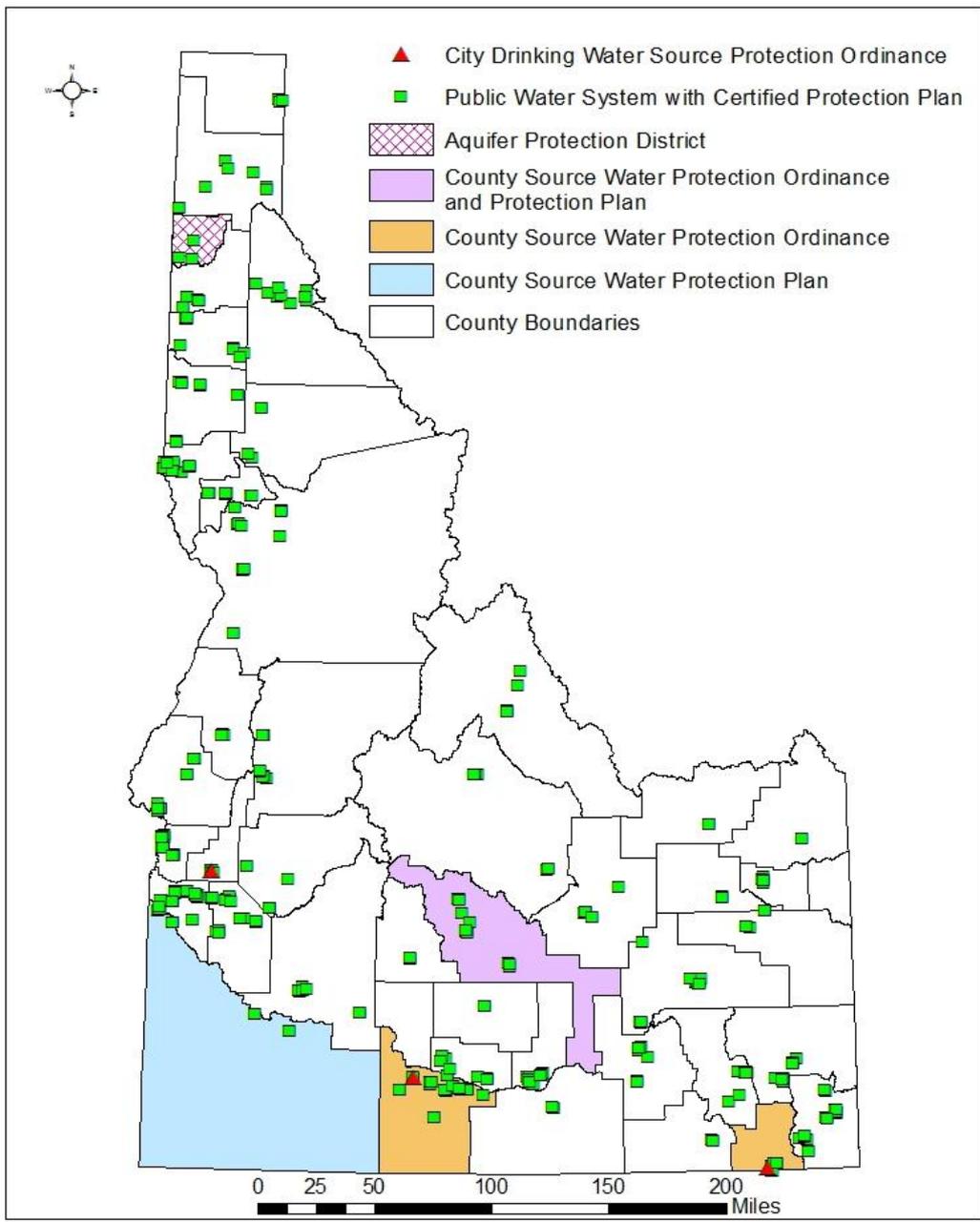
Assessment

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Protection

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Source Water Protection in Idaho

Benefits of Source Water Protection



- Reduce health risks related to contaminated water
- Reduce/avoid water treatment costs
- Avoid costly expense to develop new water sources or system replacement if contamination occurs
- Required for Grant and Loan Programs

DEQ Staff Resources



- Technical assistance
- Assistance developing source water protection plans
- Assistance with implementation activities
- Educational materials and resources



Questions?

Ed Hagan
Ground Water Program Manager
Idaho DEQ
Ed.Hagan@deq.idaho.gov
208-373-0356



Thank You.