



# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Corps invites public to learn more about lower Boise River Study

**BOISE, Idaho** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host public information meetings on June 29, June 30 and July 1 to discuss the Lower Boise River Interim Feasibility Study and present preliminary information developed during the study. The Corps and Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) formalized a partnership to conduct the study in May 2009.

Four information meetings are scheduled to occur in Boise, Eagle, Caldwell, and Idaho City, Idaho, on the dates, and at locations and times listed below:

<b>Caldwell</b>	<b>Boise</b>	<b>Eagle</b>	<b>Idaho City</b>
<b>June 29 – 6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>June 30 – 11 a.m</b>	<b>June 30 – 6:30 p.m</b>	<b>July 1 – 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>College of Idaho</b>	<b>City Council Chambers</b>	<b>City Hall Council</b>	<b>Ray Robison Community Hall</b>
<b>Simplot Dining Hall</b>	<b>150 N. Capitol Boulevard</b>	<b>Chambers</b>	<b>206 W. Commercial Street</b>
<b>2112 Cleveland Boulevard</b>		<b>660 East Civic Lane</b>	

After the presentations, there will be a session during which IWRB and Corps staff will be available to answer questions and discuss concerns. The meeting facilities are physically accessible to people with disabilities. If you need other accommodations or auxiliary aids, please contact Corps Project Manager Ellen Berggren at [Boise.Office@usace.army.mil](mailto:Boise.Office@usace.army.mil) or (208) 345-2065 before June 24.

The feasibility study will examine water resources problems and opportunities associated with water supply, flood risk, water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat restoration, and recreation for the Boise River downstream of Lucky Peak Dam. The Lower Boise River Interim Feasibility Study is the first phase of a two-phased feasibility study. The first phase will focus on water storage and initiate analysis of flood risk. The Corps and IWRB staff will present preliminary information about these two subject areas at the information meetings.

One component of the study involves assessing water storage potential in the Boise River Basin for the purpose of reducing flood risk downstream of Lucky Peak Dam and supplying water to meet future demands. The Corps has spent the past year reviewing existing information to narrow a list of 12 potential sites to three. The potential water storage sites being considered are located on the North Fork, Middle Fork, South Fork and main stem of the Boise River.

The public information meeting will present preliminary results of a screening analysis that compared and ranked the 12 potential sites. A written document describing the water storage screening analysis will be distributed at the information meetings and posted on the Corps' study Web site on June 29 [www.nww.usace.army.mil/boise/brifs/default.asp](http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/boise/brifs/default.asp).

Written comments about the water storage screening analysis will be accepted for 30 days after the public meetings. Engineering designs and cost estimates would be developed for the three top-ranking sites so that the benefits and costs of constructing storage facilities can be compared to other strategies for meeting future water demand and reducing flood risk. The final screening results are scheduled for completion at the end of August 2010.

More information about the Interim Feasibility Study can be found on the Corps Web site at [www.nww.usace.army.mil/boise/brifs/default.asp](http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/boise/brifs/default.asp). To learn more about the Corps of Engineers and its mission in the Walla Walla District, go to [www.nww.usace.army.mil](http://www.nww.usace.army.mil). For more information about the IWRB, check out their Web site at [www.idwr.idaho.gov/waterboard/](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/waterboard/).

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