



Treasure Valley Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (TVCAMP)

A Municipal Perspective

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TVCAMP Organization

- Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)
- Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR)
- TVCAMP Facilitator – Collaborative Process
- Stakeholder Committee

TVCAMP Timeline

2009

- IWRB Initiated TVCAMP process
- Stakeholder interviews conducted

2010

- TVCAMP committee selected / start of meetings

2011

- Draft TVCAMP document completed

2012

- Final draft presented to IWRB

TVCAMP was never approved by lawmakers, never included in State Water Plan & has been in limbo since

Treasure Valley Water Supply Challenges



- Agriculture to urban conversion
- Growth
- Irrigation practices
- Weather
 - Drought
- Water rights
- Aquifer decline (localized)
- Out-of-state threats
- Flood control
- Water quality

Original TVCAMP Goals

- Provide reliable sources of water, projecting 50 years into the future
- Avoid future conflict
- Prioritize future state investments in water
- Bridge the gaps between future water needs and supply



Camp Vision

- To promote & protect Treasure Valley water resources through:
 - Respect for Idaho water law & water rights
 - A sustainable framework of collaboration, cooperation and stewardship
 - A commitment to ongoing research, data collection and analysis



TVCAMP Benefits

- Brought stakeholders together
- Opened collaborative & constructive dialogue
- Built relationships
- Reduced fear & suspicion
- Facilitated flow of ideas / discussion of ideas
- Common education around challenges
- Stakeholders only as committee members
- Politics were reduced

Educational Benefits

- WRIME study
- Climate change / climate variability
- Boise River Basin hydrology & hydraulics
- Surface water operations
 - Rental pool, water bank, dam operations, flood control

Educational Benefits

Continued...



- Groundwater / aquifer geology
- Water rights laws
 - Conjunctive administration, laws & history
- Supply alternatives
 - Dams
 - Cloud seeding/weather modification

Educational Benefits

Continued...

- Irrigation practices & opportunities
 - Re-rate ponds, sprinklers, head gates, lined ditches
- Aquifer recharge
- Water conservation
- Hydro power
- Geothermal Aquifer



TVCAMP Challenges

- Shared vision of 50 year horizon
- Large camp community made progress very slow
- Continued dialogue & collaboration after CAMP
- Keeping lawyers, politicians & lobbyists at bay
- Overcoming fear & suspicion
- Water law & regulations
- No incentive for compromise
- Resources (financial & human)
- Balancing diverse interests & perspectives

Municipal Take-Aways from CAMP

- On-going relationships and collaboration are key to achieving CAMP goals
- Long range water supply plans
- Source water protection plan
- Water conservation
- Organized & coordinated municipal representation
- RAFN
- Agriculture to urban conversion demand shift (WRIME)

Municipal Take-Aways from CAMP

Continued...

- Our future water needs have diverse threats:
 - Fear
 - Fish ESA
 - Lawyers
 - Politicians
 - Weather
 - Drought
 - Variability
 - Growth



- Out-of-state demands
- Water rights
 - Conjunctive administration
- Storage limitations
- Out-of-date water laws & regulations
- Inadequate hydraulic model

City of Meridian Actions



- City-wide irrigation
- Source water protection plan
- Emergency water plan
- Water conservation plan



- Water master plan update
- Aquifer data collection
- Aquifer recharge study
- Re-use plan & system



- RAFN
- Water rights strategy
- Groundwater modeling
- Mitigation plan

Were CAMP Goals Achieved?

- GOAL 1:
 - Provide reliable water sources – 50 years into the future
 - TVCAMP not approved
 - No new sources of water developed (on-going studies)
 - Agriculture to urban with little movement on issues
 - Dialogue has diminished & relationships dying out
 - Financial commitment is limited

Were CAMP Goals Achieved?

- GOAL 2:
 - Avoid conflicts over water resources
 - TVCAMP not approved
 - Resources have been limited
 - Collaborative regional plans by stakeholders aren't occurring
 - Limited incentive for some stakeholders to play ball
 - No legislative help
 - Lawyers & lobbyists still posturing

Were CAMP Goals Achieved?

- GOAL 3:
 - Prioritize Future Water Investments
 - No plan has been fully adopted
 - Limited allocation of funding
- GOAL 4:
 - Bridging Gaps
 - This goal was dropped

Conclusions

- Something great was started
- Opportunities to achieve CAMP goals were missed
- Some great things can still be achieved with a renewed effort



Kicked the can
down the road...

Questions...

