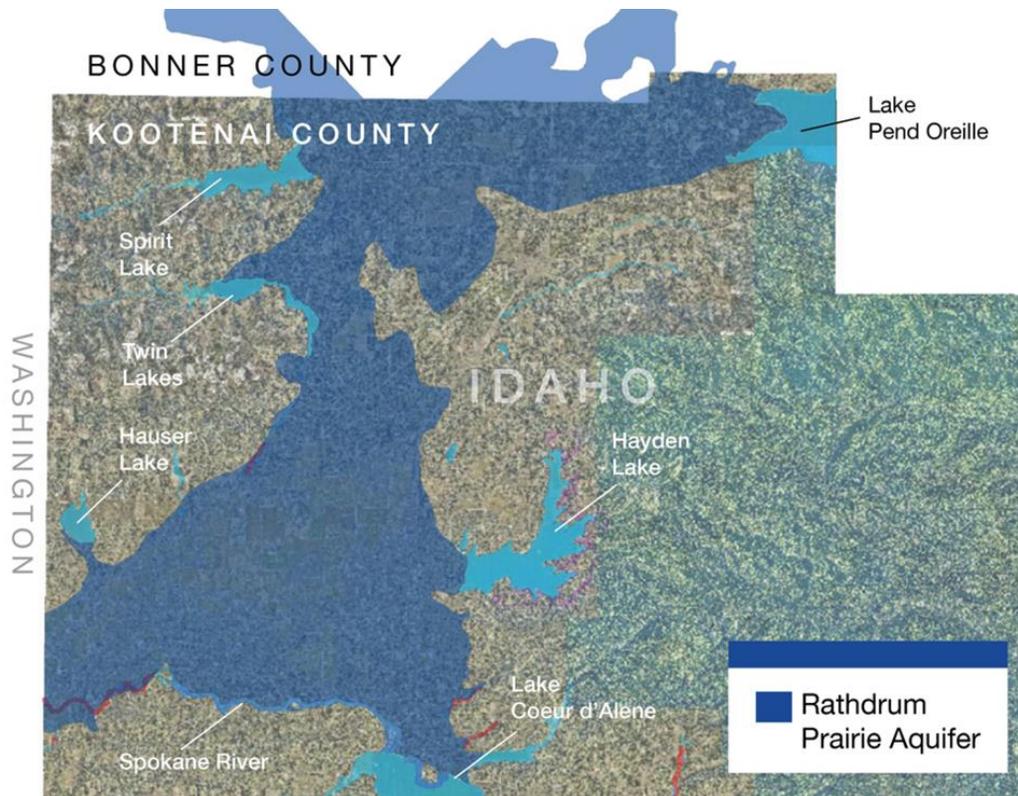


Kootenai County Aquifer Protection District Master Plan



Adopted by Kootenai County: January 9, 2024

Prepared by Dunau Associates

Master Plan Background and Process

In 2006, Kootenai County voters approved the creation of the Kootenai County Aquifer Protection District (APD). Protection activities include working with Kootenai County, agencies, non-government organizations, and stakeholders to support regulatory enforcement, water quality monitoring, education and outreach, and the inspection and prevention of potential pollutants that can contaminate the aquifer.

The APD operates under the aegis of the Kootenai County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Kootenai County property taxpayers with lands that are above the aquifer and areas with groundwater recharge to the aquifer are charged an annual “parcel fee” designated by the BOCC to fund APD activities. A BOCC appointed APD Advisory Committee prioritizes activities and makes funding recommendations to the BOCC.

In 2022, the APD solicited development of a master plan to assure aquifer protection activities match future challenges, e.g.-- population growth and development. To meet this goal, the Master Plan is a tool to update APD’s vision and mission; summarize past accomplishments; review alignment of projects and funding with future needs; identify potential new projects; recommend administrative improvements; and consider future budget and funding needs.

Dunau Associates was retained to develop the Master Plan with regular input from Kootenai County staff, the APD Committee and funding recipients. Document review, interviews and research were used to summarize past and current priorities, accomplishments, administration, and funding.



An iterative process was used to update APD’s vision and mission, future priorities, administrative needs, and funding. Dunau did this by regularly presenting information and receiving input at APD Committee meetings. This was supplemented by phone interviews with APD Committee members, Kootenai County staff, funding recipients, and others with access to relevant information. In addition, a survey (See Appendix E) was conducted by phone with each APD committee member to assure input and responses to possible master plan recommendations was consistent and all voices equally heard.

The net result is that the Master Plan was developed over a period of months and reflects on-going dialog, development of ideas, and consensus building with the APD Committee and Kootenai County Staff.

Lastly, the Master Plan is a guidance document submitted to the BOCC. Implementation of the plan will be based on the APD Committee recommending specific actions to the BOCC for approval.

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Executive Summary

Protecting the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (RPA), a 211 square mile sole source aquifer that provides drinking water for most of Kootenai County's 180,000 residents, is critical to the economic and environmental future of the county. County voters approved creation of an Aquifer Protection District (APD) in 2006 to meet aquifer protection needs.

Annual parcel fees established by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) provide funding. An APD Committee appointed by the BOCC recommends aquifer protection measures, administrative support, coordination between and among agencies and stakeholders, and policy. The BOCC is the decisional authority and Kootenai County staff implements approved actions in coordination with the APD.

Since its formation, annual grants to the Panhandle Health District (PHD) and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) commonly represent about 80% of APD budgeted expenditures. These funds support critical materials business inspections, water quality monitoring, community and K-12 education outreach, technical assistance and studies, and inter-agency coordination. Parcel fees are augmented by funding from the BNSF Railway to support IDEQ activities. Smaller grants and contracts support additional educational outreach, coordination, and monitoring activities.

Review of the APD in general and aquifer protection activities in particular clearly demonstrate that voter confidence and BOCC support of the APD is being richly rewarded. As with any organization, however, reflection and renewal assure best practices are being used and emerging needs being met. Master Plan recommendations support this by updating the APD mission and priorities, identifying potential new initiatives, suggesting administrative reforms, and enhancing board administration.

A vital and strong working relationship with the PHD and IDEQ are expected to continue. New initiatives such as protecting Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas (SARAs) and additional community outreach have been identified. Administrative improvements are expected to support long-term planning, efficiency, flexibility, and transparency with current and future partners. These enhancements to board administration position the APD to meet new challenges as well as continue positive and timely relations with the BOCC, staff and the community.

The final section of the Master Plan summarizes and prioritizes recommendations. With the continued support of the BOCC, Kootenai County staff and the community, the APD committee is well positioned to continue meeting its aquifer protection mission.

Kootenai County Aquifer Protection District (APD) Background and Context

About The Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer

The Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (RPA) is the sole source of drinking water for most of Kootenai County's 180,000 residents. The RPA is roughly a 211 square mile area that extends from Lake Pend Oreille southward to Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls and then westward to the Idaho-Washington state line. The RPA is part of the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRP), which is 370 square miles and extends into eastern Washington.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) categorized the RPA as a Sensitive Resource Aquifer in 1996. Adopted within the IDAPA 58.01.11 Ground Water Quality Rule¹, "This category provides the highest level of ground water protection." Categorization is based on the "... vulnerability of the ground water, existing and projected future beneficial uses of the ground water, existing water quality, and social and economic considerations." Importantly this level of protection allows local jurisdictions to apply stricter standards than those noted in Section 200 of the groundwater rule.

The RPA is the only Idaho aquifer with this categorization. It's highly sensitive nature dates to its formation during the Ice Age Floods. As described in a June 2016 IDEQ report, "The large volume and flow rate of the floods deposited large gravel, cobbles, and boulders onto the Rathdrum Prairie and carried away most of the smaller silt and sand leaving behind the very permeable aquifer that is the source of drinking water today ... Because of the permeable nature of the unsaturated material between the aquifer and the land surface, it can be susceptible to land uses and contaminant releases."²

The Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlas provides a comprehensive summary of the aquifer, including its geographic delineation.³



Rathdrum Prairie Vista View from Post Falls

¹ Idaho Office of Administrative Rules, "58.01.11, Ground Water Quality Rule," <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/58/580111.pdf>.

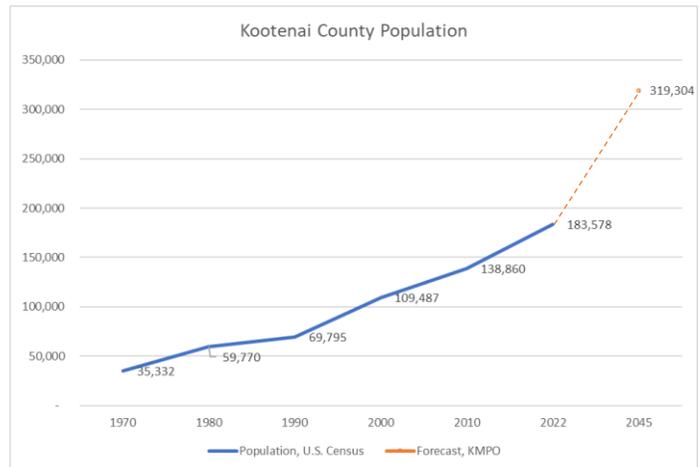
² Gary Stevens, "An Evaluation of the Potential for Ground Water Contamination by Transport of Petroleum Products over the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer," Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, June 2016, <https://www.iwac.us/meetings/presentations/gary-stevens-idwr-transport-of-petroleum-products/>.

³ "The Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlas, Fifth Addition,' Aquifer Protection District, 2023, <https://www.spokaneaquifer.org/the-aquifer/the-aquifer-atlas/>.

The Aquifer and Community Development

Kootenai County's population was 183,578 as of July 1, 2022.⁴ In 1970, it was 35,332. That's more than a 5X increase in 50 years. The Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization (KMPO) projects future growth to be 2.5% per year, which is based on a 30-year running average. As a result, KMPO estimates Kootenai County's total population to be 319,404 in 2045.⁵

Increases in population correlate with more development (residential, industrial, and commercial) and greater density. One measure of this trend line is to consider population per square mile in Kootenai County. In 2000, it was 87; by 2010, 111; and by 2020, 138. It also means the character of the land changes as open space and agricultural lands are rezoned to support development. As a result, the prairie has steadily in-filled with apartment complexes, housing developments, retail stores, roads and other infrastructure, etc.



These trends can place more pressure on the RPA, both from water supply and quality perspectives. As the RPA is the sole source of drinking water for most residents in Kootenai County, the stakes are high. As seen through the lens of water quality, aquifer protection must respond to increases in stormwater runoff, wastewater discharge, hazardous waste disposal, aerial deposition, illicit dumping, and anything else that can penetrate the aquifer.



Rathdrum Prairie Development

Kootenai County's 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update is sensitive to balancing these economic, social and ecological trends. The Community Vision for Parks and Recreation states, "We treasure this place we call home. The beauty of its land, lakes, rivers, and forests ground us in our sense of place ... We take seriously our responsibilities to sustain the lakes and rivers that surround us and the aquifer that supports us."⁶

⁴ "QuickFacts - Kootenai County, Idaho," U.S. Census, 2022,

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/kootenaicountyidaho/PST045222>.

⁵ "KMPO 2020-2045 Growth Projections," Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization, September 14, 2022, https://www.kmpo.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/KMPO-Growth-Projections-2020_2045-Final-9-8-22.pdf.

⁶ "Kootenai County Comprehensive Plan Update, Appendix – 81," Kootenai County Idaho Government, 2020, <https://www.kcgov.us/233/Comprehensive-Plan>.

At a practical level, the Comprehensive Plan the Countywide Design section notes that “The Rathdrum Prairie and northern Kootenai County are the two areas best suited to accommodate population increase. These portions of the county have the least geographic and geological constraints. The Rathdrum Aquifer will continue to warrant protection, however. The community must reconcile its potentially conflicting desires to maintain open space and agricultural character and to concentrate new population growth on the Prairie.”⁷

Commitment to Aquifer Protection

As indicated by the following milestones, community commitment to aquifer protection dates to the 1970s (See Appendix D for additional milestones).

1977	Panhandle Health District adopts the “5-acre rule.” For all development over the aquifer, a septic system requires a minimum parcel size of 5-acres unless it is in the boundaries of a sewage management area approved by the board of health.
1978	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designates the SVRP as a “sole source aquifer” under Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
1990 - 95	Regulations begin requiring secondary containment of critical materials and standards for applying wastewater over the aquifer.
1996	Federal funding for sole source aquifer protection eliminated, but regulations remain.
1997	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) provides “sensitive resource aquifer” designation.
2002	Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) created Groundwater Management Area.
2007	United States Geological Survey (USGS) bi-state aquifer study completed.
2006 - 07	Kootenai County residents approve formation of the Aquifer Protection District with 66% support. County creates APD.

Over the years, public interest and governmental support for aquifer protection has largely been symbiotic. But as often happens with public policy, disruptions requiring new approaches occur.

For the RPA, loss of aquifer protection federal funding in 1996 was a setback. By the early 2000s, public concern was again galvanized around both water supply and quality issues when a company wanted to build a gas-fired power plant near the Washington-Idaho state line that would take 7 million gallons of water a day from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The State of Idaho ultimately denied the water right application, but the imprint on public consciousness was significant and led to the USGS bi-state aquifer study.

⁷ “Kootenai County Comprehensive Plan Update, Appendix – 103,” Kootenai County Idaho Government, 2020, <https://www.kcgov.us/233/Comprehensive-Plan>.

Creation of the Aquifer Protection District

In 2006, Kootenai County voters took advantage of the Idaho Health and Safety Statute (Title 39, Chapter 5, Section 39-501)⁸ to approve creation of an Aquifer Protection District (APD). In essence, voters assumed local control to assure sustainable aquifer protection and related funding.

As identified in the statute, “The purposes of establishing an aquifer protection district include protection of the state’s economy, maintaining a water supply that does not require extensive treatment prior to human consumption or commercial use, avoiding the economic costs of remedial action, and protecting the well-being of communities that depend upon aquifers for essential human needs.”

Structurally, the APD functions as follows:

Service Reach: The geographic reach of APD includes all Kootenai County areas that may be dependent on the aquifer.

Governance: The APD is a political subdivision of the State of Idaho that operates under the jurisdiction and operating procedures of Kootenai County and at the direction of the Kootenai County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The BOCC appoints an Aquifer Protection Committee that recommends aquifer protection measures to the BOCC that include:

- General administration of APD
- Coordination, including cooperation between and among agencies and stakeholders
- Budget, including administration, program, and grant funding
- Contracts and contractors
- Policy



Hay Crop on Rathdrum Prairie

In addition, the state statute requires the committee hold at least one “... public hearing during each fiscal year to solicit public comment regarding aquifer protection needs.”

Importantly, the statute limits the authority of APD by explicitly stating it “... shall have no independent regulatory powers and no power to levy taxes.”

Membership: Section 39-507 of the statute articulates the size and general composition of the APD “policy and budget advisory committee.” BOCC approved bylaws⁹ provide further definition of Aquifer

⁸ “Idaho Health and Safety Statute. Title 39, Chapter 5, Section 39-501,” Idaho State Legislature, 2023, <https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/title39/t39ch5/sect39-501/>.

⁹ “Aquifer Protection District Bylaws,” Kootenai County Idaho Government, 2008, <https://www.kcgov.us/DocumentCenter/View/3887/Aquifer-Protection-District-Advisory-Committee-Bylaws-PDF>.

Protection Committee membership, officers, meeting times, and voting.¹⁰ A separate BOCC resolution establishes committee member terms and procedure for appointment. The APD is referred to as an Advisory Board in the resolution, which is why APD members are often referred to as an advisory “board” rather than “committee.” As a practical matter, there is no distinction. (See Appendix A for Committee Members and Appendix B for By-Laws).

APD Funding and Parcel Fee Area: Parcel fees are used to fund the APD and include lands within Kootenai County that are above the aquifer and areas with groundwater recharge to the Aquifer (See Appendix C for Parcel Fee Map).

Assessment: Annually, the BOCC establishes a “parcel fee” that is collected as part of each property owner’s property tax. Per statute, the limit on the fee is \$12.00 per dwelling unit under section 39-508, Idaho Code. Since 2017, the fee has been \$5.74. The fee was originally \$8.00 through FY 2010, then \$6.00 from 2011 – 2013, and \$7.00 from 2014 – 2016.¹¹



Berry & Nut Farm, Rathdrum Prairie

Aquifer Protection District: Past and Current State

Purpose

The APD website states its purpose as:

- “Assist regulatory bodies with enforcement of existing regulations, monitor and inspect potential sources of pollution.
- Implement educational programs for the entire community that enhance protection of the ground water.
- Coordinate the work of public agencies to assist in the prevention of degradation of our valuable ground water and to avoid the extensive cost of remedial action.”

¹⁰ “RESOLUTION NO. 2015- 80 Advisory Board Terms,” Kootenai County Idaho Government, 2015, <https://www.kcgov.us/DocumentCenter/View/3889/Resolution-2015-80-Advisory-Board-Terms-Resolution-15-80-PDF>.

¹¹ Source: Kootenai County Staff.

APD Priorities

Since its inception, APD has awarded annual grants to 3rd party agencies and non-profits to meet aquifer protection priorities.

As shown in Figure A, only grants were used to implement programs until FY 2022.¹²

Figure A
Approved APD Grant and Other Significant Expenditures: 2018 – 2024

Grants						
Organization	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Panhandle Health District	\$ 362,926	\$ 330,999	\$ 309,200	\$ 282,797	\$ 382,325	\$ 389,073
ID Department of Environmental Quality	\$ 98,818	\$ 91,060	\$ 98,874	\$ 96,031	\$ 103,201	\$ 113,779
US Bureau of Reclamation	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400
Spokane River Forum	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Confluence Project (Currently managed by UI)	\$ 22,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
City of Spirit Lake						\$ 30,000
Kootenai Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation Distirct						\$ 2,500
Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative	\$ 10,000					
Growers Meeting	\$ 1,500		\$ 1,500			
University of Idaho		\$ 8,000				
University of Idaho Community Resource Center			\$ 24,600			
Fairgrounds					\$ 29,000	
Idaho Department of Water Resources					\$ 1,700	
City of Rathdrum					\$ 6,000	
Water District 95-C/Flood Control District 17					\$ 34,200	
Subtotal	\$ 505,144	\$ 454,459	\$ 455,574	\$ 403,228	\$ 580,826	\$ 559,752
Contracts or Other Significant Expenditures						
ID & Prioritize Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas						\$ 125,000
Draft Possible SARA Ordinance						\$ 25,000
Aquifer Atlas Printing					\$ 30,000	
Surface Water Recharge Zones, Wichman				\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	
Master Planning					\$ 25,000	
Alta (via DEQ) Hauser Recharge Study				\$ 50,000		
Subtotal				\$ 60,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 150,000
Total	\$ 505,144	\$ 454,459	\$ 455,574	\$ 463,228	\$ 665,826	\$ 709,752
Note: Does Not Include Kootenai Administrative Expenses or minor reimbursements						

Of those grants, awards to the Panhandle Health District (PHD) and ID Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) generally account for 90 to 94 percent of grant funding each year. The exceptions are years with significant one-time grant allocations.

Beyond PHD and IDEQ, much smaller grants have been provided annually to the Confluence Project, the Spokane River Forum and United States Bureau of Reclamation.

¹² Variance between 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years is largely due to COVID.

A summary of grant awards and APD contracts provides an overview of priorities and how they are addressed. Further, the summary demonstrates how grantees leverage APD funding to greatly amplify aquifer protection activities.

Panhandle Health District (PHD)

PHD is the largest component of the APD annual grant awards (ranging from 64 to 73% annually). The reason is that significant staff time is required to meet the following priorities and core tasks:

- Critical Materials Program: On-going, rotated inspections of approximately 900 businesses handling and disposing hazardous chemicals/materials. Currently, there are 1,132 actively regulated CMR facilities in the PHD database. For FY 23, 388 CMR inspections have been completed. Compliance is voluntary in the absence of a rule or ordinances, but enforcement protocols are a goal of the ordinance adoption effort and have been incorporated into the ordinance recently adopted by the City of Coeur d' Alene.
- Water Quality Monitoring: Testing of geographically distributed wells for 16 chemical constituents. IDEQ uses the data collected by PHD to determine if there are water quality trends of concern.
- Community Outreach: School classroom and assembly presentations, tabling and presentations at community events, outreach to realtors and other stakeholder groups, and support for developing outreach materials, e.g.—aquifer atlas. Often, activities are done in partnership with the Confluence Project and IDEQ.¹³

As described by PHD, “Land use and population changes require constant vigilance and boots on the ground every day to assure that the aquifer maintains its high-water quality for today and future generations.”

Reviewing staff time provides an indicator of the level of effort for each core task. For 2023, Environmental Health Specialists spent 73% of their time on Critical Materials, 6% on Water Quality Monitoring, and 7% on outreach. The program coordinator supervises and assists with these activities as well as outreach to municipalities, stakeholders and others.

In addition, sewage management is an important aquifer protection task that is not directly funded through APD. Septic systems are permitted in accordance with the rules for Idaho Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal (IDAPA 58.01.03) except for the 1-system per 5-acres density requirement. With adoption of the Kootenai County “5-acre rule” that was previously under a PHD specific IDAPA rule set, all administrative activities related to sewage disposal (including enforcement) over the aquifer are addressed through the PHD and Kootenai County septic and building permit processes.



Panhandle Health District Staff Supporting Aquifer Protection

¹³ Aquifer in a Cup and other K-8 classroom presentations are commonly provided by both IDEQ and PHD.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ)

IDEQ is the second largest component of the APD annual grant awards (ranging from 19 to 24% annually). As described by IDEQ, “Aquifer protection is best achieved through aquifer monitoring, education and prevention.”

IDEQ priorities and core tasks are represented by two distinct conditions:

- 1) Since 2011, \$100,000 per year has been provided by BNSF to APD under conditions of the amended Kootenai County Conditional Use Permit (CUP). As shown in Figure B, the primary purpose of this funding is regular inspections and monitoring, including documenting that the BNSF refueling facility is meeting regulatory requirements completed by IDEQ.

Figure B
BNSF Facility Inspection Tasks and Frequency

TASK	FREQUENCY	NOTES
Visual Inspection	Monthly	Visual inspection of facility to ensure no actual or threatened releases.
Operation Practices	Monthly	Observe operation practices to ensure that all operations with a potential to have a release are conducted in contained areas.
Records Review	Monthly	Review records of the facility’s inventory reconciliation and inspection checklists to aid in leak detection.
Inspect Leak Detection Equipment	Monthly	Inspect leak detection equipment to ensure it is not indicating a release has occurred. To the extent practical ensure such equipment is functioning properly.
Review Monitoring Data	Annual	Review laboratory results from monitoring wells to ensure that chemicals of concern are not present in monitoring wells as per Condition 7.29 in the modified CUP

Source: IDEQ FY '24 Funding Request

- 2) BNSF funds and APD parcel fees can be co-mingled to support technical assistance, education and outreach, and inter-agency coordination. FY '24 was the first year IDEQ requested more than the \$100,000 in funding provided by BNSF.

Beyond BNSF, IDEQ services to APD can be summarized as follows:

- **Technical Assistance:** Includes conducting scientific studies, assessing water quality monitoring data, reviewing groundwater data/analysis provided by other agencies, and remediation of petroleum contaminants.
- **Education and Outreach:** School classroom presentations, tabling and presentations at community events, outreach to stakeholder groups, a comprehensive web site with technical and K-12 education resources, and supporting development of stakeholder outreach

materials, e.g.—the aquifer atlas. Often, activities are done in partnership with the Confluence Project and PHD.¹⁴

- Inter-agency Coordination. There are several agencies representing federal, state, local and tribal interests that are engaged in aquifer related issues. Sometimes interests are direct in nature, e.g.—supporting PHDs critical materials ordinance; sometimes in-direct, e.g.— participation in the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) that primarily focused on available water supply; and sometimes part of a collaborative effort, e.g.—the Bi-State Non-Point Source Assessment. In all cases, the science knowledge and technical expertise at IDEQ support the many ways in which aquifer monitoring and protection occurs.

Importantly, IDEQ activities are restricted to being informational and advisory in nature. IDEQ does not provide regulatory enforcement or otherwise provide policy recommendations that are not directly tied to the jurisdictional or statutory authority granted to it by the State of Idaho.

Staff interviews suggest that, beyond administration, activity support is roughly 40% for technical assistance, 40% for education and outreach, and 20 % for inter-agency coordination.

The Confluence Project

The Confluence Project (TCP) pairs scientists and natural resource managers with high schools in northern Idaho. APD service-area schools currently include Lakeland, Lake City, Coeur d’Alene, Post Falls and Venture. Per the Confluence website, “Throughout the school year, TCP teachers introduce water resource issues in the classroom and guide their students in a comprehensive research project. During multiple field excursions, students collect and analyze local water resource data. In the spring, they develop a driving question related to a real-world water resource issue. Students then thoroughly research, collect data and propose a relevant solution. The project culminates in the Youth Water Summit where students present their research projects.”

Extensive teacher resources are also made available through a google drive. The program is administered by the University of Idaho in partnership with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe, PHD, IDEQ and others.

For Kootenai County, the number of student participants in one or more activities in a non-COVID school year is estimated at 230. Grant funds are only used to support students, teachers, and other participants in Kootenai County. Funds from other sources are used to support the program as a whole and non-Kootenai County participants.



Confluence Project Activities

¹⁴ The types of outreach change from year to year based on staff interest and opportunities. For instance, staff previously organized a 5k Summer Run Series to highlight aquifer protection.

Spokane River Forum

The Forum supports outreach in two ways. First, The Spokane-Kootenai Waste & Recycle Directory provides residents and businesses with information and instructions for proper disposal of hazardous waste and other pollutants that may contaminate groundwater. In 2022, the directory had 46,590 users and 107,628 pageviews. The breadth of searchable information includes 427 service providers and 248 waste types. Grant support is for website maintenance and directory updates in Kootenai County. Funds from other sources are used to promote toxics reduction and aquifer protection across the region.

On alternating years (except for COVID interruptions), APD helps sponsor either a Spokane River Conference or H2O Breakfast with attendance from over 200 people representing agencies, tribes, stakeholders, user groups, elected officials, etc. The objective is to promote inter-agency and stakeholder coordination, information sharing, and networking to support aquifer and watershed protection.

Got Waste? Want to Recycle? Put it in the right place!

Spokane Kootenai Waste & Recycle Directory

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR RIVER AND AQUIFER

English

WASTE & RECYCLE SEARCH SERVICE PROVIDERS A-Z ENVIROCERTIFIED RESOURCES CONTACT

Recycling and Waste in Spokane and Kootenai

Find Spokane/Kootenai recycling and waste disposal providers near you, learn what you need to know to Recycle Right, and get detailed information about your waste and recyclables.

What would you like to recycle or dispose of?

[Advanced Waste Search](#) [Advanced Recycle Search](#)

AgriMet

The last on-going priority is annual funding to support four AgriMet stations operated by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). Strategically located to account for diverse microclimates within the APD service area and part of a larger Pacific NW network, stations provide near-real-time data to assist users with irrigation scheduling for both agricultural/residential/commercial and wastewater effluent applications. As a result, AgriMet stations support reducing infiltration of chemicals, including pesticides and fertilizers, to groundwater supplies. Further, agencies and irrigators use AgriMet stations to support water conservation and assess water resource trends. USBR has also supported interpretive signage at station locations and partnerships with schools to provide an education and outreach component to this work.

One-Time Grants

One-time grants are generally used for either a) education and outreach in the form of additional K-12 educational activities and interpretation, or b) support additional water quality monitoring via wells and surface water impoundments.

Contracts

Use of contracts to address priorities began in FY 22. Except for the aquifer atlas printing to support outreach, introducing this tool (including master planning) was considered necessary to help APD proactively identify and address emerging aquifer protection issues identified by the advisory board but not being addressed through the grant process.

The Hauser Recharge Study¹⁵ served as a pilot project to delineate a critical aquifer recharge area identified by APD. This included identifying potential groundwater risks and considering options to provide additional protection. The master planning contract built on this work to establish a process for delineating Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas (SARAs).



Potential Hauser Creek Sensitive Aquifer Resource Area

All contracts follow Kootenai County contracting procedures and must be approved by the BOCC.

¹⁵ "Hauser Creek Critical Aquifer Recharge Area Preliminary Investigation," Alta Science and Engineering, January 11, 2023.

APD Master Planning Assessment and Recommendations

Mission and Priorities

APD does not currently have an approved mission statement.

Recommendation: The APD board with commissioner approval adopt the following mission statement.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners through the Aquifer Protection District is committed to protecting groundwater quality in the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer to assure safe and healthy drinking water, economic vitality, and environmental well-being for current and future generations.

Recommendation: The “purpose” statement on the website should be updated and reframed as the overarching priorities or goals of APD with clear alignment to the mission statement.

Example:

The APD Board with approval from Kootenai County Commissioners has adopted the following priorities to guide funding and implementation of aquifer protection programs:

- *Provide grants and enter agreements that use best available science, provide technical assistance and monitoring, support regulatory compliance, develop policies, and offer community engagement, education, and outreach.*
- *Coordinate work and leverage resources with government agencies, higher education, business and industry, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders, including identifying and addressing gaps in regulation that leave the aquifer vulnerable to contamination.*
- *Identify long-term risks and recommend actions to evaluate and mitigate these risks.*



Recommendation: Recommend to BOCC specific objectives for grants, agreements and other program initiatives that clearly align with the APD mission and priorities.

New Initiatives

The background chapter identifies on-going services provided by government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs), and contractors to APD. Beyond or building on these services, the following initiatives are recommended.

Recommendation: Recommend BOCC provide on-going support for the delineation and protection of Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas (SARAs). In FY '23, APD adopted a policy to identify and protect SARAs that is consistent with IDEQ categorization of the RPA as Sensitive Resource Aquifer. Specifically, IDAPA 58.01.11 Ground Water Quality Rule states that “This category provides the highest level of ground water protection.” Categorization is based on the “... vulnerability of the ground water, existing and projected future beneficial uses of the ground water, existing water quality, and social and economic considerations.”

The FY '24 budget includes delineation of SARAs (including identification of jurisdictional boundaries), investigation of Lidar to assure best available technology/science to support delineation, and development of possible regulatory support for protection. In future years, APD anticipates specific protection/mitigation measures, e.g.—purchase of opens space, infrastructure investment, or working with jurisdictions to adopt an ordinance may be recommended.

Recommendation: Develop a policy and protocol consistent with protection of SARAs for open space acquisition, purchase of easements or leasing of lands. Policy and protocols should:

- demonstrate clear alignment with the mission and priorities of APD,
- define the type of acquisitions or lease agreements (e.g.—working lands program) that are permissible,
- provide a ranking system for establishing highest value acquisitions or agreements, and
- be leveraged and coordinated with other public and private initiatives (e.g.—Kootenai County, USDA, Kootenai County Soil and Water Conservation District, or Inland Northwest Lands Conservancy).

Recommendation: Identify and acquire additional studies and data to support long-term planning. Examples:

- Request Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) fund an updated Rathdrum Prairie Future Water Demand water supply analysis. The future water demand analysis was last updated in 2014. Its utility to support planning is already suffering from assumptions that are no longer valid. For example, it states “Population served by the eleven major RPA municipal providers is projected to increase by 87,671 over the 30-year planning horizon.” In eight years, the population has already increased by 36,851. As there is a strong correlation between population growth, density, water supply, and groundwater protection, an updated demand analysis could provide critical planning data. An additional option is to consider partnership funding with APD that would allow an updated report to consider the increasingly complex nexus between addressing water quality and water quantity needs.

New Initiatives (continued)

- Work with IDEQ to assess possible climate change effects and trend analysis on maintaining groundwater quality. This assumes such analysis could be integrated into and thus benefit actions to support SARA protection.
- There are emerging groundwater concerns that APD may wish to study. For instance, microbial contamination to chemical contamination, PFAS and 6PDD-quinone.

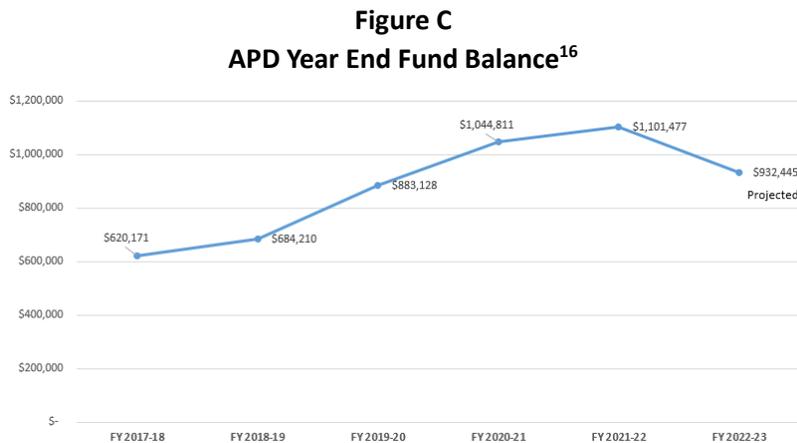
Recommendation: Adopt Education and Outreach objectives that will be integrated into grant solicitation, agency agreements, and targeted contract activities. Objectives should reflect the board’s commitment to priority activities. Examples:

- Continuation of high school student and teacher program activity, e.g.—Confluence Project.
- Engagement with elementary and middle school students and teachers, e.g.— Aquifer in A Cup presentation.
- Presenting/tabling at community events such as Kootenai County Fair, offering interpretive signage, and other face-to-face outreach such as presentation to association of realtors.
- Development of a brochure and possible on-line equivalent targeted at realtors and others interacting with new residents that articulates the uniqueness of the aquifer and stewardship practices to support protection.
- Support of social/digital media aquifer protection stewardship messages.

Program Administration

As described in the background chapter, an annual grant process has underpinned delivery of program activity. In FY ‘22 grants became augmented with targeted contracts to address unmet needs.

As shown in Figure C, over the past six years APD’s year end fund balance has varied significantly. Much of this variance was caused by one-time anomalies associated with the pandemic. The parcel fee of \$5.74 has stayed the same over the past five fiscal years.



¹⁶ Source: Kootenai County staff.

Program Administration (continued)

To support the level of stability, flexibility and efficiency needed to support new initiatives, program funding, and emerging issues, the following is recommended:

Recommendation: Create an APD reserve fund to support one-time or multi-year funding needs

Development of a fund will require a county resolution defining:

- Uses, e.g.—infrastructure improvements, land or easement acquisition
- A funding cap based on either a whole number (e.g.-- \$1 million) representative or a not to exceed percentage of the annual APD budget.
- An allowable contingency for planned projects/funding commitments.

In addition, it's expected that the fund balance from one fiscal year to the next will diminish to an amount more reflective of what is needed to address annual budgetary flexibility.

Recommendation: Move funding, scope of work and reporting for PHD and IDEQ from the annual grants process to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each. The benefits

include:

- Recognize the central importance and role of PHD and IDEQ to meeting aquifer protection priorities for Kootenai County. MOUs will codify the nature, depth, breadth, and commitment to APD's mission and priorities.
- Define the "baseline" responsibilities/tasks that are expected year-to-year and recognize on-going budget needs.
- Enable each agency to more proactively participate in APD dialog to revise priorities and program initiatives based on results of studies, regulatory compliance needs, or implementation of new policies.
- Through an annual MOU update, provide each agency and APD the flexibility to incorporate emerging program needs that require either a) additional funds to address and/or b) a multi-year commitment to support a study or activity.
- Establish consistent reporting, including co-reporting with tasks in common with other APD activities.



Program Administration (continued)

Recommendation: Improve the efficiency and transparency of the annual grants process. This can be done by:

- Updating the application to:
 - Clearly state APD funding priorities.
 - Enable respondents to craft their proposal to describe how they meet one or more priorities. In its current form, the application asks how a grant meets all criteria (enforcement, education, inspection/prevention).
 - Clearly state eligibility criteria (e.g.— must be a government agency or federally recognized non-profit, the program must occur in Kootenai County and/or directly benefit a resident of Kootenai County, etc.).
 - Define allowable/non-allowable expenses.
 - Allow, but not mandate, expression of matching support.
 - Maintain interest in whether recurring funding is expected but eliminate recurring funding projections as APD has not historically used these projections for budgeting or decision-making.
- Provide a template or clear instructions for quantitative (e.g.—number of students served) or pamphlets distributed, and qualitative (e.g.—narrative description of lessons learned or increases in community awareness).
- Define grant reimbursement process.
- Develop schedule and process for responding to applications.
- Transition to on-line form for submission of requests.

Recommendation: Continue to use contracts to meet targeted needs that are not or best met via MOUs or annual grants.

Recommendation: Improve annual reporting of program outcomes and issue an annual news release or equivalent with summary numbers and descriptions of accomplishments. For example:

- Number of students, teachers or classrooms reached, and overview of curriculum.
- Number of community events attended.
- Creation of the new aquifer atlas and number of copies available for distribution.
- Number of residents visiting the waste directory.
- Number of critical materials site inspections.
- Studies completed or started.

Much of this can be obtained by clarifying reporting requirements/needs within MOUs, grants and contracts.

However, the benefit of leveraging resources across MOUs and grants makes incidental double reporting a significant concern. For example, if PHD, IDEQ and the Confluence Project support the same classroom visit or field trip, one would expect that each entity would report the number of students or classes served as part of their individual reporting. If APD, however, rolled-up the individual reports to provide commissioners and the public the total number of

Program Administration (continued)

students APD reached, the numbers served would be inflated. This can be largely resolved by engaging partners in developing a joint reporting strategy where efforts significantly overlap.

Recommendation: Engage in on-going conversation with Kootenai County regarding availability and opportunities for additional joint staff arrangements.

Currently, APD funds Kootenai County to provide administrative services in the form of accounting, information technology, legal, and facilities support. APD does not fund or receive any full-time equivalent staff. Although additional county staff (part or full time) are not currently recommended, pursuit of policy initiatives and opportunities may change the calculus. For example, if development of SARAs led to an approved land use regulation to support protection, APD may wish to help support a Community Development staff position to assist with developer engagement and related permitting considerations.

Any consideration of increased staffing will also require consideration of alternatives, e.g.—an MOU that could be expanded to meet an identified need or contracting with a public or private entity.

While the APD Board has done exemplary work to consider and address emerging needs and priorities, their volunteer time is not sufficient to address on-going operational needs.

Recommendation: Host an annual meeting with commissioners to review:

- Outcomes of previous year’s program activity.
- Recommended adjustments to APD priorities.
- Opportunities or emerging issues that may necessitate:
 - Tapping of reserve fund
 - Adjustment of parcel fee in short or long term. An example of a short-term fee increase would be to replenish the reserve fund or provide funding for a one-time need, e.g.—open space acquisition or infrastructure improvement.
 - Identify if a 1-year bridge loan is needed if the reserve fund is not sufficient to meet a large capital or emergency response need.



Kootenai County Commissioners

Board Administration

As described in the background section, the APD board is advisory to the board of county commissioners with a portfolio that includes recommending policy, interagency coordination, grants, contracts, and budgets. On a part-time basis, Kootenai County staff provide APD support in the form of accounting, information technology, legal, and facilities support.

The board has a rich history of providing outstanding service to Kootenai County and its commissioners. The following recommendations are done with an eye toward continuing the evolution of board administration to meet challenges and opportunities associated with emerging issues, implementing additional initiatives, and supporting more complex program administration.



Recommendation: Adopt an annual board meeting for the purpose of reviewing accomplishments and considering priorities for the upcoming year. This could either be integrated into the annual meeting with commissioners or done as a precursor. A summer meeting following submission of annual reports from grantees and contractors, when the APD workload tends to be less, and before the beginning of the next fiscal year may be optimal. In addition, an outcome of the meeting could be a news release or equivalent summarizing accomplishments and direction.

Recommendation: Create a secure, cloud-based resource folder to archive APD procedures, studies, grant/contractor proposals and reports, and administrative documents (e.g.—financials, by-laws, rosters, etc.). This will resolve and support:

- Providing a central location for information that is currently scattered in several locations.
- Archiving issues that are occurring as different custodians of information change their own practices and procedures. For instance, studies previously conducted by IDEQ are no longer available via their website.
- Board member support as individuals look to find needed resource materials. This is particularly acute for new board members lacking the benefit of historical knowledge.

Recommendation: Based on priorities and initiatives being adopted, adjust or expand subcommittees to directly support implementation of initiatives. Because full-time staff is not available, subcommittees must carry the extra responsibility of:

- Working with grantees, contractors, and others to assure a standard of setting and executing objectives that are specific, measurable, achievable, action oriented, realistic, and sensitive.
- Proactively identifying whether solicitation of a grant or contract, Kootenai County staff support, or other means will most effectively meet objectives.

Board Administration (continued)

Recommendation: Create an annual PowerPoint presentation that board members can use to conduct outreach and receive input from municipalities, agencies, non-government organizations and other interests.

Recommendation: Provide new board member training. Development of a cloud-based resource folder is a critical support element to being able to effectively review goals, priorities, procedures, resources, etc.

Master Plan Implementation

Figure D shows Master Plan recommendations requiring action. Tiers indicate priorities, with Tier 1 being the highest priority.

The APD board is establishing lead(s) who will work with Kootenai County staff and/or contractors to implement recommendations.

**Figure D
Implementation of Master Plan Recommendations**

Category	Recommendation	Tier Rank
Program Administration	Move funding, scope of work and reporting for PHD and IDEQ from the annual grants process to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each.	1
Program Administration	Improve the efficiency and transparency of the annual grants process. Create new app, procedures, etc.	1
Program Administration	Create an APD reserve fund to support one-time or multi-year funding needs	1
Program Administration	Improve annual reporting of program outcomes and issue an annual news release or equivalent with summary numbers and descriptions of accomplishments.	1
Program Administration	Engage in on-going conversation with Kootenai County regarding availability and opportunities for additional joint staff arrangements.	1
Program Administration	Create an annual PowerPoint presentation that board members can use to conduct outreach and receive input from municipalities, agencies, non-government organizations and other interests, aka-- Roadshow.	1
Board Administration	Create a secure, cloud-based resource folder to archive APD procedures, studies, grant/contractor proposals and reports, and administrative documents (e.g.—financials, by-laws, rosters, etc.).	1
New Initiatives	Recommend BOCC provide on-going support for the delineation and protection of Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas (SARAs).	1
New Initiatives	Develop a policy and protocol consistent with protection of SARAs for open space acquisition, purchase of easements or leasing of lands.	2
New Initiatives	Identify and acquire additional studies and data to support long-term planning, e.g.- Reasonably Anticipated Feasibility Needs (RAFN), potential climate change effects, etc.	2
New Initiatives	Adopt Education and Outreach objectives that will be integrated into grant solicitation, agency agreements, and targeted contract activities.	2
Board Administration	Adopt an annual board meeting for the purpose of reviewing accomplishments and considering priorities for the upcoming year.	2
Board Administration	Provide new board member training.	3
Program Administration	Host an annual meeting with commissioners.	3

Appendix A
APD Committee Members
November 20, 2023

Name, Position & Term Dates	Representative Of
<p>Necia Maiani, Chair Most Recent Appointment.: January 1, 2022 Expiration: December 31, 2024</p>	<p>Well Recognized Business Organization</p>
<p>Kristy Reed Johnson Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2023 Expiration: December 31, 2022</p>	<p>Citizen/Consumer</p>
<p>Laurin Scarcello Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2022 Expiration: December 31, 2024</p>	<p>Agricultural</p>
<p>Suzanne Scheidt Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2023 Expiration: December 31, 2022</p>	<p>Water District</p>
<p>Dominic Parmantier Most Recent Appointment: January, 2022 Expiration: December 31, 2025</p>	<p>Irrigation District</p>
<p>BiJay Adams, Vice Chair Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2021 Expiration: December 31, 2023</p>	<p>At Large/Citizen</p>
<p>Bob Haynes Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2021 Expiration: December 31, 2023</p>	<p>Well Recognized Environmental Organization</p>
<p>Mary Vehr Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2022 Expiration: December 31, 2024</p>	<p>At Large / Citizen</p>
<p>Michelle Johnson Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2021 Expiration: December 31, 2023</p>	<p>Engineer / Hydrologist</p>
<p>Larry Simms Most Recent Appointment: April 9, 2022 Expiration: December 31, 2024</p>	<p>Private Water System</p>
<p>Alyssa Gersdorf Most Recent Appointment: January 1, 2023 Expiration: December 31, 2022</p>	<p>Municipal Water</p>

Appendix B: APD By-Laws and Advisory Board Terms

**Minutes of Meeting
June 24, 2008
2:00 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners, Chairman Currie, Commissioner Piazza and Commissioner Tondee met in continuation of the regular meeting of the second Monday of June, with Deputy Clerk Teri Johnston present. Also present was Civil Attorney Pat Braden.

Bylaws/Kootenai County Aquifer Protection Committee

The Board met to consider the Bylaws for the Aquifer Protection Committee which spell out the purpose, responsibilities, meeting times, etc. which govern the Aquifer Protection Committee. The Aquifer Protection Committee has approved these Bylaws and has requested that they be approved by the Board of Commissioners. Legal Services has reviewed the Bylaws and recommends Board approval.

Commissioner Tondee moved that the Board approve the Bylaws for the Kootenai County Aquifer Protection Committee. Chairman Currie seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, Deputy Clerk Teri Johnston called the roll:

Commissioner Tondee:	Aye
Commissioner Piazza:	Aye
Chairman Currie:	Aye

The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. English, Clerk

By: 
Deputy Clerk

C: Aquifer Protection Committee

7-17-08
TJ

**BYLAWS OF
THE KOOTENAI COUNTY AQUIFER PROTECTION DISTRICT
POLICY AND BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Article I
Name**

The name of this organization shall be called the Policy and Budget Advisory Committee of the Kootenai County Aquifer Protection District (Committee).

**Article II
Membership**

Membership on the Committee shall be in accordance with Idaho Code § 39-507 and Kootenai County Resolution No. 2007-21, or any superseding resolution.

Any member of the Committee may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners (Board). The Board may also remove a member from the Committee if that member has had three (3) unexcused absences from regular and/or special meetings of the Committee within a one (1) year period. Any vacancy resulting from removal for cause or for unexcused absences shall be filled within ninety (90) days by resolution of the Board appointing a successor to fill that position.

The Committee shall advise the Board on a quarterly basis concerning the attendance record of Committee members.

**Article III
Officers**

The appointed members of the Committee, at its first organizational meeting and at its first regular meeting in January of each year, shall elect, by majority vote of the members present at such meeting attended by a quorum of the appointed members, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its membership. In addition, the Board shall designate a Deputy Clerk of the Board as *ex officio* Recording Secretary of the Committee. The duties and powers of the officers shall be as follows:

A. Chairman:

1. Preside over all meetings of the Committee.
2. Call special meetings of the Committee in accordance with the Bylaws.
3. Sign official documents of the Committee.
4. Ensure that all actions of the Committee are properly taken.
5. Make Committee appointments to subcommittees as required.

- B. Vice-Chairman: During the absence, disability, vacancy or disqualification of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall assume all the duties and be subject to the responsibilities of the Chairman.
- C. Recording Secretary:
 - 1. Post all necessary meeting and agenda notices.
 - 2. Take minutes of all meetings of the Committee.
 - 3. Record all meetings of the Committee.
 - 4. Act as custodian of the records of the Committee.
 - 5. Ensure that all meetings of the Committee comply with the Idaho Open Meetings Law, Idaho Code § 67-2340 *et seq.*, and the Idaho Public Records Act, Idaho Code § 9-337 *et seq.*, in conjunction with County legal counsel.

Article IV Meetings

The Chairman shall fix a place and time for each regular and special meeting. Notice of meeting time and places shall be posted as required by law. The Committee shall comply with the Idaho Open Meeting Law.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Committee. In order to conduct business at any meeting of the Committee, a quorum of the membership must be present. If a quorum is present but both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent, the Committee may, by majority vote, appoint any member present to act as Chairman *pro tem* for that meeting.

If a member is unable to attend a scheduled meeting, that member will be excused from that meeting only if he or she notifies the Chairman or the Recording Secretary of such absence prior to the meeting.

The Committee shall keep minutes of its proceedings, and shall keep records of its studies and recommendations. Such records shall be considered public records under the Idaho Public Records Act.

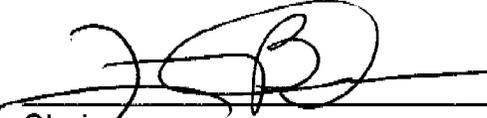
Article V Voting

Each committee member appointed by the Board shall be entitled to one vote on any matter the may come before the Committee. The vote of a majority of the appointed members present at a meeting attended by a quorum of the appointed members shall be necessary to decide any item. No proxy voting shall be permitted.

**Article VI
Amendments**

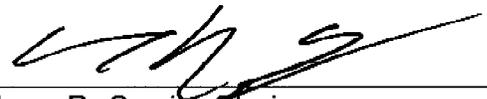
The Committee may make amendments to these bylaws upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the appointed members, and approval of the Board. Any such amendments shall not be effective until approved by the Board.

ADOPTED by the Kootenai County Aquifer Protection District Policy and Budget Advisory Committee this 10th day of June, 2008.



Chairman

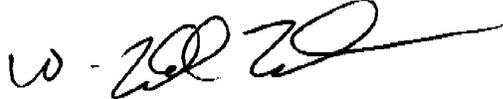
APPROVED by the Kootenai County Board of Commissioners this 24th day of June, 2008.



Elmer R. Currie, Chairman



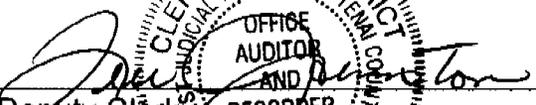
Richard A. Piazza, Commissioner



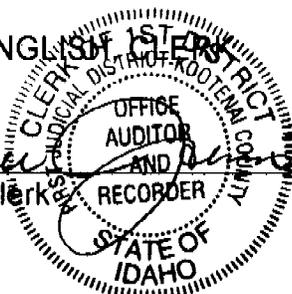
W. Todd Tondee, Commissioner

ATTEST:

DANIEL J. ENGLISH, CLERK

By: 

Deputy Clerk



RESOLUTION NO. 2015- 80
(Supersedes Resolution 2014-56)
Advisory Board Terms

WHEREAS, the Kootenai County Board of Commissioners (“Board”) has the authority to maintain advisory boards and committees for the benefit of Kootenai County and to aid them in making decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that a uniform policy is needed for appointment of members and setting forth requirements of attendance of the members of these boards; and

WHEREAS, the Board also finds that the standardization of terms of office and attendance policy is necessary and desirable for the orderly maintenance of both currently existing advisory boards and those which may be established in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Board also finds that term limitations are not in the best interests of the County because such limitations remove persons who provide valuable institutional knowledge and memory to these boards, and it is often difficult to find other persons who are able and willing to serve on these boards;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

1. Terms of Advisory Board Members. Members of the Noxious Weeds Advisory Board shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years. Members of the Fair Board and the Board of Community Guardian shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years. Otherwise, the term of appointment to an advisory board shall be for three (3) years.
2. Appointment of Advisory Board Members. The Board shall appoint all members of advisory boards. Upon the expiration of the term of a previously appointed advisory board member, the Board shall appoint a person to replace the member whose term has expired. The Board may reappoint any previously appointed advisory board member for an additional term; provided that such previously appointed advisory board member shall re-apply for the position in the same manner as a prospective new appointee. In the event that an advisory board member resigns prior to the end of that member’s term, the Board shall appoint a person to serve the remainder of that term.
3. When Appointment Can Be Made. Appointments for new positions and to fill positions upon expiration of a term shall be made on or before the last regular business meeting of the Board held in December of each year, and shall be effective as of January 1 of the following year. Appointments to fill a vacancy in a position may be made at any time during the year and shall be effective immediately.
4. Attendance. Unless otherwise provided in an advisory board’s bylaws, a member with three (3) or more absences from regularly scheduled meetings of the advisory board over a period of twelve (12) months may be removed from the advisory board by majority vote of the Board. Absences excused by the chairman of the Board or the chairman of the advisory board shall not be counted as “absences” for purposes of this paragraph.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provisions of this Resolution shall apply to the following currently existing boards:

Airport Advisory Board
Aquifer Protection District Policy and Budget Committee
Board of Community Guardian
Fair Board
Historic Preservation Commission
Natural Resources Advisory Board
Noxious Weeds Advisory Board
Planning and Zoning Commission
Snowmobile Advisory Board
Waterways Advisory Board

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provisions of this Resolution shall supersede any contrary or inconsistent provision of any previously adopted resolution of the Board, including, without limitation, Resolution No. 2014-56 adopted on July 22, 2014, and any contrary or inconsistent provision of any bylaws of any of the above-referenced boards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provisions of this Resolution shall also apply to any future advisory boards established by the Board, unless the ordinance, resolution or other action establishing such advisory board clearly and unambiguously exempts that advisory board from the provisions of this Resolution, or such provisions as may be expressly set forth therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provisions of this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

Upon a motion to adopt the text of the foregoing Resolution made by Commissioner Green, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, the following vote was recorded:

Commissioner Stewart:
Commissioner Eberlein:
Chairman Green:

Upon said roll call, the text of the foregoing was duly enacted as a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Kootenai County, Idaho, on the 13th day of October, 2015.

**KOOTENAI COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ATTEST:
JIM BRANNON, CLERK**

Daniel H. Green, Chairman

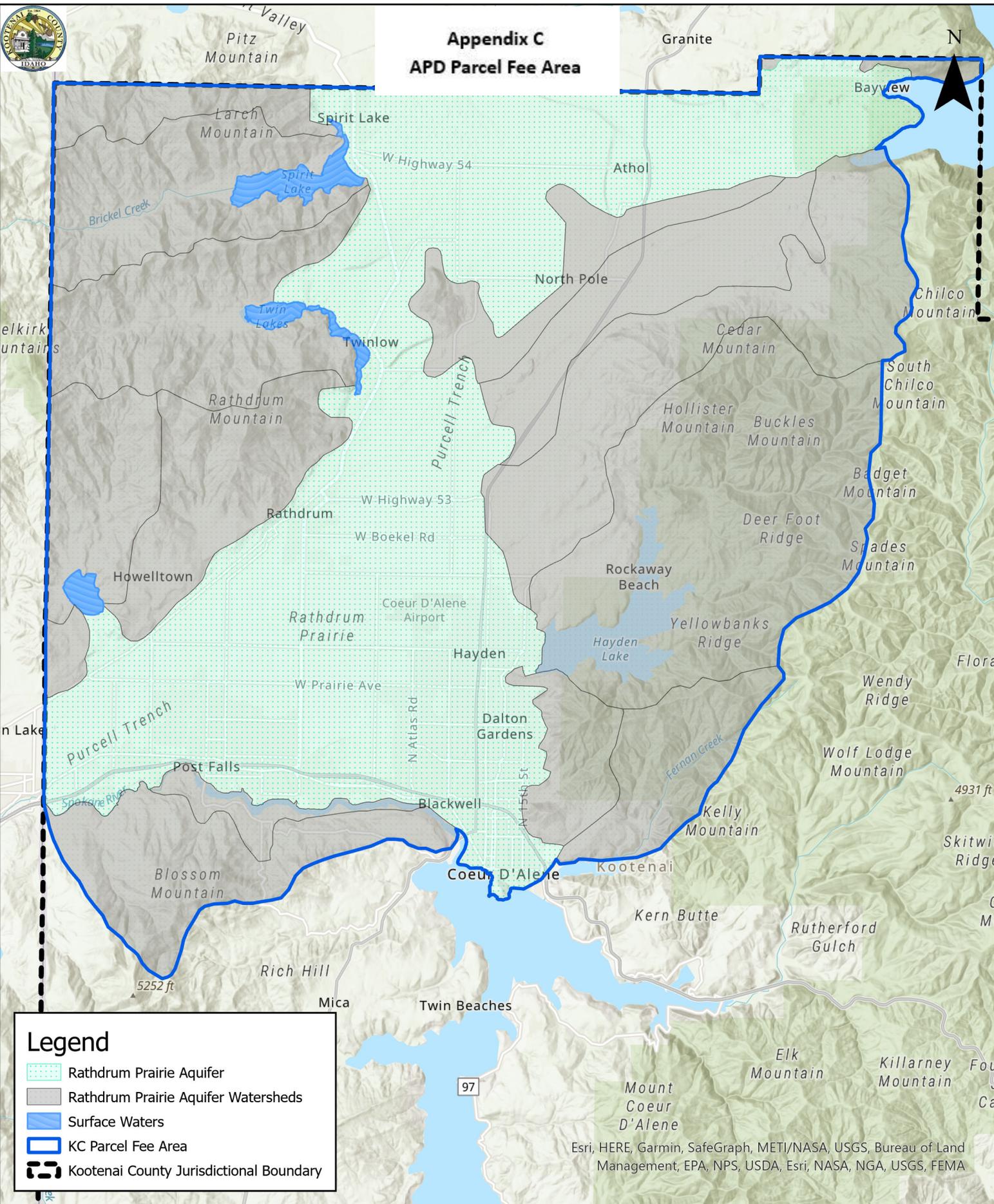
By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Marc Eberlein, Commissioner

David Stewart, Commissioner



Appendix C APD Parcel Fee Area



Legend

- Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer
- Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Watersheds
- Surface Waters
- KC Parcel Fee Area
- Kootenai County Jurisdictional Boundary

Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA

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**Appendix D
Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (RPA) Protection History
December 2023**

Geologic History

Please refer to the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlas (2023, 5th Edition).

Studies/Federal Sole Source Designation/State Sensitive Resource Aquifer Designation

1972	Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. Section 208 provides funding for “non-point” pollution control reduction planning.
1974	Safe Drinking Water Act: Sets national drinking water standards Section 1424(e) contains provisions for “sole source” aquifer designation
1975-1977	PHD initiates literature research and study of the Aquifer. Increased Nitrates in the Aquifer, from on-site wastewater disposal, shown to be a major concern.
1976, July	Idaho and Washington accepts offer of Federal financing from Section 208 of the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act
1976, Aug.	EPA Petitioned for Sole Source Designation by the League of Women Voters, Kootenai Env Alliance, Sierra Club & Audubon Society
1978, Feb.	“Sole Source” designation published in the Federal Register. Second one in the nation. Increased public awareness, and projects receiving federal financial assistance needed to demonstrate that the project would not adversely impact the Aquifer
1988, Aug.	U.S. Congress / U.S. EPA provide funding for Spokane Aquifer Protection. PHD expands Aquifer protection study to impacts from chemicals and stormwater.
1990	PHD adopts the Critical Materials Regulation, and begins work with business and industry on best management practices for chemicals over the Aquifer.
1996, Dec.	IDEQ publishes the Idaho Ground Water Quality Plan. One policy is to “...provide differential protection for the state’s ground water resources.”
1997, March	IDEQ designates Aquifer as a “Sensitive Resource Aquifer”. Must be managed in a manner which maintains or improves existing ground water quality through the use of best management practices and best available methods. This is the only one in the state.

Source: Panhandle Health District (PHD)

PHD 5-Acre Rule

- 1976 PHD adopts “Interim Policy on Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer” which limited the development of new subdivisions over the Aquifer that proposed to use on-site sewage disposal systems. The intent was to allow time for more study. The North Idaho Building Contractor’s Association filed a suit against IDHW and PHD. This particular action was dismissed by the court; however the State Board of Health decided to challenge PHD. [See **State Board of Health and Welfare Challenge** below]
- Based on the study, PHD Board forms an Ad Hoc committee to develop recommendations on how to manage sewage. Increased Nitrates in the Aquifer, from on-site wastewater disposal, used as a primary indicator. Draft rules developed.
- 1977 PHD holds several hearings on proposed sewage rules for the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer
- 1977 PHD Board adopts Rules and Regulations Governing Sewage Disposal on the Rathdrum Prairie in Kootenai County, Idaho
- 1977 – 2010 PHD enters into Sewage Management Agreements with cities, sewer districts, and other entities to encourage construction of public or central sewage collection systems. These programs were/are extremely effective, and we continue to be able to provide a safe and high quality of drinking water for our community.
- Present Day Due to interest from the business community, on-site sewage treatment alternatives are being evaluated with respect to treatment capabilities for nitrates and other contaminants. PHD is pleased to be a participant in this process, along with representatives from the business community, governmental entities, and elected officials.

State Board of Health and Welfare Challenge

- 1977 State Board challenges PHD’s rule making authority and process: rule was upheld.

Eborall Suit

- 1978 – 1982 Lawsuit between developer Alan Eborall (Plaintiff) and PHD over the 5-acre rule.
- 1982, June U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth circuit upholds PHD’s position and requires Plaintiff to pay PHD’s attorney fees.

Source: Panhandle Health District (PHD)

Aquifer Protection District

- 2005 Aquifer Protection District Steering Committee formed to draft the Aquifer Protection District (APD) legislation, which would enable Kootenai County to form an APD. Representatives Bob Nonini and Frank Henderson were instrumental in this process.
- 2006 Legislative Session - Bill (sponsored by Rep. Nonini) passed during this legislative session, resulting in new Idaho code 39-501 through 39-508
- November 7th election: law required a majority vote by Kootenai County property owners who were within the proposed Aquifer Protection District boundary. Passed by 66% (21,255 Yes Votes).
- 2007 Kootenai County Commissioners pass a Resolution to create the APD, then pass another Resolution to create the Policy and Budget Advisory Committee. The County Commissioners are the Governing Board. The Policy and Budget Advisory Committee develops the first work plan and budget proposal for the APD, which is adopted and implemented. \$8/parcel fee is assessed.
- 2007 to Present APD Advisory Committee recommends to Kootenai County Commissioners policy, grants, contracts, budget, and inter-agency coordination to support regulatory enforcement, water quality monitoring, education and outreach, and the inspection and prevention of potential pollutants that can contaminate the aquifer. Parcel fees and BNSF funding support, on average, a \$450 to \$550 thousand dollar budget for aquifer protection grants and contracts.

CAMP – Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan

- 2011 The Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) adopts the CAMP for northern Idaho, which was developed collaboratively by an advisory committee and the public. The CAMP vision includes recommendations to “Provide a sustainable source of high-quality groundwater for current and future economic, social, and environmental benefits, and preserve the exceptional quality and reliability of the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.”

Source: Panhandle Health District (PHD)

Critical Materials Rule

- 1993, July IDAPA 41.01.01.400 (Critical Materials Rule) is adopted. The focus of the rule is to require secondary containment of chemicals stored, handled, and transferred over the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.
- 2002 Best Management Practices Manual for Containing Critical Materials During Storage & Handling (BMP Manual) was produced by Kootenai County, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and Panhandle Health District, with input from area industry leaders. This document provides consistent guidelines and requirements for chemical handling and storage.
- 2015, March Panhandle Health District updates the BMP Manual to add clarity and specificity in the application of BMPs and to add emphasis on proper handling of non-domestic wastewater.
- 2019 IDAPA 41.01.01.400, along with all Idaho Administrative Rules (IDAPA), expired during the 2019 Legislative Session. PHD utilized temporary rule-making authority to carry the rules and attempted to secure legislative re-authorization for three years.
- 2021, December The Idaho Legislature passed House Bill No. 316, ruling that PHD is no longer considered a State Agency, thus, losing the ability to participate in the Omnibus Rulemaking Process. PHD also lost the ability to charge any fees associated with regulatory oversight of facilities that handle and/or store Critical Materials.
- 2022 PHD begins work to establish Critical Materials ordinances with local municipalities with the goal of widespread adoption throughout Kootenai County.
- 2023, June City of Coeur d’Alene adopts Ordinance No. 3716, Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Ordinance.

Source: Panhandle Health District (PHD)

Appendix E
APD Committee Needs Assessment Survey
2023

For each question, responses were either yes, no or depends.

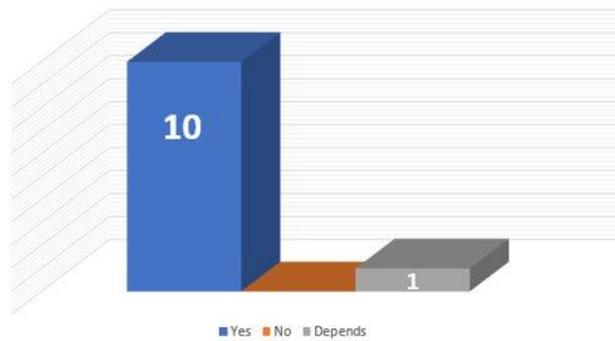
■ Yes ■ No ■ Depends

Qualitative discussion with each committee member was recorded in notes. The full committee reviewed and discussed quantitative and qualitative results as part of developing Master Plan Recommendations.

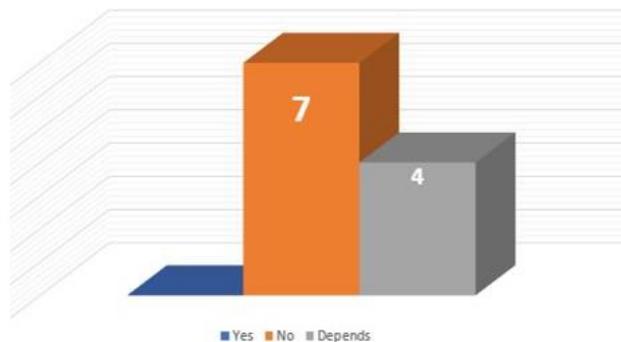
Questions and Responses

Mission, Priorities and Grants

1. Should a mission statement be created?

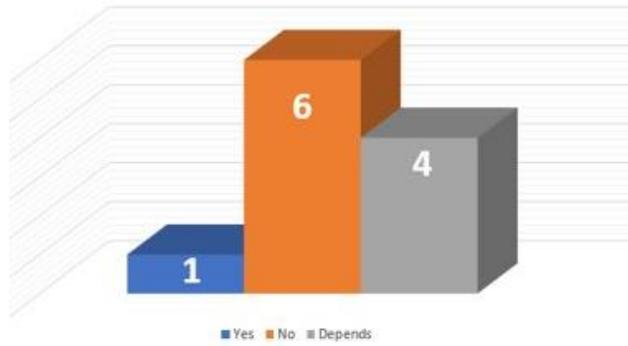


2. Are priorities clear and clearly stated?

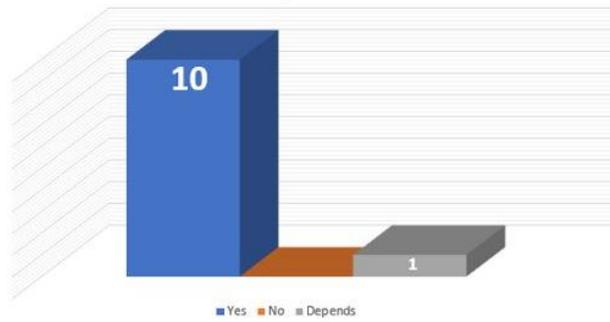


Mission, Priorities and Grants (continued)

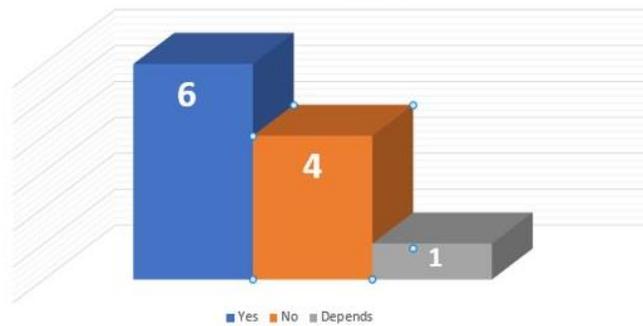
3. Are grant priorities and eligibility clearly stated?



4. Should application forms be updated to better reflect priorities?

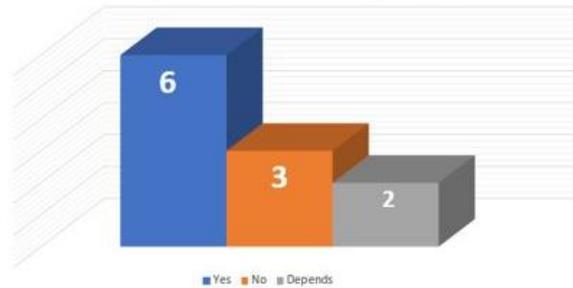


5. Should PHD and IDEQ provide additional detail for scopes of work?

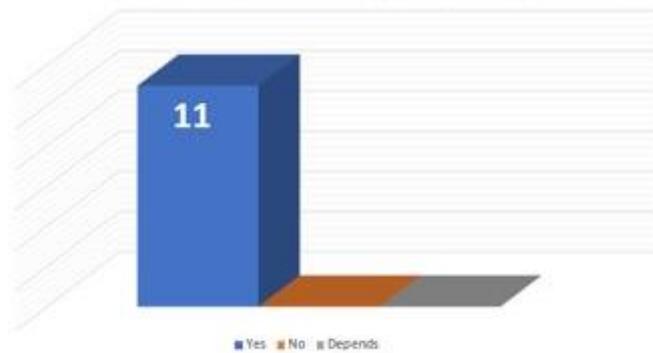


Mission, Priorities and Grants (continued)

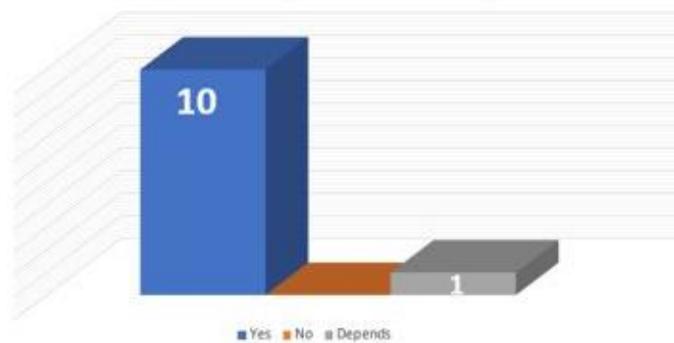
6. Should screening tools be developed to determine eligibility and score/rank based on priorities?



7. Should there be annual reporting from grantees?

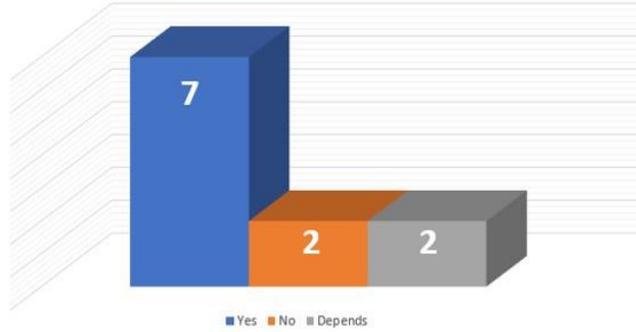


8. Should grantees be provided specific guidance for allowable/non-allowable expenses?

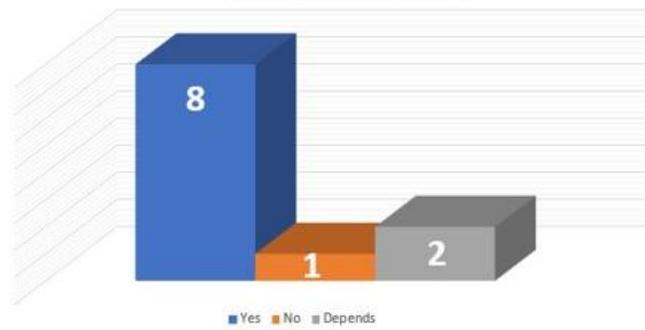


Reporting

9. Should there be an annual report or update of MP priorities to assist with prioritization?

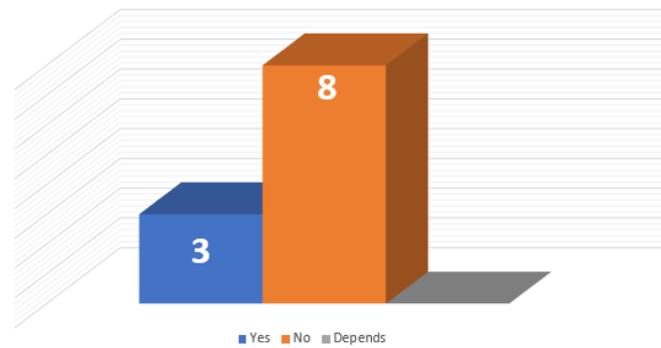


10. Should there be an annual report, news release or other option to assist with outreach?



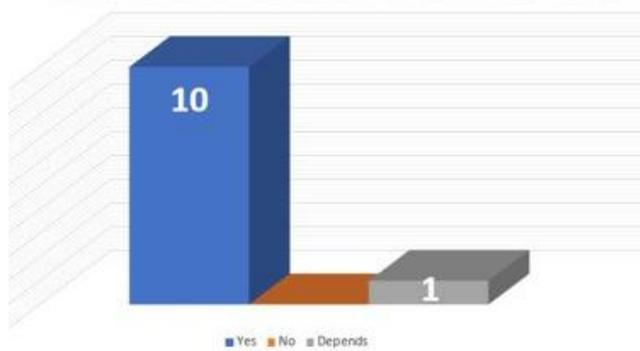
Contracting

11. Is the process for soliciting contracts clear?



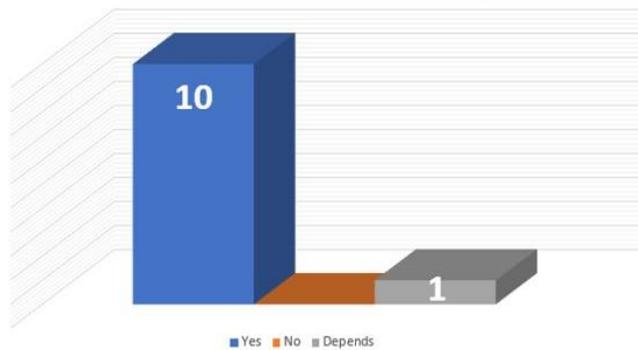
Contracting (continued)

12. Should APD consider placing PHD and IDEQ on an MOU?

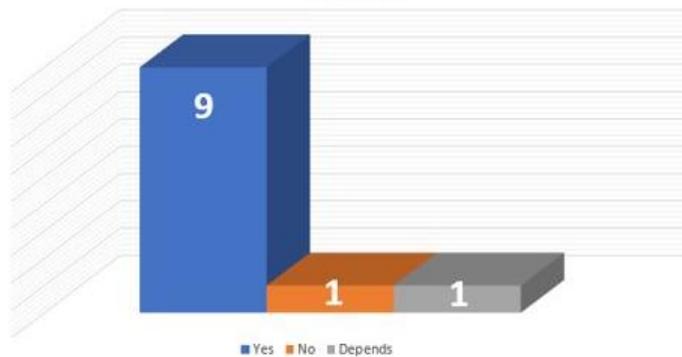


Board Administration/Governance

13. Should a new board member packet/training be created?

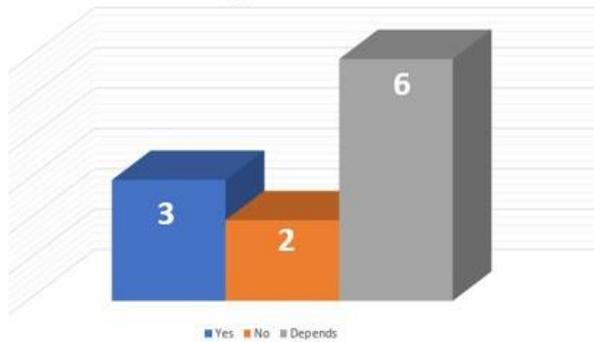


14. Should APD consider expanding the meeting calendar as needed?

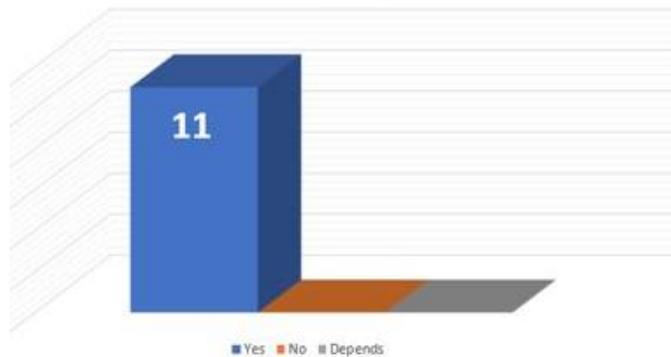


Funding Eligibility

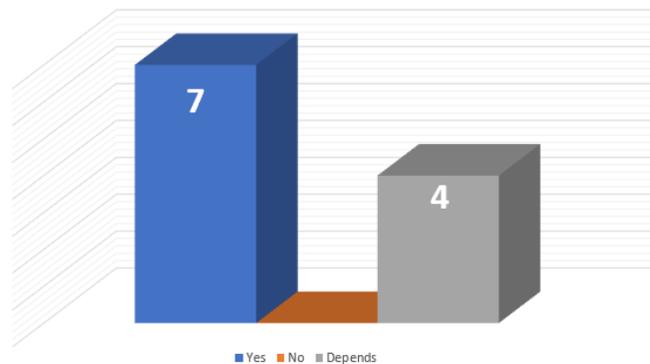
17. Should APD support activities outside the RPA?



18. Do you support the possibility of APD creating a reserve fund?

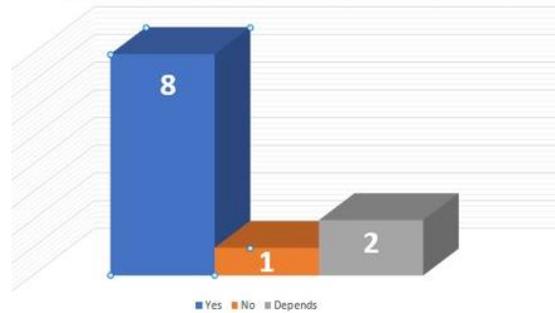


19. Do you support county funds being accessed as a loan for construction, capital or land or easement? IDWRB loan?



Staffing

20. Should adding full or part time KC staff be considered?



20. Do you support adding consultant/contract support as needed?

