

# What is a Watershed Advisory Group and What do they do?



# What is a Watershed Advisory Group (WAG)?

- A collection of stakeholders affected by management of the watershed
- WAG membership will include representatives from the following interests when appropriate
  - Agriculture
  - Mining
  - Point source dischargers
  - Forest products
  - Livestock
  - Water-based recreation
  - Native American tribes
  - Environmental interests
  - Land management/regulatory agencies

# What is a Watershed Advisory Group (WAG)?

- As per Idaho legislation members will be appointed to the WAG by the DEQ Director upon the recommendation of the Basin Advisory Group.
  - WAG meetings are open to all parties wanting to attend.
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# What does a WAG do?

- Through the local knowledge and expertise of the WAG, DEQ will develop the Subbasin Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Load, and Implementation Planning.
- Throughout the process the WAG will be asked to review drafts and supply DEQ with comments and guidance.

# House Bill 145 TMDL 5 Yr. Review Process:

- Form WAG. Reconvene, if established but inactive
- Review and update previous SBA, TMDL and Imp. Plan
- Evaluate newly listed impaired water bodies (assessment units)
- Incorporate new BURP/WB assessment and water quality data
- Review appropriateness, attainability of beneficial uses and water quality criteria
- Complete TMDLs for newly listed water bodies
- Conduct UAA as necessary
- Documentation of WAG consultation process