



**Terri Kondeff**  
**Director**

# Legislative Services Office Idaho State Legislature

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Senators VICK, Johnson, Stennett and,  
Representatives GIBBS, Lickley, Rubel

**FROM:** Katharine Gerrity - Deputy Division Manager

**DATE:** August 03, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Temporary Rule

IDAPA 20.00.00 - Notice of Omnibus Rulemaking (Fee Rule) - Adoption of Temporary Rule \ Rescission of Previous Temporary Rule - Docket No. 20-0000-2100F

We are forwarding this temporary rule to you for your information only. No analysis was done by LSO. This rule is posted on our web site. If you have any questions, please call Katharine Gerrity at the Legislative Services Office at (208) 334-4845. Thank you.

Attachment: Temporary Rule

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## IDAPA 20 – IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

### DOCKET NO. 20-0000-2100F (FEE RULE)

#### NOTICE OF OMNIBUS RULEMAKING – ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY RULE \ RESCISSION OF PREVIOUS TEMPORARY RULE

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date of the temporary rules being adopted through this omnibus rulemaking as listed in the descriptive summary of this notice is July 1, 2021. The rescission of previous temporary rules under docket 20-0000-2000F is effective July 1, 2021.

**AUTHORITY:** In compliance with Section 67-5226, Idaho Code, notice is hereby given this agency has adopted temporary rules and rescinded previous temporary rules. The action is authorized pursuant to:

- Sections 38-132 and 38-402, Idaho Code;
- Title 38, Chapter 12, including Section 38-1208, Idaho Code;
- Title 47, Chapters 3, 7, 8, 13, 15, 16 and 18, including Sections 47-314(8), 47-315(8), 47-328(1), 47-710, 47-714, and 47-1316, Idaho Code;
- Title 58, Chapters 1, 3, 6, 12 and 13, including Sections 58-104, 58-105, 58-127, and 58-304 through 58-312, Idaho Code;
- Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code;
- Article IX, Sections 7 and 8 of the Idaho Constitution; and
- The Equal Footing Doctrine (Idaho Admission Act of July 3, 1890, 26 Stat. 215, Chapter 656).

**DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY:** The following is the required finding and concise statement of its supporting reasons for adopting temporary rules and rescinding previous temporary rules:

This temporary rulemaking adopts and republishes the following existing rule chapters previously submitted to and reviewed by the Idaho Legislature under IDAPA 20, Rules of the Idaho Department of Lands:

#### **IDAPA 20**

- 20.02.14, *Rules for Selling Forest Products on State-Owned Endowment Lands;*
- 20.03.01, *Rules Governing Dredge and Placer Mining Operations in Idaho;*
- 20.03.02, *Rules Governing Mined Land Reclamation;*
- 20.03.03, *Rules Governing Administration of the Reclamation Fund;*
- 20.03.04, *Rules for the Regulation of Beds, Waters, and Airspace Over Navigable Lakes in the State of Idaho;*
- 20.03.05, *Riverbed Mineral Leasing in Idaho;*
- 20.03.08, *Easements on State-Owned Lands;*
- 20.03.09, *Easements on State-Owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands;*
- 20.03.13, *Administration of Cottage Site Leases on State Lands;*
- 20.03.14, *Rules Governing Grazing, Farming, Conservation, Noncommercial Recreation, and Communication Site Leases;*
- 20.03.15, *Rules Governing Geothermal Leasing on Idaho State Lands;*
- 20.03.16, *Rules Governing Oil and Gas Leasing on Idaho State Lands;*
- 20.03.17, *Rules Governing Leases on State-Owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands; and*
- 20.04.02, *Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws.*

The Idaho Board of Scaling Practices adopts the following temporary rule under IDAPA 20.06:

- 20.06.01, *Rules of the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices.*

The Oil and Gas Conservation Commission adopts the following temporary rule under IDAPA 20.07:

- 20.07.02, *Rules Governing Conservation of Oil and Natural Gas in the State of Idaho.*

Rescission of previous temporary rule aligns these chapters wholly with the administrative code effective 7-1-21.

**TEMPORARY RULE JUSTIFICATION:** Pursuant to Sections 67-5226(1)(a-c) and 67-5226(2), Idaho Code, the Governor has found that temporary adoption of the rules is appropriate for the following reasons:

These temporary rules are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Idaho and confer a benefit on its citizens. These temporary rules implement the duly enacted laws of the state of Idaho, provide citizens with the detailed rules and standards for complying with those laws, and assist in the orderly execution and enforcement of those laws. The expiration of these rules without due consideration and processes would undermine the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Idaho and deprive them of the benefit intended by these rules.

The rules of the Idaho Department of Lands serve the public interest by, for example, ensuring landowners, royalty owners, producers, and the public realize and enjoy the greatest good from the state's vital natural resources like oil, natural gas, and minerals. The rules also serve the public interest by, for example, regulating forestland management practices to maintain and enhance benefits such as job creation, tax generation, and distributions to endowment beneficiaries, and by conserving resources such as forest tree species, soil, air, water, and wildlife habitat.

**FEE SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 67-5226(2), the Governor has found that the fees or charges being imposed or increased are justified and necessary to avoid immediate danger and the fees are described herein:

The fees or charges, authorized in Sections 38-122, 38-404, 38-1209, 47-315(5)(e), 47-316, 47-710, 47-805, 47-1506(g), 47-1508(f), 47-1316, 47-1317, 47-1605, 47-1803, 58-104, 58-105, 58-127, 58-304, 58-601, 58-603, and 58-1307, Idaho Code, are part of the agency's 2022 budget that relies upon the existence of these fees or charges to meet the state's obligations and provide necessary state services. Failing to reauthorize these temporary rules would create immediate danger to the state budget, immediate danger to necessary state functions and services, and immediate danger of a violation of Idaho's constitutional requirement that it balance its budget and that the Land Board fulfill its constitutional fiduciary obligation to endowment beneficiaries.

The following is a specific description of the fees or charges:

- 20.02.14 – Stumpage payments and associated bonding for removal of state timber from endowment land pursuant to timber sales. This charge is being imposed pursuant to Sections 58-104, 58-105 and 58-127, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.01 – Application fee, amendment fee, and inspection fee for all dredge and placer permits in the state of Idaho. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 47-1316 and 47-1317, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.02 – Application fee for permanent closure plans and reclamation plans and amendments to those plans. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 47-1506(g) and 47-1508(f), Idaho Code.
- 20.03.03 – Annual payment for Reclamation Fund participation. This charge is being imposed pursuant to Section 47-1803, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.04 – Application fees for encroachment permits and assignments and deposits toward the cost of newspaper publication. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 58-127 and 58-1307, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.05 – Fees for applications, advertising applications, and approval of assignments for riverbed mineral leases and exploration locations. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Section 47-710, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.08 – Application fee, easement consideration fee, appraisal costs, and assignment fee for easements on state-owned lands. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 58-127, 58-601, and 58-603, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.09 – Administrative fee, appraisal costs, and assignment fee for easements on state-owned submerged lands and formerly submerged lands. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 58-104, 58-127 and 58-603, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.13 – Annual rental payment paid to the endowment for which the property is held. This charge is being imposed pursuant to Section 58-304, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.14 – Lease application fee, full lease assignment fee, partial lease assignment fee, mortgage agreement fee, sublease fee, rental payment, late rental payment fee, minimum lease fee, and lease payment extension request fee on state endowment trust lands. This fee or charge is being imposed pursuant to Section 58-304, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.15 – Application fee, assignment fee, late payment fee, royalty payments, and annual rental payment for geothermal leases on state-owned lands. This fee or charge is being imposed pursuant to Sections 47-1605 and 58-127, Idaho Code.
- 20.03.16 – Exploration permit fee, nomination fee, processing fee, royalty payments, and annual rental payment for oil and gas leases on endowment lands. This fee or charge is being imposed pursuant to Sections 47-805 and 58-127, Idaho Code.

- 20.03.17 – Application fee, rental rate, and assignment fee for leases on state-owned submerged lands and formerly submerged lands. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Sections 58-104, 58-127 and 58-304, Idaho Code.
- 20.04.02 – Fee imposed upon the harvest and sale of forest products to establish hazard management performance bonds for the abatement of fire hazard created by a timber harvest operation, and fees imposed upon contractors for transferring fire suppression cost liability back to the State. This fee or charge is being imposed pursuant to Sections 38-122 and 38-404, Idaho Code.
- 20.06.01 – Scaling assessment fee paid to a dedicated scaling account for all scaled timber harvested within the state of Idaho; administrative fees for registration, renewal, and transfer of log brands; fees for testing and issuance of a temporary scaling permit, specialty scaling license, and standard scaling license; fee to renew a specialty or standard scaling license; and fee for a requested check scale involving a scaling dispute. This fee is being imposed pursuant to Section 38-1209, Idaho Code.
- 20.07.02 – Bonding for oil and gas activities in Idaho and application fees for seismic operations; permit to drill, deepen or plug back; multiple zone completions; well treatment; pits and directional deviated wells. This fee or charge is being imposed pursuant to Sections 47-315(5)(e) and 47-316, Idaho Code.

**ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:** For assistance on technical questions concerning the adoption of temporary rules and rescission of temporary rules, contact Scott Phillips at (208) 334-0294.

DATED this 1st day of July, 2021.

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## 20.02.14 – RULES FOR SELLING FOREST PRODUCTS ON STATE-OWNED ENDOWMENT LANDS

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This chapter is adopted under the legal authority of Sections 38-1201, et seq.; 58-104(6); 58-105; 67-5201, et seq.; Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.02.14 “Rules for Selling Forest Products on State-Owned Endowment Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules govern the selling of forest products from state endowment lands. (7-1-21)T

### 002. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

The following document is incorporated by reference into these rules: American National Standard Institute, 05.1, 2002 Edition, published by the Alliance for Telecommunication Industry Solutions and available to purchase on the Internet at <http://www.atis.org>. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners. (7-1-21)T

**02. Contract.** Timber sale contract in a form prescribed by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**04. Development Credits.** A stumpage credit received by the purchaser for the construction or reconstruction of roads, bridges, or other permanent improvements. (7-1-21)T

**05. Director.** The director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**06. Forest Products.** Marketable forest materials. (7-1-21)T

**07. Net Appraised Value.** The minimum estimated sale value of the forest products after deducting the development credit. (7-1-21)T

**08. Net Sale Value.** The final sale bid value of the forest products after deducting the development credit. (7-1-21)T

**09. Purchaser.** A successful bidder for forest products from a state sale who has executed a timber sale contract. (7-1-21)T

**10. Roads.** Forest access roads used for the transportation of forest products. (7-1-21)T

### 011. -- 018. (RESERVED)

### 019. FIREWOOD AND OTHER PERSONAL USE PRODUCT PERMITS.

Forest product permits for personal use will be sold on a charge basis. The Director will determine permit rates and maximum permit values. (7-1-21)T

### 020. DIRECT SALES.

The sale of forest products without advertisement may be authorized by the Director if the net appraised value does not exceed the maximum value established by the Board. This type of sale is to be used to harvest isolated or by-passed parcels of timber of insufficient value and volume to justify a timber sale (refer to Section 021). The direct sale will not be used when two (2) or more potential purchasers may be interested in bidding on the forest products offered for sale. The initial duration of a direct sale is six (6) months with a provision for one six (6) month extension. The purchaser must furnish an acceptable performance bond in the amount of thirty percent (30%) of the sale value with a minimum bond of one hundred dollars (\$100). Advance payment will be required and all sales will be on a lump sum basis. (7-1-21)T

**021. TIMBER SALES.**

Timber sales exceed the net appraised value or volume for direct sales established by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**022. -- 025. (RESERVED)**

**026. ANNUAL SALES PLAN.**

The Department will prepare an annual sales plan which will describe the timber sales to be offered for sale during the forthcoming fiscal year. The plan will be based on recommended annual harvest volumes utilizing inventory data, local stand conditions, special management problems, and economic factors. The plan will be presented to the Board for approval annually and upon approval made available to all interested parties. The plan may be altered to respond to changing market conditions or to expedite the sale of damaged or insect-infested forest products. (7-1-21)T

**027. -- 030. (RESERVED)**

**031. TIMBER SALE AUCTIONS.**

**01. Requirements.** Timber and Delivered Products sales must be sold at public auction. (7-1-21)T

**02. Requirements for Bidding.** Bidders must: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Present a bid deposit in a form acceptable to the State in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the net appraised value. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Not be delinquent on any payments to the State at the time of sale. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Not be a minor as defined in Section 32-101, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If a foreign corporation, have a completed and accepted foreign registration statement with the secretary of state and comply with Title 30, Chapter 21, Part 5, Idaho Code in order to do business in Idaho and be eligible to bid on and purchase State timber. (7-1-21)T

**032. INITIAL DEPOSIT AND BONDS.**

**01. Initial Deposit.** The initial deposit (ten percent (10%) of net sale value) is paid in cash and retained by the state as a cash reserve for the duration of the contract; the purchaser is not entitled to any interest earned thereon. All or a portion of the initial deposit may be applied to charges as the contract nears completion. Any remaining initial deposit will be forfeited in the event the contract is terminated without being completed. (7-1-21)T

**02. Performance Bond.** A bond of sufficient amount for carrying out in good faith all applicable laws and all the terms and conditions imposed by the Board and the sale contract or fifteen percent (15%) of the net sale value of the forest products (whichever is greater) is to be executed within thirty (30) days from the date of sale and prior to execution of the contract. Failure to perform on the contract may result in forfeiture of all or a portion of the performance bond. (7-1-21)T

**03. Guarantee of Payment.** Prior to cutting of any forest products, the purchaser must provide a bond acceptable to the Department as assurance of payment for products to be cut or removed, or both, during the next ninety (90) days. Guarantee of payment on delivered product sales will be as determined by the Department. This bond is in addition to the required initial deposit. Failure to make full and timely payment as per contract terms may result in forfeiture of all or a portion of the guarantee of payment. (7-1-21)T

**033. -- 040. (RESERVED)**

**041. STUMPAGE AND INTEREST PAYMENT.**

A stumpage summary of forest products measured during the prior month and a statement of account will be prepared by the Department and forwarded to the purchaser monthly. The statement will include interest computed from the date of sale to the date of the billing at a rate specified in the contract. The purchaser must make payments within thirty (30) days of the end of the billing period or the payment is considered delinquent. Interest will not be charged on delivered

product sales. (7-1-21)T

**042. TIMBER SALE CANCELLATION.**

It is the purchaser's responsibility to initiate cancellation by submitting such request in writing to the respective supervisory area office. When all contractual requirements have been completed, final payments have been received, all load tickets have been accounted for, and a written request for cancellation has been received by the Department, any credit balances and all cash bonds will be returned and/or transferred to other timber sale accounts within forty-five (45) days, as requested by the purchaser. (7-1-21)T

**043. PREMATURE TIMBER SALE TERMINATION.**

**01. Request.** A timber sale purchaser may, for reasons of hardship, make written request to terminate a timber sale contract before harvesting is completed. In such cases, the Board will determine if a hardship exists and if the contract should be terminated. (7-1-21)T

**02. Termination Policy.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Board may authorize premature termination of any sale under any terms considered reasonable and appropriate. Any remaining amount of the ten percent (10%) initial deposit will be retained in full and applied towards assessed damages and may not be used as payment for forest products cut and/or removed. Assessed damages in excess of the initial deposit will be applied against the performance bond. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The following damages will be assessed by the Board for premature sale terminations. (7-1-21)T

**i.** The Board will seek payment of the value of the overbid for the uncut residual volume. For example, if white pine had been bid up by five dollars (\$5) per thousand board feet over the appraised price and there are one hundred thousand (100,000) board feet of white pine remaining on the sale area, the purchaser will be assessed five hundred dollars (\$500) upon termination. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** The Board will seek payment of the accrued stumpage interest due the endowed institutions based on the interest rate specified in the contract and calculated on all remaining volume from the date of sale to the date the Board approved termination of the contract. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** The Board will seek payment for any credits given for developments that remain incomplete at the time of termination. (7-1-21)T

**iv.** The Board will seek payment for estimated Department costs associated with reoffering the timber sale. (7-1-21)T

**v.** The Board may also seek payment for other expenses including, but not limited to, legal costs and Department staff time. (7-1-21)T

**c.** If logging has occurred on the sale, the purchaser must complete the units that have been partially logged according to contract standards and complete all development work as specified in the contract to the extent of allowances that have been credited to the purchaser. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The purchaser who has terminated a timber sale contract is not eligible to rebid that particular sale unless specifically authorized to do so by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**044. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.01 – RULES GOVERNING DREDGE AND PLACER MINING OPERATIONS IN IDAHO

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

These rules are promulgated by the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners pursuant to Section 47-1316, Idaho Code. The Board has delegated to the Director of the Department of Lands (“department”) the duties and powers under the act and these rules; provided that the Board retains responsibility for approval of permit and administrative review. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.01 “Rules Governing Dredge and Placer Mining Operations in Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules constitute the Idaho Department of Lands’ administrative procedures for implementation of the Idaho Dredge and Placer Mining Protection Act with the intent and purpose to protect the lands, streams and watercourses within the state, from destruction by dredge mining and by placer mining, and to preserve the same for the enjoyment, use and benefit of all of the people, and that clean water in the streams of Idaho is in the public interest. (7-1-21)T

### 002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

**01. Procedures for Appeals:** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Any applicant or permit holder aggrieved by any final decision or order of the Board is entitled to judicial review in accordance with the provisions and standards set forth in Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, the Administrative Procedures Act. (7-1-21)T

**b.** When the Director or the Board finds that justice so requires, it may postpone the effective date of a final order pending judicial review. The reviewing court, including the court to which a case may be taken on appeal, may issue all necessary and appropriate orders to postpone the effective date of any final order pending conclusion of the review proceedings. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules concerning administrative or judicial proceedings, whenever the Board determines that a Permittee has not complied with the provisions of the act or these rules, the Board may file a civil action in the district court for the county wherein the violation or some part occurred, or in the district court for the county where the defendant resides. The Board may request the court to issue an appropriate order to remedy any alleged violation. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Act.** The Idaho Placer and Dredge Mining Protection Act, Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Approximate Previous Contour.** A contour reasonably comparable to that contour existing prior to disturbance, or that blends with the adjacent topography. (7-1-21)T

**03. Best Management Practices.** Methods, measures, or practices to prevent or reduce nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution, including, but not limited to, structural and nonstructural controls, and operation and maintenance procedures. Usually, BMPs are applied as a system of practices rather than a single practice. BMPs are selected on the basis of site-specific conditions that reflect natural background conditions; political, social, economic, and technical feasibility; and stated water quality goals. (7-1-21)T

**04. Board.** The State Board of Land Commissioners or any department, commission, or agency that may lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of such Board. (7-1-21)T

**05. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**06. Director.** The Director of the Department of Lands or such representative as may be designated by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**07. Disturbed Land or Affected Land.** Land, natural watercourses, or existing stockpiles and waste



piles affected by placer or dredge mining, re-mining, exploration, stockpiling of ore wastes from placer or dredge mining, or construction of roads, tailings ponds, structures, or facilities appurtenant to placer or dredge mining operations. (7-1-21)T

**08. Final Order of the Board.** A written notice of rejection or approval, the order of a hearing officer at the conclusion of a hearing, or any other order of the Board where additional administrative remedies are not available. (7-1-21)T

**09. Hearing Officer.** That person duly appointed by the Board to hear proceedings under Section 47-1320, Idaho Code. It also means that person selected by the Director to hear proceedings initiated under Section 030 or Section 051 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**10. Mine Panel.** That area designated by the Permittee as an identifiable portion of a placer or dredge mine on the map submitted pursuant to Section 47-1317, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**11. Mineral.** Any ore, rock or substance extracted from a placer deposit or from an existing placer stockpile or wastepile, but does not include coal, clay, stone, sand, gravel, phosphate, uranium, oil or gas. (7-1-21)T

**12. Motorized Earth-Moving Equipment.** Backhoes, bulldozers, front-loaders, trenchers, core drills, draglines, and suction dredges with an intake diameter exceeding eight (8) inches, and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T

**13. Mulch.** Vegetation residues or other suitable materials to aid in the stabilization of soil and soil moisture conservation. (7-1-21)T

**14. Natural Watercourse.** Any stream in the state of Idaho having definite bed and banks, and which confines and conducts continuously flowing water. (7-1-21)T

**15. Overburden.** Material extracted by a Permittee which is not a part of the material ultimately removed from a placer or dredge mine and marketed by a Permittee, exclusive of mineral stockpiles. Overburden is comprised of topsoil and waste. (7-1-21)T

**16. Overburden Disposal Area.** Land surface upon which overburden is piled or planned to be piled. (7-1-21)T

**17. Permanent Cessation.** Mining operations as to the whole or any part of the permit area have stopped and there is substantial evidence that such operations will not resume within one (1) year. The date of permanent cessation is the last day when mining operations are known or can be shown to have occurred. (7-1-21)T

**18. Permit Area.** That area designated under Section 021 as the site of a proposed placer or dredge mining operation, including all lands to be disturbed by the operation. (7-1-21)T

**19. Permittee.** The person in whose name the permit is issued and who is to be held responsible for compliance with the conditions of the permit by the department. (7-1-21)T

**20. Person.** Any person, corporation, partnership, association, or public or governmental agency engaged in placer or dredge mining, whether individually, jointly, or through subsidiaries, agents, employees, or contractors. (7-1-21)T

**21. Pit.** An excavation created by the extraction of minerals or overburden during placer mining or exploration operations. (7-1-21)T

**22. Placer Deposit.** Naturally occurring unconsolidated surficial detritus containing valuable minerals, whether located inside or outside the confines of a natural watercourse. (7-1-21)T

**23. Placer Stockpile.** Placer mineral extracted during past or present placer or dredge mining operations and retained at the mine for future rather than immediate use. (7-1-21)T

**24. Placer or Dredge Exploration Operation.** Activities including, but not limited to, the construction of roads, trenches, and test holes performed on a placer deposit for the purpose of locating and determining the economic feasibility of extracting minerals by placer or dredge mining. (7-1-21)T

**25. Placer or Dredge Mining or Dredge or Other Placer Mining.** The extraction of minerals from a placer deposit, including remaining for sale, processing, or other disposition of earth material excavated from previous placer or dredge mining. (7-1-21)T

**26. Placer or Dredge Mining Operation.** Placer or dredge mining which disturbs in excess of one-half (1/2) acre of land during the life of the operation. (7-1-21)T

**27. Reclamation.** The process of restoring an area disturbed by a placer or dredge mining operation or exploration operation to its original or another beneficial use, considering land uses, possible future uses, and surrounding topography. The objective is to re-establish a diverse, self-perpetuating plant community, and to minimize erosion, remove hazards, and maintain water quality. (7-1-21)T

**28. Revegetation.** The establishment of the premining vegetation or a comparable vegetative cover on the land disturbed by placer or dredge mining operations. (7-1-21)T

**29. Road.** A way including the bed, slopes, and shoulders constructed within the circular tract circumscribed by a placer or dredge mining operation, or constructed solely for access to a placer or dredge mining operation or placer or dredge exploration operation. A way dedicated to public multiple use or being used by a governmental land manager or private landowner at the time of cessation of operations and not constructed solely for access to a placer or dredge mining operation or exploration operation, is not considered a road. (7-1-21)T

**30. Settling Pond.** A manmade enclosure or natural impoundment structure constructed and used for the purpose of treating mine process water and/or runoff water from adjacent disturbed areas by the removal or settling of sediment particles. Several types of settling ponds or a series of smaller ponds may be used in water management. The most common type is a recycle or recirculation pond which is used to pump clarified water back to the wash plant operation. (7-1-21)T

**31. Surface Waters.** The surface waters of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**32. Topsoil.** The unconsolidated mineral and organic matter naturally present on the surface of the earth that is necessary for the growth and regeneration of vegetation. (7-1-21)T

#### **011. ABBREVIATIONS.**

**01. BMP.** Best Management Practices. (7-1-21)T

**02. DEQ.** Department of Environmental Quality. (7-1-21)T

#### **012. PURPOSE AND GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

**01. Policy.** It is the policy of the state of Idaho to protect the lands, streams, and watercourses within the state from destruction by placer mining, and to preserve them for the enjoyment, use, and benefit of all of the people, and that clean water in the streams of Idaho is in the public interest. (7-1-21)T

**02. Purpose.** These rules are intended to implement the requirements for operation and reclamation of placer and dredge mining set forth in the Idaho Code. Compliance with these rules will allow removal of minerals while preserving water quality and ensuring rehabilitation for beneficial use of the land following mining. Placer and dredge mining is expressly prohibited upon certain waterways included in the federal wild and scenic rivers system. It is also the purpose of these rules to implement the state of Idaho's antidegradation policy as set out in Executive Order No. 88-23 as it pertains to placer mining and exploration operations. (7-1-21)T

**03. General Provisions.** In general, these rules establish: (7-1-21)T

- a. Requirements for placer mine exploration operations; (7-1-21)T
- b. Procedures for securing a placer and dredge mining permit; (7-1-21)T
- c. The requirements for posting a performance bond as a condition of such permit to ensure the completion of rehabilitation operations; (7-1-21)T
- d. Procedures for initial and periodic inspection of placer and dredge mining operations to ensure compliance with these rules; (7-1-21)T
- e. Prohibition of placer and dredge mining on designated watercourses (see Section 060); and (7-1-21)T
- f. Prohibitions against placer and dredge mining on certain lands when not in the public interest. (7-1-21)T

**04. Compliance with Other Laws.** Placer and dredge exploration operations and mining operations must comply with all applicable rules and laws of the state of Idaho including, but not limited to, the following: (7-1-21)T

- a. Idaho Environmental Protection and Health Act, Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code, and rules as promulgated and administered by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (7-1-21)T
- b. Idaho Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, and applicable rules as promulgated and administered by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T
- c. Idaho Dam Safety Act, Section 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, and applicable rules and regulations as promulgated and administered by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**013. APPLICABILITY.**

**01. All Lands in State.** These rules apply to all lands within the state, including private and federal lands, which are disturbed by placer or dredge mining conducted after November 24, 1954. (7-1-21)T

**02. Types of Operations.** These rules apply to placer and dredge mining operations and placer and dredge exploration operations as defined under Section 47-1313, Idaho Code, and Subsections 010.24, 010.25, and 010.26 and to the following activities: (7-1-21)T

- a. The extraction of minerals from a placer deposit, including the removal of vegetation, topsoil, overburden, and minerals; construction, and operation of on-site processing equipment; disposal of overburden and waste materials; design and operation of siltation and other water quality control facilities; and other activities contiguous to the mining site that disturb land and affect water quality and/or water quantity. (7-1-21)T
- b. All exploration activities conducted upon a placer deposit using motorized earth-moving equipment. (7-1-21)T

**03. Nonapplicability.** These rules do not apply to mining operations regulated by the Idaho Surface Mining Act; neither do they apply to surface disturbance caused by the underground mining of a placer deposit, unless the deposit outcrops on or near the surface and the operation will result in the probable subsidence of the land surface. (7-1-21)T

**04. Stream Channel Alterations.** These rules do not exempt the Permittee from obtaining a stream channel alteration permit if required by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**05. Navigational Improvements.** These rules do not apply to dredging operations conducted for the sole purpose of establishing and maintaining a channel for navigation. (7-1-21)T

**06. Suction Dredges.** These rules do not apply to dredging operations in streams or riverbeds using suction dredges with an intake diameter of eight (8) inches or less. However, these rules do not affect or exempt the applicability of Section 47-701, Idaho Code, regarding leasing of the state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams, Section 47-703A, Idaho Code, regarding exploration on navigable lakes and streams, and Section 39-118, Idaho Code, regarding review of plans for waste treatment or disposal facilities such as settling or recycle ponds. (7-1-21)T

**014. ADMINISTRATION.**

The Department of Lands shall administer these rules under the direction of the director. (7-1-21)T

**015. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. PLACER OR DREDGE EXPLORATION OPERATIONS.**

**01. Notice.** Any person desiring to conduct placer or dredge exploration operations using motorized earth-moving equipment must, within seven (7) days of commencing exploration, notify the Director. The notice includes the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The name and address of the operator; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The legal description of the exploration operation and its starting and estimated completion date; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** The anticipated size of the exploration operation and the general method of operation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Confidentiality.** The exploration notice will be treated confidential pursuant to Sections 74-107 and 47-1314, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. One-Half Acre Limit.** Any placer or dredge exploration operation that causes a cumulative surface disturbance in excess of one-half (1/2) acre of land, including roads, is considered a placer or dredge mining operation and subject to the requirements outlined in Sections 021 through 065. Lands disturbed by any placer or dredge exploration operation that causes a cumulative surface disturbance of less than one-half (1/2) acre of land, including roads, must be restored to conditions reasonably comparable to conditions existing prior to the placer or dredge exploration operation and as outlined in Subsection 020.04. (7-1-21)T

**04. Reclamation Required.** The following reclamation activities, required to be conducted on exploration sites, must be performed in a workmanlike manner with all reasonable diligence, and as to a given exploration drill hole, road, pit, or trench, within one (1) year after abandonment thereof: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Drill holes must be plugged within one (1) year of abandonment with a permanent concrete or bentonite plug. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Restore all disturbed lands, including roads, to conditions reasonably comparable to conditions existing prior to the placer or dredge exploration operations. (47-1314(b)) (7-1-21)T

**c.** Conduct revegetation activities in accordance with Subsection 040.17. Unless otherwise required by a federal agency, one (1) pit or trench on a federal mining claim showing discovery, may be left open pending verification by federal mining examiners. Such abandoned pits and trenches must be reclaimed within one (1) year of verification; (7-1-21)T

**d.** If water runoff from exploration operations causes siltation or other pollution of surface waters, the operator will prepare disturbed lands and adjoining lands under his or her control, as is necessary to meet state water quality standards. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Abandoned lands disturbed by an exploration operation must be top-dressed to the extent that such overburden is reasonably available from any pit or other excavation created by the exploration operation, with that

type of overburden that is conducive to the control of erosion or the growth of vegetation that the operator elects to plant thereon; (7-1-21)T

**f.** Any water containment structure created in connection with exploration operations will be constructed, maintained, and reclaimed so as not to constitute a hazard to human health or the environment. (7-1-21)T

**021. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR PLACER OR DREDGE MINING PERMIT.**

**01. Approved Reclamation Plan Required.** No Permittee may conduct placer or dredge mining operations, as defined in these rules, on any lands in the state of Idaho until the placer mining permit has been approved by the Board, the department has received a bond meeting the requirements of these rules, and the permit has been signed by the Director and the Permittee. (7-1-21)T

**02. Application Package.** The Permittee must submit a complete application package, for each separate placer mine or mine panel, before the placer permit will be reviewed. Separate placer mines are individual, physically disconnected operations. The complete application package consists of: (7-1-21)T

**a.** An application completed by the applicant on a form provided by the Director; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A map or maps of the proposed mining operation which includes the information required under Subsection 021.04; (7-1-21)T

**c.** A reclamation plan, in map and narrative form, which includes the information required under Subsection 021.06. The map and reclamation plan may be combined on one (1) sheet if practical; (7-1-21)T

**d.** Document(s) identifying and assessing foreseeable, site-specific nonpoint sources of water quality impacts upon adjacent surface waters, and the best management practices the applicant will take to control such nonpoint source impacts; (7-1-21)T

**e.** When the Director determines, after consultation with DEQ, that there is an unreasonably high potential for nonpoint source pollution of adjacent surface waters, the Director will request, and the applicant will provide to the Director, baseline pre-project surface water monitoring information and furnish ongoing monitoring data during the life of the project. This provision does not require any additional baseline preproject surface water monitoring information or ongoing monitoring data where such information or data is already required to be provided pursuant to any federal or state law and is available to the Director; (7-1-21)T

**f.** An out-of-state Permittee must designate an in-state agent authorized to act on behalf of the Permittee. In case of an emergency requiring action to be taken to prevent environmental damage, the authorized agent will be notified as well as the Permittee; and (7-1-21)T

**g.** An application fee of fifty dollars (\$50) for each ten (10) acres or fraction of land included in an application for a new mining permit, or of land to be affected or added in an amended application to an existing mining permit, must be included with the application. No application fee will exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). (7-1-21)T

**03. Incomplete Applications.** An application for a permit may be returned for correction if the information provided on the application form or associated mine map(s) or reclamation plan is incomplete or otherwise unsatisfactory. The Director will not proceed on the application until all necessary information is submitted. (7-1-21)T

**a.** If the applicant is not the owner of the lands described in the application, or any part thereof, the land owner must endorse his approval of the application prior to issuance of a permit. The federal government, as a property owner, will be notified of the application, and asked to endorse the application as property owner. For mining operations proposed upon land under a mining lease, either the signature of the lessor must be affixed to the application or a copy of the complete lease attached to the application. (7-1-21)T

**04. Requirements of Maps.** Vicinity maps must be prepared on standard United States Geological Survey, seven and one-half (7.5) minute quadrangle maps, or equivalent. In addition, maps of the proposed placer mining operation site will be of sufficient scale to adequately show the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The location of existing roads and anticipated access and main haulage roads planned for construction in connection with the mining operation, along with approximate dates for construction, reconstruction, and abandonment; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The approximate location, and the names of all known streams, creeks, springs, wells, or bodies of water within one thousand (1,000) feet of the mining operation; (7-1-21)T

**c.** The approximate boundaries of all lands to be disturbed in the process of mining, including legal description to the quarter-quarter section; (7-1-21)T

**d.** The approximate boundaries and acreage of the lands that will become disturbed land as a result of the placer or dredge mining operation during the first year of operations following issuance of a placer mining permit; (7-1-21)T

**e.** The planned location and configuration of pits, mineral stockpiles, topsoil stockpiles, and waste dumps within the mining property; (7-1-21)T

**f.** Scaled cross-sections, of length and width, which are representative of the placer or dredge mining operation, showing the surface contour prior to mining and the expected surface contour after reclamation activities have been completed; (7-1-21)T

**g.** The location of required settling ponds, the design plans, construction specifications and narrative to show they meet both operating requirements and protection from erosion, seepage, and flooding that can be anticipated in the area. Where a dredge is operating in a stream, describe by drawing and narrative, the operation of the filtration equipment to be used to clarify the water. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Surface and mineral control or ownership of appropriate scale for boundary identification. (7-1-21)T

**05. Settling Ponds.** Detailed plans and specifications for settling ponds must be drawn to a scale of one (1) inch = ten (10) feet and include the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A detailed map of the settling pond location, including: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Dimensions and orientation of the settling ponds and/or other wastewater treatment components of the operation; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Distance from surface waters; (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Pond inlet/outlet locations including emergency spillways and detailed description of control structures and piping; (7-1-21)T

**iv.** Location of erosion control structures; and (7-1-21)T

**v.** Ten (10) year flood elevation (probable high water mark). (7-1-21)T

**b.** A detailed cross-section of the pond(s) including: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Dimensions and orientation; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Proposed sidewall elevations; (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Proposed sidewall slope; (7-1-21)T

- iv. Sidewall width; (7-1-21)T
- v. Distance from and elevation above all surface water; and (7-1-21)T
- vi. Slope of settling pond location. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Narrative of the construction method(s) describing: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Bottom material; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Sidewall material; (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Pond volume; (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Volume of water to be used in the wash plant; (7-1-21)T
  - v. Discharge or land application requirements; (7-1-21)T
  - vi. Any pond liners or filter materials to be installed; and (7-1-21)T
  - viii. Compaction techniques. (7-1-21)T
- d.** If the proposed ponds are: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Less than two thousand five hundred (2,500) feet square surface area; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Less than four (4) feet high; (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Greater than fifty (50) feet from surface water; and (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Constructed on slopes of three: one (3:1) or flatter, the plans and specifications for settling ponds must contain information in Subparagraphs 021.05.a.i., 021.05.a.ii., and 021.05.a.iv.; 021.05.b.i., 021.05.b.ii., 021.05.b.v. and 021.05.b.vi. This information may be prepared as a sketch map showing appropriate elevations, distances and other required details. (7-1-21)T

**06. Requirements for Reclamation Plan.** A reclamation plan must be submitted in map and narrative form and include the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Show how watercourses disturbed by the mining operation will be replaced on meander lines with a pool structure conducive to good fish and wildlife habitat and recreational use. Show how and where riprap or other methods of bank stabilization will be used to ensure that, following abandonment, the stream erosion will not exceed the rate normally experienced in the area. If necessary, show how the replaced watercourse will not contribute to degradation of water supplies; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Describe and show the contour of the proposed mine site after final backfilling and/or grading, with grades listed for slopes after mining; (7-1-21)T

**c.** On a drainage control map, show the best management practices to be utilized to minimize erosion on disturbed lands; (7-1-21)T

**d.** Show roads to be reclaimed upon completion of mining; (7-1-21)T

**e.** Show plans for both concurrent and final revegetation of disturbed lands. Indicate soil types, slopes, precipitation, seed rates, species, topsoil, or other growth medium storage and handling, time of planting, method of planting and, if necessary, fertilizer and mulching rates; (7-1-21)T

- f.** The planned reclamation of tailings or sediment ponds; (7-1-21)T
- g.** An estimate of total reclamation cost to be used in establishing bond amount. The cost estimate should include the approximate cost of grading, revegetation, equipment mobilization, labor, and administrative overhead. (7-1-21)T
- h.** Make a premining estimate of trees on the site by species and forest lands utilization consideration in reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**07. State Approval Required.** Approval of a placer mining permit must be obtained under these rules, even if approval of such plan has been or is obtained from an appropriate federal agency. (7-1-21)T

**08. Application Review and Inspection.** If the Director determines that an inspection is necessary, the applicant may be contacted and asked that he or his duly authorized employee or representative be present for inspection at a reasonable time. An inspection may be required prior to issuance of the permit. The applicant must make such persons available for the purpose of inspection (see Subsection 051.01). Failure to provide a representative does not mean that the state will not conduct such inspection. (7-1-21)T

**022. PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW AND DECISION UPON AN APPLICATION.**

**01. Decision on Application.** Following the Director's review of an application for a new permit, or to amend an existing permit and provide an opportunity to correct any deficiencies, the Board will approve or disapprove the application and the Director will notify the applicant of the Board's decision by mail. Such notice will contain any reservations conditioned with the approval, or the information required to be given under Subsections 022.07 and 022.09 if disapproved. If approved, a permit will be issued after the bonding requirements of Section 035 are met. No mining is allowed until the permit is bonded and applicant is notified by mail or telephone of approval. (7-1-21)T

**02. Public Hearings.** For the purpose of determining whether a proposed application complies with these rules, the Director may call for a public hearing, as described in Section 030. (7-1-21)T

**03. Adverse Weather.** If weather conditions prevent the Director from inspecting the proposed mining site to acquire the information required to evaluate the application, the application may be placed in suspense, pending improved weather conditions. The applicant will be notified in writing of this action. (7-1-21)T

**04. Interagency Comment.** Nonconfidential materials submitted under Section 021 will be forwarded by the Director to the Departments of Water Resources, Environmental Quality, and Fish and Game for review and comment. If operations are to be located on federal lands, the department will notify the U. S. Bureau of Land Management or the U.S. Forest Service. The Director may provide public notice on receipt of a reclamation plan. In addition, a copy of an application will be provided to individuals who request the information in writing, subject to Title 74, Chapter 1, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**05. Stream Alteration Permits.** No permit will be issued proposing to alter, occupy or to dredge any stream or watercourse without notification to the Department of Water Resources of the pending application. The Department of Water Resources will respond to said notification within twenty (20) days. If a stream channel alteration permit is required, it must be issued prior to issuance of the placer and dredge permit. (7-1-21)T

**06. Water Clarification.** No permit will be issued until the Director is satisfied that the methods of water clarification proposed by the applicant are of sound engineering design and capable of meeting the water quality standards established under Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 58.01.02, "Water Quality Standards," IDAPA, 58.01.11. "Ground Water Quality Rule." (7-1-21)T

**07. Permit Denial Authority.** The Board has the power to deny any application for a permit on state lands, streams, or riverbeds, or on any unpatented mining claims, upon its determination that a placer or dredge mining operation on the area proposed would not be in the public interest, giving consideration to economic factors, recreational use for such lands, fish and wildlife habitat, and other factors which in the judgement of the Board may be pertinent, and may deny any application upon notification by the Department of Water Resources that the granting



of such permit would result in permanent damage to the stream channel. (Section 47-1317(j), Idaho Code) (7-1-21)T

**08. Permit Conditions.** If an application fails to meet the requirements of these rules, the Board may issue a permit subject to conditions that bring the application into compliance with these rules. The applicant may accept or refuse the permit. Refusal to accept the permit is considered a denial under Subsection 022.09. (7-1-21)T

**09. Amended Applications.** If the Board disapproves the application, the applicant will be informed of the rules that have not been complied with, the manner in which they have not been complied with, and the requirements necessary to correct the deficiencies. The applicant may then submit an amended application, which will be processed as described in Section 022. (7-1-21)T

**10. Permit Offering.** Upon approval by the Board, the applicant will be notified of the action and the amount of bond required. Upon receipt of the required bond, the permit will be sent to the applicant for signature. If the bond and the permit, signed by the applicant, are not received within twelve (12) months of Board action, the approval will be automatically rescinded, except that upon written request of the applicant, and for good cause, the Director may defer decision of the Board's approval for a reasonable period of time not to exceed one (1) year. The Director will notify the applicant of his decision in writing. (7-1-21)T

**11. Reclamation Obligations.** The permit issued by the Board governs and determines the nature and extent of the reclamation obligations of the Permittee. (7-1-21)T

**023. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. AMENDING AN APPROVED PERMIT.**

**01. Application to Amendment.** If circumstances arise that require significant change in the reclamation plan, method of operation, increase in acreage, or other details associated with an approved permit, the Permittee will submit an application on a department form or exact copy to amend the permit. Application fees are to be submitted with amended applications pursuant to Subsection 021.02.g. (7-1-21)T

**02. Processing.** An application to amend a permit will be processed in accord with Section 022. (7-1-21)T

**026. DEVIATION FROM AN APPROVED PERMIT.**

**01. Unforeseen Events.** If a Permittee finds that unforeseen events or unexpected conditions require immediate deviation from an approved permit, the Permittee may continue mining in accord with the procedures dictated by the changed conditions, pending submission and approval of an amended permit, even though such operations do not comply with the current approved permit. This does not excuse the Permittee from complying with the BMPs and reclamation requirements of Sections 020 and 040. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notification.** Notification of such unforeseen events must be given to the department within forty-eight (48) hours after discovery, and an application to amend the permit must be submitted within thirty (30) days of deviation from the approved permit by the Permittee. (7-1-21)T

**027. TRANSFER OF PERMITS.**

Placer and dredge mining permits may be transferred from an existing Permittee to a new Permittee. Transfer is made by the new Permittee filing a notarized Department Transfer of Permit form. The new Permittee is then responsible for the past Permittee's obligations under Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, these rules, the reclamation plan, and permit. When a replacement bond is submitted relative to an approved placer/dredge mining permit, the following rider must be filed with the department as part of the replacement bond before the existing bond will be released:

“(Surety company or principal) understands and expressly agrees that the liability under this bond shall extend to all acts for which reclamation is required on areas disturbed in connection with placer/dredge mining permit No., both prior and subsequent to the date of this rider.” (7-1-21)T

**028. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PERMIT APPLICATION.**

**01. Public Hearings.** During any stage of the application process the Director may conduct a public hearing. (7-1-21)T

**02. Basis for Hearing.** This action will be based upon the preliminary review of the application and upon any concern registered with the Director by the public, affected land owners, federal agencies having surface management of the affected lands, other interested entities, or upon request by the applicant. (7-1-21)T

**03. Hearing for Water Degradation** The Director will call for a public hearing when he determines, after consultation with the Departments of Water Resources, Environmental Quality, Fish and Game, and affected Indian tribes (pursuant to Paragraph 021.02.e.), that proposed placer or dredge mining operations can reasonably be expected to significantly degrade adjacent surface waters. A hearing held under this subsection will be conducted to receive comment on the measures the applicant will use to protect surface water quality from nonpoint source pollution. (7-1-21)T

**04. Site of Hearing.** The hearing will be held, upon the record, in the locality of the proposed operation, or in Ada County, at a reasonable time and place. (7-1-21)T

**05. Hearing Notice.** The Director will give notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing to the applicant, to federal, state, local agencies, and Indian tribes which may have an interest in the decision, as shown on the application; to all persons petitioning for the hearing, if any; and to all persons identified by the applicant pursuant to Subsection 021.03.a. as an owner of the specific acreage to be affected by the proposed placer or dredge mining operation. Such hearing notice will be sent by certified mail and postmarked not less than thirty (30) days before the scheduled date of the public hearing. (7-1-21)T

**06. Public Notice.** The Director will notify the general public of the date, time, and place of the hearing by placing a newspaper advertisement once a week, for two (2) consecutive weeks, in the locale of the area covered by the application. The two (2) consecutive weekly advertisements begin between seven (7) and twenty (20) days prior to the scheduled date of the hearing. A copy of the application is to be placed for review in a conspicuous place in the local area of the proposed mining operations, in the nearest department's area office, and the department's administrative office in Boise. (7-1-21)T

**07. Description of Effects.** In the event a hearing is ordered under Subsection 030.03, the notice to the public will describe the potentially significant surface water quality degradation and contain the applicant's description of the measures that will be taken to prevent degradation of adjacent surface waters from nonpoint sources of pollution. The foregoing is to be discussed at the public hearing. (7-1-21)T

**08. Hearing Officer.** The hearing will be conducted by the Director or his duly authorized representative. Both oral and written testimony will be accepted. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Submittal of Bond.** Prior to issuance of a placer or dredge mining permit, an applicant must submit to the Director, on a placer or dredge mining bond form, a performance bond meeting the requirements of this rule. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The amount of the initial bond is in the amount determined by the Board to be the estimated reasonable costs of reclamation of lands proposed to be disturbed in the permit area, plus ten percent (10%). The determination by the Board of the bond amount constitutes a final decision subject to judicial review as set forth in Section 002 of these rules. The bond may be submitted in the form of a surety, cash, certificate of deposit, or other bond acceptable to the Director. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Acreage on which reclamation is completed must be reported in accord with Subsections 035.06 and 035.07. Acreage may be released upon approval by the Director. The bond may be reduced by the amount

appropriate to reflect the completed reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Form of Performance Bond.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Corporate surety bond: This is an indemnity agreement executed for the Permittee by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Idaho submitted on a placer and dredge mining bond form, or exact copy, supplied by the Director. The bond is to be conditioned upon the Permittee faithfully performing all requirements of the act, these rules, the permit, and reclamation plan, and must be payable to the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Collateral bond: This is an indemnity agreement executed by or for the Permittee, and payable to the Idaho Department of Lands, pledging cash deposits, governmental securities, or negotiable certificates of deposit of any financial institution doing business in the United States. Collateral bonds are subject to the following conditions: (7-1-21)T

i. The Director will obtain possession, and upon receipt of such collateral bonds, deposit such cash or securities with the state treasurer to hold in trust for the purpose of bonding reclamation performance; (7-1-21)T

ii. The Director will value collateral at its current market value, not face value; (7-1-21)T

iii. Certificates of deposit will be issued or assigned to the Department, in writing, and upon the books of the financial institution issuing such certificates. Interest will be allowed to accrue and may be paid by the bank, upon demand, to the Permittee, or other person which posted the collateral bond; (7-1-21)T

iv. Amount of an individual certificate may not exceed the maximum amount insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or their successors; (7-1-21)T

v. Financial institutions issuing such certificates will waive all rights of set-off or liens which it has or might have against such certificates; (7-1-21)T

vi. Any such certificates will be automatically renewable; and (7-1-21)T

vii. The certificate of deposit will be of sufficient amount to ensure that the Director would be able to liquidate such certificates prior to maturity, upon forfeiture, for the amount of the required bond, including any penalty for early withdrawal. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Letters of credit: (7-1-21)T

i. A letter of credit ("credit") is an instrument executed by a bank doing business in Idaho, made at the request of a customer, that states that the issuing bank will honor drafts for payment upon compliance with the terms of the credit; (7-1-21)T

ii. All credits are irrevocable and prepared in a format prescribed by the Director; (7-1-21)T

iii. All credits must be issued by an institution authorized to do business in the state of Idaho or through a confirming bank authorized to do business in the state of Idaho which engages that it will itself honor the credit in full. In the alternative, a foreign bank may execute or consent to jurisdiction of Idaho courts on a form prescribed by the Director; and (7-1-21)T

iv. The account party on all credits must be identical to the entity identified on the placer mining permit as the Permittee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Blanket Bond.** Where a Permittee is involved in numerous placer or dredge operations, the Director may accept a blanket bond in lieu of separate bonds under approved permits. The amount of such bond must comply with other applicable provisions of Section 035 and are equal to the total of the penalties of the separate bonds being combined into a single bond. (7-1-21)T

**04. Bond Cancellation.** Any surety company canceling a bond must give the department at least one hundred twenty (120) days' notice prior to cancellation. The Director will not release a surety from liability under an

existing bond until the Permittee has submitted to the Director an acceptable replacement bond or reclaimed the site. Replacement bonds must cover any liability accrued against the bonded principal under the permit. If a Permittee fails to submit an acceptable replacement bond prior to the effective date of cancellation of the original bond, or within thirty (30) days following written notice of cancellation by the Director, whichever is later, the Director may issue a cease and desist order and seek injunctive relief to stop the Permittee from conducting placer or dredge mining operations on the lands covered by the bond until such replacement has been received by the department. The Permittee must cease mining operations on lands covered by the bond until a suitable bond is filed. (7-1-21)T

**05. Substitute Surety.** If a surety's Idaho business license is suspended or revoked, the Permittee must, within thirty (30) days after notice by the department, find a substitute for such surety. The substitute surety must be licensed to do business in Idaho. If the Permittee fails to secure such substitute surety, the Director may issue a cease-and-desist order and seek injunctive relief to stop the Permittee from conducting placer and dredge mining operations on the lands covered by the bond until a substitution has been made. The Permittee must cease mining operations on lands covered by the bond until a bond acceptable to the department is filed. (7-1-21)T

**06. Bond Reduction.** Upon finding that any land bonded under a placer or dredge mining permit will not be affected by mining, the Permittee must notify the Director by submitting an application amending the permitted acreage, pursuant to Section 025. When the Director has verified that the bonding requirement for the amended permit is adequate, any excess reclamation bond will be released. Any request for bond reduction will be answered by the Director within thirty (30) days of receiving such request unless weather conditions prevent inspection. (7-1-21)T

**07. Bond Release.** Upon completion of the reclamation, specified in the permit, the Permittee must notify the Director in writing, of his desire to secure release from bonding. When the Director has verified that the requirements of the placer or dredge mining permit have been met, as stated in the permit, the bond will be released. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Any request for bond release will be answered by the Director within thirty (30) days of receiving such request unless weather conditions prevent inspection. (7-1-21)T

**b.** If the Director finds that a specific portion of the reclamation has been satisfactorily completed, the bond may be reduced to the amount required to complete the remaining reclamation. The following schedule will be used to complete these bond reductions unless the Director determines in a specific case that this schedule is not appropriate and specifies a different schedule: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Sixty percent (60%) of the bond may be released when the Permittee completes the required backfilling, regrading, topsoil replacement, and drainage control of the bonded area in accordance with the approved placer mining permit; and (7-1-21)T

**ii.** After revegetation activities have been performed by the Permittee on the regraded lands according to the approved placer mining permit and Section 040, the department may release an additional twenty-five percent (25%) of the bond. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The remaining bond will not be released: (7-1-21)T

**i.** As long as the disturbed lands are contributing sediment or other pollution to surface waters outside the disturbed land in excess of state water quality standards established under Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Until final removal of equipment and structures related to the mining activity, or until any remaining equipment and structures are brought under an approved placer or dredge mining permit and bond by a new Permittee (this rule does not require a Permittee to remove equipment or structures from patented lands when the landowner has authorized the equipment and structures to remain on the site); (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Until all temporary sediment or erosion control structures have been removed and reclaimed or until such structures are brought under an approved placer mining permit and bond by a new Permittee; and (7-1-21)T

iv. Until vegetation productivity is returned to levels of yields at least comparable to productivity which the disturbed lands supported prior to the permitted mining, except as stated in Subsection 040.17.b. (7-1-21)T

**08. Forfeiture.** In accord with Subsection 050.02, a bond may be forfeited if the Director determines that the Permittee has not conducted the placer and dredge mining and reclamation in accord with the act, these rules, the approved permit, and the reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**09. Correction of Deficiencies.** The Director may, through cooperative agreement with the Permittee, devise a schedule to correct deficiencies in complying with the permit and thereby postpone action to recover the bond. (7-1-21)T

**10. Bonding Rate.** A Permittee may petition the Director for a change in the initial bond rate. The Director will review the petition, and if satisfied with the information presented, a special bond rate will be set based upon the estimated cost that the Director would incur should a forfeiture of bond occur and it becomes necessary for the Director to complete reclamation to the standards established in the permit and reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**11. Federal Bonds Recognized.** The Director may accept as a bond, evidence of a valid reclamation bond with the United States government. The bond must equal or exceed the amount determined in Subsection 035.01.a. This does not release a Permittee from bonding under these rules if the Permittee fails to continuously maintain a valid federal bond. (7-1-21)T

**12. Insufficient Bond.** In the event the amount of the bond is insufficient to reclaim the land in compliance with the act, these rules, the approved permit, and the reclamation plan, the attorney general is empowered to commence legal action against the Permittee in the name of the Board to recover the amount, in excess of the bond, necessary to reclaim the land in compliance with the act, these rules, the approved permit, and the reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**036. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND RECLAMATION FOR PLACER AND DREDGE MINING OPERATION.**

**01. Nonpoint Source Sediment Control.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Appropriate best management practices for nonpoint source sediment or other pollution controls must be designed, constructed, and maintained with respect to site-specific placer or dredge mining operations. Permittees will utilize best management practices designed to achieve state water quality standards and protect existing beneficial uses of adjacent surface waters. (7-1-21)T

**b.** State water quality standards, including protection of existing beneficial uses, are the standard that must be achieved by best management practices. In addition to proper mining techniques and reclamation measures, the Permittee will take necessary steps at the close of each operating season to assure that sediment movement or other pollution associated with surface runoff over the area is minimized in order to achieve water quality standards. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Sediment or pollution control measures refer to best management practices that are carried out within and, if necessary, adjacent to the disturbed land and consist of utilization of proper mining and reclamation measures, as well as specific necessary pollution control methods, separately or in combination. Specific pollution control methods may include, but are not limited to: (7-1-21)T

i. Keeping the disturbed land to a minimum at any given time through concurrent reclamation; (7-1-21)T

ii. Shaping waste to help reduce the rate and volume of water runoff by increasing infiltration; (7-1-21)T

iii. Retaining sediment within the disturbed land; (7-1-21)T

- iv. Diverting surface runoff to limit water coming into the disturbed land and settling ponds;(7-1-21)T
- v. Routing runoff through the disturbed land using protected channels or pipes so as not to increase sediment load; (7-1-21)T
- vi. Use of riprap, straw dikes, check dams, mulches, temporary vegetation, or other measures to reduce overland flow velocities, reduce runoff volume, or retain sediment; and (7-1-21)T
- vii. Use of adequate sediment ponds, with or without chemical treatment. (7-1-21)T

**02. Modification of Management Practices.** If best management practices utilized by the Permittee do not result in compliance with Subsection 040.01, the Director will require the Permittee to modify or improve such best management practices to meet state water quality standards. (7-1-21)T

**03. Clearing and Grubbing.** Clearing and grubbing of land in preparation for mining exposes mineral soil to the erosive effects of moving water. Permittees are cautioned to keep such areas as small as possible (preferably no more than one (1) year's mining activity) as the Permittee is required to meet state water quality standards. Trees and slash should be stockpiled for use in seedbed protection and erosion control and such stockpiling may be a requirement of the approved permit. (7-1-21)T

**04. Overburden/Topsoil.** To aid in the revegetation of disturbed land, where placer or dredge mining operations result in the removal of substantial amounts of overburden, including any topsoil, the Permittee must remove, where practicable, the available topsoil or other growth medium as a separate operation for such area. Unless there are previously disturbed lands which are graded and immediately available for placement of the newly removed topsoil or other growth medium, the topsoil or other growth medium must be stockpiled and protected from erosion and contamination until such areas become available. (7-1-21)T

- a. Overburden/topsoil removal: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Any overburden/topsoil to be removed will be removed prior to any other mining activity to prevent loss or contamination; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Where overburden/topsoil removal exposes land area to potential erosion, the Director may, as a condition of a permit, limit the size of any one (1) area having topsoil removed at any one (1) time. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Where the Permittee can show that an overburden material other than topsoil is more conducive to plant growth, or where overburden other than topsoil is the only material reasonably available, such overburden may be allowed as a substitute for or a supplement to the available topsoil. (7-1-21)T
- b. Topsoil storage. Topsoil stockpiles must be placed to minimize rehandling and exposure and to avoid excessive wind and water erosion. Topsoil stockpiles must be protected, as necessary, from erosion by use of temporary vegetation or by other methods which will control erosion; including, but not limited to, silt fences, chemical binders, seeding, and mulching. (7-1-21)T
- c. Overburden storage. Stockpiled ridges of overburden must be leveled to a minimum width of ten (10) feet at the top. Peaks of overburden must be leveled to a minimum width of fifteen (15) feet at the top. The overburden piles must be reasonably prepared to control erosion using best management practices such as terracing, silt fences, chemical binders, seeding, and mulching. (7-1-21)T

**05. Roads.** (7-1-21)T

- a. Roads must be constructed to minimize soil erosion. Such construction may require, but is not limited to, restrictions on length and grade of roadbed, surfacing of roads with durable non-toxic material, stabilization of cut and fill slopes, and other techniques designed to control erosion. (7-1-21)T
- b. All access and haul roads must be adequately drained. Drainage structures may include, but are not

limited to, properly installed ditches, water-bars, cross drains, culverts, and sediment traps. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Culverts that are to be maintained for more than one (1) year must be designed to pass peak flows from not less than a twenty (20) year, twenty-four (24) hour precipitation event and have a minimum diameter of eighteen (18) inches. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Roads and water control structures must be maintained at periodic intervals as needed. Water control structures serving to drain roads may not be blocked or restricted in any manner to impede drainage or significantly alter the intended purpose of the structure. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Roads that are to be abandoned must be cross-ditched, ripped, and revegetated or otherwise obliterated to control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Roads, not abandoned, which are to continue in use under the jurisdiction of a governmental or private landowner, are the Permittee's responsibility to comply with the nonpoint source sediment control provisions of Subsection 040.01 until the successor assumes control. (7-1-21)T

**06. Settling Ponds -- Minimum Criteria.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Settling ponds must provide adequate sediment storage capacity to achieve compliance with applicable water quality standards and protect existing beneficial uses, and may require periodic cleaning and proper disposal of sediment. (7-1-21)T

**b.** No settling pond, used for process water clarification, must be constructed to block a surface water drainage. (7-1-21)T

**c.** All settling ponds must be constructed and designed to prevent surface water runoff from entering the pond. (7-1-21)T

**d.** All settling ponds must be constructed and maintained to contain direct precipitation to the pond surface from a fifty (50) year twenty-four (24) hour storm event. (7-1-21)T

**e.** No chemicals may be used for water clarification or on site gold recovery without prior notification to, and approval from, the DEQ. (7-1-21)T

**07. Dewatering Settling Ponds.** Upon reclamation, settling ponds must be dewatered, detoxified, and stabilized. Stabilization includes regrading the site for erosion control, to the approximate original contour, and may require removal and disposal of settling pond contents. (7-1-21)T

**08. Topsoil Replacement.** Following completion of the requirements of Subsection 040.07, the settling ponds must be retopped with stockpiled topsoils or other soils conducive to plant growth. Where such soils are limited in quantity or not available, physical or chemical methods of erosion control may be used. All such areas are to be revegetated in accord with Subsection 040.17, unless otherwise specified in the placer mining permit. (7-1-21)T

**09. Dam Safety.** Settling ponds must conform with the Idaho Dam Safety Act, Section 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code and with the Environmental Protection and Health Act, Section 39-118, Idaho Code, requiring plan and specification review and approval for waste treatment facilities. (7-1-21)T

**10. Backfilling and Grading.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Every operator who conducts placer mining exploration operations that disturb less than one-half (1/2) acre must contour the disturbed land to its approximate previous contour. These lands must be revegetated in accordance with Subsection 040.17. For showing discovery on federal mining claims, unless otherwise required by a federal agency, one (1) pit may be left open on each claim pending verification by federal mining examiners, but must not create a hazard to humans or animals. Such pits and trenches must be reclaimed within one (1) year of verification. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Every Permittee who disturbs more than one-half (1/2) acre must shape and smooth the disturbed ground to a grade reasonably comparable with the natural contour of the ground prior to mining, and to a condition that promotes the growth of vegetation except as provided in Paragraph 040.17.m. or minimize erosion through other means. Any disturbed natural watercourse must be restored to a configuration and structure conducive to good fish and wildlife habitat and recreational use. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Backfill materials must be compacted in a manner to ensure stability of the fill. (7-1-21)T

**d.** After the disturbed land has been graded, slopes will be measured by the department for compliance with the requirements of the act, these rules, the placer or dredge mining permit, and the reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**11. Waste Disposal - Disposal of Waste in Areas Other Than Mine Excavations.** Waste materials not used in backfilling mined areas must be placed, stabilized, and revegetated to ensure that drainage is compatible with the surrounding drainage and to ensure long-term stability. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Permittee may, if appropriate, use terraces to stabilize the face of any fill. Slopes of the fill material may not exceed the angle of repose. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Unless adequate drainage is provided through a fill area, all surface water above a fill must be diverted away from a fill area into protected channels, and drainage may not be directed over the unprotected face of a fill. (7-1-21)T

**12. Topsoil Redistribution.** Topsoil must be spread to achieve a thickness over the regraded area, adequate to support plant life. Excessive compaction of overburden and topsoil is to be avoided. Topsoil redistribution must be timed so that seeding or other protective measures can be readily applied to prevent compaction and erosion. Final grading must be along the contour unless such grading will expose equipment operators to hazardous operating conditions, in which case the best alternative method must be used in grading. (7-1-21)T

**13. Soil Amendments.** Nutrients and soil amendments must, if necessary, be applied to the graded areas to successfully achieve the revegetation requirements of the permit and reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**14. Revegetating Waste Piles.** The Permittee must conduct revegetation activities with respect to such waste piles in accordance with Subsection 040.17. (7-1-21)T

**15. Mulching.** Mulch must be used on severe sites and may be required by the approved placer or dredge mining permit. Nurse crops such as rye, oats, and wheat may be used as a substitute for mulch where they will provide adequate protection and will be replaced by permanent species within a reasonable length of time. (7-1-21)T

**16. Permanent Cessation and Time Limits for Planting.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Wherever possible, but not later than one (1) year after grading, seeding and planting of disturbed lands must be completed during the first favorable growth period after seedbed preparation. If permanent vegetation is delayed or slow in establishment, temporary cover of small annual grains, grasses, or legumes may be used to control erosion until adequate permanent cover is established. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Reclamation activities should be concurrent with the mining operation and may be included in the approved placer or dredge mining permit and reclamation plan. Final reclamation must begin within one (1) year after the placer or dredge mining operations have permanently ceased on a mine panel. If the Permittee permanently ceases disposing of overburden on a waste area or permanently ceases removing minerals from a pit or permanently ceases using a road or other disturbed land, the reclamation activity on each given area must start within one (1) year of such cessation, despite the fact that all operations as to the mine panel, which included such pit, road, overburden pile, or other disturbed land, has not permanently ceased. (7-1-21)T



**c.** A Permittee will be presumed to have permanently ceased placer or dredge mining operations on a given portion of disturbed land where no substantial amount of mineral or overburden material has been removed or overburden placed on an overburden dump, or no significant use has been made of a road during the previous one (1) year. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If a Permittee does not plan to use disturbed land for one (1) or more years but intends thereafter to use the disturbed land for placer or dredge mining operations and desires to defer final reclamation until after its subsequent use, the Permittee must submit a notice of intent and request for deferral of reclamation to the Director, in writing. If the Director determines that the Permittee plans to continue the operation within a reasonable period of time, the Director will notify the Permittee and may require actions to be taken to reduce degradation of surface resources until operations resume. If the Director determines that the use of the disturbed land for placer or dredge mining operations will not be continued within a reasonable period of time, the Director will proceed as though the placer or dredge mining operation has been abandoned, but the Permittee will be notified of such decision at least thirty (30) days before taking any formal administrative action. (7-1-21)T

**17. Revegetation Activities.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Permittee must select and establish plant species that can be expected to result in vegetation comparable to that growing on the disturbed lands prior to placer or dredge mining operations or other species that will be conducive to the post-mining use of the disturbed lands. The Permittee may use available technical data and results of field tests for selecting seeding practices and soil amendments that will result in viable revegetation. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Standards for success of revegetation. Revegetative success, unless otherwise specified in the approved placer mining permit and reclamation plan, is measured against the existing vegetation at the site prior to mining, or an adjacent reference area supporting similar vegetation. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The ground cover of living plants on the revegetated area must be comparable to the ground cover of living plants on the adjacent reference area for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of soil amendment or irrigation. (7-1-21)T

**d.** For purposes of this rule, ground cover is considered comparable if it has, on the area actually planted, at least seventy percent (70%) of the premining ground cover for the mined land or adjacent reference area. (7-1-21)T

**e.** For locations with an average annual precipitation of more than twenty-six (26) inches, the Director, in approving a placer mining permit, may set a minimum standard for success of revegetation as follows: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Vegetative cover of seventy percent (70%) for two (2) full growing seasons in areas planted to herbaceous species only; or (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Fifty percent (50%) vegetative cover for two (2) full growing seasons and six hundred (600) woody plants per acre in areas planted to a mixture of herbaceous and woody species. (7-1-21)T

**f.** As used in this section, “herbaceous species” means grasses, legumes, and other forbs; “woody plants” means woody shrubs, trees, and vines; and “ground cover” means the area of the ground surface covered by the combined aerial parts of vegetation and the litter that is produced naturally on-site, expressed as a percentage of the total area measurement. Rock surface areas, composed of rock three plus (3+) inches in diameter will be excluded from this calculation. For purposes of measuring ground cover, rock greater than three (3) inches in diameter is considered as ground cover. (7-1-21)T

**g.** For previously mined areas that were not reclaimed to the standards required by Section 040, and that are disturbed by the placer or dredge mining operations, vegetation must be established to the extent necessary to control erosion, but not be less than that which existed before redisturbance. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Introduced species may be planted if they are comparable to previous vegetation, or if known to be

of equal or superior use for the approved post-mining use of the disturbed land, or, if necessary, to achieve a quick, temporary cover for soil stabilization purposes. Species classified as poisonous or noxious weeds may not be used in revegetation. (7-1-21)T

i. By mutual agreement of the Director, the landowner, and the Permittee, a site may be converted to a different, more desirable, or more economically suitable habitat. (7-1-21)T

j. Planting of grasses and forbs should be done in a manner which promotes rapid stabilization of the soil surface. Wherever terrain permits, grasses and forbs should be drilled or compacted into the ground using agricultural grass planting equipment or other seeders specifically designed for mine revegetation applications. Broadcast and hydroseeding may be used on areas where other methods are impractical or unavailable. (7-1-21)T

k. The Permittee should plant shrubs or shrub seed, as required, where shrub communities existed prior to mining. Shrub seed may be planted as a portion of a grass seed mix or planted as bare-root transplants after grass seeding. Where the landowner desires a specific land use such as grazing or cropland, shrubs will not be required in the revegetation species mix. Shrub lands undergoing revegetation with shrubs must be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical, or other acceptable means during establishment of the shrubs. (7-1-21)T

l. Reforestation -- Tree stocking of forestlands should meet the following criteria: (7-1-21)T

i. Trees that are adapted to the site should be planted on the land to be revegetated, in a density which can be expected over time to yield a timber stand comparable to premining timber stands. This in no way is to exclude the conversion of sites to a different, more desirable, or more economically suited species; (7-1-21)T

ii. Trees must be established for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of any soil amendments and irrigation before they are considered to be established; and (7-1-21)T

iii. Forest lands undergoing revegetation with trees should be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical binders, or other acceptable means during seedling establishment. (7-1-21)T

m. Revegetation is not required on the following areas: (7-1-21)T

i. Disturbed lands, or portions thereof, where planting is not practicable or reasonable because the soil is composed of excessive amounts of sand, gravel, shale, stone, or other material to such an extent to prohibit plant growth; (7-1-21)T

ii. Any mined land or overburden piles proposed to be used in the mining operations; (7-1-21)T

iii. Any mined land or overburden pile, where lakes are formed by rainfall or drainage run-off from adjoining lands; (7-1-21)T

iv. Any mineral stockpile; (7-1-21)T

v. Any exploration trench which will become a part of any pit or overburden disposal area; and (7-1-21)T

vi. Any road which is to be used in mining operations, so long as the road is not abandoned. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. TERMINATION OF A PERMIT.**

**01. Completion of Reclamation.** A placer or dredge mining permit terminates upon completion of all reclamation activity to the standards specified in the permit and reclamation plan, and final inspection and approval has been granted by the Director. Upon termination, the Director will release the remaining portion of the bond. (7-1-21)T

**02. Involuntary Termination.** For continuous operation, the bonded permit will remain valid. Administrative action may be taken to terminate a placer and dredge mining permit if: (7-1-21)T

- a.** The permit does not remain bonded; (7-1-21)T
- b.** The placer and dredge mining operations are not commenced within two (2) years of the date of Board approval; (7-1-21)T
- c.** The placer and dredge mining operations are permanently ceased and final reclamation has not commenced within one (1) year of the date of permanent cessation; (7-1-21)T
- d.** Inspection costs are delinquent; or (7-1-21)T
- e.** Permittee fails to comply with the act, these rules, the permit, or the reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**051. ENFORCEMENT AND FAILURE TO COMPLY.**

**01. Inspection.** The Director may inspect the operation under permit from time to time to determine compliance with the act, these rules, the permit, and the reclamation plan. The cost and expense of such inspections will be borne by the Permittee. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Cost of inspection is assessed at a flat rate of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) per year for each permit. Permits upon U.S. Forest Service administered lands is assessed at a flat rate of one hundred dollars (\$100) per year for each permit, to reflect the reduced inspection work for the department. (7-1-21)T

**b.** A billing for inspection costs will be made in advance each May 1, with the costs due and payable within thirty (30) days of receipt of an inspection cost statement. Inspection fees become delinquent if not paid on or before June 1, and the department may assess the greater of the following; either a twenty-five dollars (\$25) late payment charge or penalty at the rate of one percent (1%) for each calendar month or fraction thereof, compounded monthly, for late payments from the date the inspection fee is due. Such costs constitute a lien upon equipment, personal property, or real property of the Permittee and upon minerals produced from the permit area. Should inspection fees be delinquent, the department will send a single notice of delinquent payment by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Permittee. If payment is not received by the department within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt, the department may take appropriate administrative action to cancel the permit as provided by Subsection 050.02. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Inspection costs related to a reported violation are assessed at actual costs and in addition to those costs in Paragraph 051.01.a. Costs include mileage to and from the mine site, employee meals, lodging, personnel costs, and administrative overhead. Costs are due and payable thirty (30) days after receipt of the inspection cost statement. (7-1-21)T

**02. Department Remedies.** Without affecting the penal and injunctive provisions of these rules, the department may pursue the following remedies: (7-1-21)T

**a.** When the Director determines that a Permittee has not complied with the act, these rules, the permit, or the reclamation plan, the Director will notify the Permittee in writing and set forth the violations claimed and the corrective actions needed. (7-1-21)T

**b.** If the Permittee fails to commence and diligently proceed to complete the requested corrective action within a specified number of days after notice of the violation, unless a cooperative agreement has been reached pursuant to Subsection 035.09, the Director may take administrative action as provided within this rule to terminate the permit and forfeit the bond. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The Board may cause to have issued and served upon the Permittee alleged to be committing such violation, a formal complaint that specifies the provisions of the act, the permit, the reclamation plan, or these rules which the Permittee allegedly is violating, and a statement of the manner in and the extent to which said Permittee is alleged to be violating the provisions of the act, the permit, the reclamation plan, or these rules. Such complaint may

be served by certified mail, and return receipt, signed by the Permittee, an officer of a corporate Permittee, or the designated agent of the Permittee, will constitute service. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The Permittee is required to answer the formal complaint and request a hearing before a hearing officer appointed by the Director, which authority to appoint is hereby delegated by the Board to the Director, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the complaint if matters asserted in the complaint are disputed. The hearing will be held at a time not less than thirty (30) days after the date the Permittee requests such a hearing. The Board will issue subpoenas at the request of the Director and at the request of the charged Permittee. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Sections 67-5209 through 67-5213, Idaho Code, and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The hearing officer will enter an order in accordance with Section 67-5212, Idaho Code, that, if adverse to the Permittee, will designate a time period within which prescribed corrective action, if any, should be taken. The designated time period will be sufficient to allow a reasonably diligent Permittee to correct any violation. Procedure for appeal of an order is outlined in Subsection 002.01. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Upon the Permittee's compliance with the order, the Director will consider the matter resolved and take no further action with respect to such noncompliance. (7-1-21)T

**g.** If the Permittee fails to answer the complaint and request a hearing, the matters asserted in the complaint will be deemed admitted by the Permittee, and the Director may proceed to cancel the placer mining permit and forfeit the bond in the amount necessary to pay all costs and expense of restoring the lands and beds of streams damaged by dredge or other placer mining of said defaulting Permittee and covered by such bond and remaining unrestored, including the department's administrative costs. (7-1-21)T

**03. Violation of an Order.** Upon request of the Director, the attorney general may institute proceedings to have the bond of a Permittee forfeited for violation of an order entered pursuant to Subsection 051.02.e. (7-1-21)T

**04. Injunctive Procedures.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Director may seek injunctive relief, as provided by Section 47-1324(b), Idaho Code, against any Permittee who is conducting placer mining or exploration operations when: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Under an existing approved permit, reclamation plan, and bond, a Permittee violates or exceeds the terms of the permit; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** A Permittee violates a provision of the act or these rules; or (7-1-21)T

**iii.** The bond, if forfeited, would not be sufficient to adequately restore the land; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Director may seek injunctive relief to enjoin a placer mining operation for the Permittee's violation of the terms of an existing approved permit, the reclamation plan, the act, and these rules, and if immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage to the state may be expected to occur. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The Director will request the court to terminate any injunction when he determines that all conditions, practices, or violations listed in the order have been abated. Termination will not affect the right of the department to pursue civil penalties for these violations in accordance with Subsection 051.06. (7-1-21)T

**05. Civil Action.** In addition to the injunctive provisions above, the Board may maintain a civil action against any person who violates any provision of the act or these rules, to collect civil damages in an amount sufficient to pay for all the damages to the state caused by such violation, including but not limited to, costs of restoration in accordance with Section 47-1314, Idaho Code, where a person is conducting placer or dredge mining without an approved permit or bond. (7-1-21)T

**06. Civil Penalty.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Pursuant to Section 47-1324(d), Idaho Code, any person violating any of the provisions of the

placer and dredge mining act or these rules or violating any determination or order pursuant to these rules, is liable for a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for each day during which such violation continues. Such penalty is recoverable in an action brought in the name of the state of Idaho by the attorney general. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Pursuant to Section 47-1324(d), Idaho Code, any person who willfully or knowingly falsifies any records, plans, specifications, or other information required by the Board or willfully fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of these rules, is guilty of a misdemeanor and will be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or imprisonment, not to exceed one (1) year, or both. (7-1-21)T

**07. Hearing Procedures.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Process and procedures under these rules will be as summary and simple as may be possible. The Director, Board, or any member thereof, or the hearing officer designated by the Director, has the power to subpoena witnesses and administer oaths. The District Court will enforce the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production for examination of books, papers, and records. A stenographic record or other recording of the hearing will be made. Witnesses subpoenaed by the Director or the hearing officer will be allowed such fees and traveling expenses as are allowed in civil actions in the District Court, to be paid by the party in whose interest such witnesses are subpoenaed. The Board, Director, or hearing officer will make such inquiries and investigations as deemed relevant. Each hearing will be held at the county seat in the county where any of the lands involved in the hearing are situate, or in the County of Ada, as the Board or Director may designate. (7-1-21)T

**b.** A notice of hearing will be served by certified mail to the last known address of the Permittee or his agent at least twenty (20) days prior to the hearing. A certified return receipt signed by the Permittee or his agent constitutes service and time thereof. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The cost of such hearing including, but not limited to, room rental, hearing officer fees, and transcript will be assessed against the defaulting Permittee. The Director may designate a hearing officer to conduct any hearings and make findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decision on issues involving the administration of the act and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If the hearing involves a permit or application for a permit, the decisions of the Board or the hearing officer, together with the transcript of the evidence, findings of fact, and any other matter pertinent to the questions arising during any hearing will be filed in the office of the Director. A copy of the findings of fact and decision will be sent to the applicant or holder of the permit involved in such hearing, by U.S. mail. If the matter has been assigned for hearing and a claim for review is not filed by any party in the proceeding within thirty (30) days after his decision is filed, the decision may be adopted as the decision of the Board and notice thereof will be sent to the applicant or permit holder involved in such hearing by U. S. mail. (7-1-21)T

**052. -- 054. (RESERVED)**

**055. COMPUTATION OF TIME.**

Computation of time for these rules will be based on calendar days. In computing any period of prescribed time, the day on which the designated period of time begins is not included. The last day of the period is included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal state holiday. In such a case, the period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays are excluded from the computation when the period of prescribed time is seven (7) days or less. (7-1-21)T

**056. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. PLACER OR DREDGE MINING OF CERTAIN WATERBODIES PROHIBITED.**

**01. Prohibited Areas.** Placer or dredge mining in any form is prohibited on water bodies making up the national wild and scenic river system: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Middle Fork of the Clearwater River, from the town of Kooskia upstream to the town of

Lowell; the Lochsa River from its junction with the Selway at Lowell forming the Middle Fork upstream to the Powell Ranger Station; and the Selway River from Lowell upstream to its origin; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Middle Fork of the Salmon River, from its origin to its confluence with the main Salmon River; (7-1-21)T

**c.** The St. Joe River, including tributaries, from its origin to its confluence with Coeur d'Alene Lake, except for the St. Maries River and its tributaries. (7-1-21)T

**02. Mining Withdrawals.** The Board, under authority provided by Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code, has withdrawn certain other lands from placer and dredge mining. A listing of such withdrawals is available from the administrative offices of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 064. (RESERVED)**

**065. DEPOSIT OF FORFEITURES AND DAMAGES.**

**01. Mining Account.** All monies, forfeitures, and penalties collected under the provisions of these rules will be deposited in the Placer and Dredge Mining Account to be used by the Director for placer and dredge mine reclamation purposes and related administrative costs. (7-1-21)T

**02. Funds for Reclamation.** Upon approval of the Board, monies in the account may be used to reclaim lands for which the forfeited bond was insufficient to reclaim in accord with these rules, or for placer or dredge mine sites for which the bond has been released and which have resulted in subsequent damage. Monies received from inspection fees are to be kept separate and used for costs incurred by the Director in conducting such inspections. (7-1-21)T

**066. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. COMPLIANCE OF EXISTING PLANS WITH THESE RULES.**

These rules, upon their adoption, apply as appropriate to all existing placer or dredge mining operations, but will not affect the validity or modify the duties, terms, or conditions of any existing approved placer or dredge mining permits or impose any additional obligations with respect to reclamation upon any Permittee conducting placer or dredge mining operations pursuant to a placer or dredge mining permit approved prior to adoption of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**071. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.02 – RULES GOVERNING MINED LAND RECLAMATION

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

Title 47, Chapter 15 (“chapter”), Idaho Code, authorizes the Board to promulgate rules pertaining to mineral exploration; mining operations; reclamation of lands affected by exploration and mining operations, including review and approval of reclamation and permanent closure plans; requirements for financial assurance for reclamation and permanent closure, and to establish a reasonable fee for reviewing and approving reclamation plans and permanent closure plans, including the reasonable cost to employ a qualified independent party, acceptable to the applicant and the Board, to verify the accuracy of cost estimates for reclamation plans and permanent closure plans. The Board has delegated to the director of the Department the duties and powers under the chapter and these rules, however the Board retains responsibility for administrative review. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.02, “Rules Governing Mined Land Reclamation,” IDAPA 20, Title 03, Chapter 02. (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules establish the notification requirements for exploration and the application, operation, and reclamation requirements for mined lands. In addition, they establish the application and closure requirements for cyanidation facilities. These rules also establish the reclamation and financial assurance requirements for all these activities, and describe the processes used to administer the rules in an orderly and predictable manner. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Laws.** Operators engaged in exploration, mine operation, and operation of a cyanidation facility shall comply with all applicable laws and rules of the state of Idaho including, but not limited to the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Idaho water quality standards established in Title 39, Chapters 1 and 36, Idaho Code; IDAPA 58.01.02, “Water Quality Standards”; and IDAPA 58.01.11, “Ground Water Quality Rule,” administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). (7-1-21)T

**b.** Requirements and procedures for hazardous and solid waste management, as established in Title 39, Chapter 44, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated thereunder including, IDAPA 58.01.05, “Rules and Standards for Hazardous Waste” and IDAPA 58.01.06, “Solid Waste Management Rules,” administered by the DEQ. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Section 39-118A, Idaho Code, and applicable rules for ore processing by cyanidation as promulgated and administered by the DEQ as defined in IDAPA 58.01.13, “Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation.” (7-1-21)T

**d.** Section 39-175, Idaho Code, and applicable rules for the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States as promulgated and administered by DEQ in IDAPA 58.01.25, “Rules Regulating the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program.” (7-1-21)T

**e.** Idaho Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, and applicable rules as promulgated and administered by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Idaho Dam Safety Act, Sections 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, and applicable rules promulgated and administered by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**04. Applicability.** These rules are to be read and applied in conjunction with the chapter. These rules apply to all exploration, mining operations, and permanent closure of cyanidation facilities on all lands in the state, regardless of ownership. (7-1-21)T

**a.** These rules apply to mining operations or exploration operations commenced after January 1, 1997. These rules in no way affect, alter, or modify the terms or conditions of any approved reclamation plan, reclamation plan amendment, or financial assurance for reclamation obtained prior to January 1, 1997. If a material change arises and is regulated in accordance with Subsection 090.01, then the operator shall submit a reclamation plan amendment. (7-1-21)T

**b.** These rules do not apply to: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Any surface mining operations performed prior to May 31, 1972. An operator will not be required to perform reclamation activities on any pit or overburden pile as it existed prior to May 31, 1972. (7-1-21)T

- ii. Mining operations for which the Idaho Dredge and Placer Mining Protection Act requires a permit, or which are otherwise regulated by that act. (7-1-21)T
- iii. Extraction of minerals from within the right-of-way of a public highway by a public or governmental agency for maintenance, repair or construction of a public highway, provided the affected land is an integral part of such highway. (7-1-21)T
- iv. Underground mines that existed prior to July 1, 2019, and have not expanded their surface disturbance by 50% or more after that date. (7-1-21)T
- c. Sand and gravel mining operations in state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers or streams shall constitute an approved mining plan for the purpose of these rules if the operator has all of the following: (7-1-21)T
  - i. A valid riverbed mineral lease granted by the Board in accordance with IDAPA 20.03.05, "Rules Governing Riverbed Mineral Leasing", with a valid mineral lease bond; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. An approved plan of operations for the riverbed mineral lease; and (7-1-21)T
  - iii. A valid stream channel alteration permit issued by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T
- d. Surface mining operations, conducted by a public or governmental agency for maintenance, repair, or construction of a public highway, which: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Disturb more than two (2) acres will comply with the provisions of Section 069; or (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Disturb less than two (2) acres will comply with Subsections 060.06.a. through 060.06.e. (7-1-21)T
- e. A cyanidation facility with a permit approved by the DEQ prior to July 1, 2005, is subject to the applicable laws and rules for ore processing by cyanidation in effect on June 30, 2005; however, if there is a material modification or material expansion to a cyanidation facility after July 1, 2005, these rules shall apply to the modification or expansion. (7-1-21)T

**002. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

In addition to the definitions set forth in the chapter, the following definitions apply to these rules: (7-1-21)T

- 01. Adit.** A nearly horizontal passage from the surface into an underground mine. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Approximate Previous Contour.** A contour that is reasonably comparable to that contour existing prior to disturbance, or that blends with the adjacent topography. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Best Management Practices (BMP).** Practices, techniques or measures developed or identified by the designated agency and identified in the state water quality management plan which are determined to be a cost-effective and practicable means of preventing or reducing pollutants generated from nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Chapter.** The Mined Land Reclamation Act, Title 47, Chapter 15, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 05. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T
- 06. Discharge.** With regard to cyanidation facilities, when used without qualification, any spilling, leaking, emitting, escaping, leaching, or disposing of a pollutant into the waters of the state. (7-1-21)T
- 07. Ground Water.** Any water of the state that occurs beneath the surface of the earth in a saturated



geological formation of rock or soil. (7-1-21)T

**08. Land Application.** A process or activity involving application of liquids or slurries potentially containing cyanide from the cyanidation facility to the land surface for the purpose of treatment, neutralization, disposal, or groundwater recharge. (7-1-21)T

**09. Material Change.** A change that deviates from the approved reclamation plan or permanent closure plan and causes one (1) or more of the following to occur: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Results in a substantial adverse effect to the geotechnical stability of overburden disposal areas, topsoil, stockpiles, roads, embankments, tailings facilities, cyanidation facilities or pit walls; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Substantially modifies surface water management or a water management plan, not to include routine implementation and maintenance of BMPs; (7-1-21)T

**c.** Exceeds the permitted acreage; or (7-1-21)T

**d.** Increases overall estimated reclamation costs by more than fifteen percent (15%). (7-1-21)T

**10. Material Modification or Material Expansion.** With regard to cyanidation facilities: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Any change to a permitted cyanidation facility, except as provided in Subsection 010.10.b, that the Department determines will: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Cause or increase the potential to cause degradation of waters, such as a new cyanidation process or cyanidation facility component; or (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Change the capacity, location, or process of an existing cyanidation facility component; or (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Change the site condition in a manner that is not adequately described in the original permit application. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Reclamation and closure related activities at a cyanidation facility with an existing permit that did not actively add cyanide after January 1, 2005 are not material modifications or material expansions of the cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T

**11. Material Stabilization.** Managing or treating spent ore, tailings, other solids and/or sludges resulting from the cyanidation process to minimize waters or all other applied solutions from migrating through the material and transporting pollutants associated with the cyanidation facility to ensure that all discharges comply with all applicable standards and criteria. (7-1-21)T

**12. Motorized Earth-Moving Equipment.** Backhoes, bulldozers, front-loaders, trenchers, core drills, and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T

**13. Neutralization.** Treatment of process waters such that discharge or final disposal of those waters does not, or will not, violate any applicable standards and criteria. (7-1-21)T

**14. Operating Plan.** A plan that describes how a mining operation will be constructed and operated to avoid or minimize surface disturbance and potential impacts to waters of the state, and to prepare for final reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**15. Permanent Closure.** Those activities that result in neutralization, material stabilization, and decontamination of cyanidation facilities or the facilities' final reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**16. Permit.** When used without qualification, any written authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by the DEQ. This includes authorizations issued pursuant to the application, public participation,

and appeal procedures in IDAPA 58.01.13, “Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation,” and those issued pursuant to the application, public participation, and appeal procedures in IDAPA 58.01.25. (7-1-21)T

**17. Pollutant.** Chemicals, chemical waste, process water, biological materials, radioactive materials, or other materials that, when discharged, cause or contribute adverse effects to any beneficial use or for any other reason may impact waters of the state. (7-1-21)T

**18. Process Waters.** Any liquids intentionally or unintentionally introduced into any portion of the cyanidation process. These liquids may contain cyanide or other minerals, meteoric water, ground or surface water, elements and compounds added to the process solutions for leaching or the general beneficiation of ore, or hazardous materials that result from the combination of these materials. (7-1-21)T

**19. Real Property.** Land and appurtenances as defined in Section 55-101, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**20. Reclamation.** The process of restoring an area affected by a mining operation or cyanidation facility to its original or another beneficial use, considering previous uses, possible future uses, and surrounding topography. The objective is to re-establish a diverse, self-perpetuating plant community, and to minimize erosion, remove hazards, and maintain water quality. (7-1-21)T

**21. Reclamation Plan.** A plan using a combination of maps, drawings, and descriptions that describes how a mine is constructed and how reclamation of a mine’s affected land is accomplished. (7-1-21)T

**22. Revegetation.** The establishment of the premining vegetation or a comparable vegetative cover on the land disturbed by mining operations. (7-1-21)T

**23. Shaft.** A vertical or inclined passage from the surface into an underground mine. (7-1-21)T

**24. Surface Waters.** The surface waters of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**25. Treatment.** Any method, technique or process, including neutralization, that changes the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of a waste for the purpose of disposal, or the end result of such action. (7-1-21)T

**26. Water Balance.** An inventory and accounting process capable of being reconciled that integrates all potential sources of water that are entrained in the cyanidation facility or may enter into or exit from the cyanidation facility. The inventory must include the water holding capacity of specific structures within the facility that contain process water. The water balance is used to ensure that all process water and other pollutants can be contained as engineered and designed within a factor of safety as determined in the permanent closure plan. (7-1-21)T

**27. Water Management Plan.** A document that describes the results of the water balance and the methods that will be used to ensure that pollutants are not discharged from a cyanidation facility into waters of the state, unless permitted or otherwise approved by the DEQ. (7-1-21)T

**28. Waters of the State.** All the accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural and artificial, public or private, or parts thereof that are wholly or partially within, flow through or border upon the state of Idaho. These waters shall not include municipal or industrial wastewater treatment or storage structures or private reservoirs, the operation of which has no effect on waters of the state. (7-1-21)T

**011. ABBREVIATIONS.**

**01. BMP.** Best Management Practices. (7-1-21)T

**02. DEQ.** Department of Environmental Quality. (7-1-21)T

**03. IPDES.** Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. (7-1-21)T

- 04.** SWPPP. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. (7-1-21)T
- 05.** U.S.C. United States Code. (7-1-21)T
- 012. -- 049. (RESERVED)**
- 050. ADMINISTRATION.**  
The Department will administer these rules under the direction of the director. (7-1-21)T
- 051. -- 059. (RESERVED)**
- 060. EXPLORATION OPERATIONS AND REQUIRED RECLAMATION.**
- 01. Diligence.** All reclamation activities required to be conducted on exploration sites must be performed in a good, workmanlike manner with all reasonable diligence, and as to a given exploration drill hole, road, or trench, within one (1) year after abandonment thereof. (7-1-21)T
- 02. When Exploration Is Mining.** Exploration operations may under some circumstances constitute mining operations as described in Section 47-1503(7), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Notification.** Any operator desiring to conduct exploration using motorized earth-moving equipment to locate minerals for immediate or ultimate sale shall notify the Department within seven (7) days after beginning exploration operations. No application fee or financial assurance is required for exploration that is not a mining operation. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Contents of Notification.** The notification shall include: (7-1-21)T
- a.** The name and address of the operator; (7-1-21)T
- b.** The legal description of the exploration and its starting and estimated completion date; and (7-1-21)T
- c.** The anticipated size of the exploration and the general method of operation. (7-1-21)T
- 05. Confidentiality.** Any such notification is treated as confidential in accord with Section 180. (7-1-21)T
- 06. Exploration Reclamation (Less Than Two Acres).** Every operator who conducts exploration affecting less than two (2) acres shall: (7-1-21)T
- a.** Wherever possible, contour the affected lands to their approximate previous contour; and (7-1-21)T
- b.** Conduct revegetation activities in accordance with Subsection 140.11. Unless otherwise required by a federal agency, one (1) pit or trench on a federal mining claim showing discovery, may be left open pending verification by federal mining examiners. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Exploration drill holes must be plugged within thirty (30) days of drilling the holes. Upon request, the director may allow the holes to be temporarily left unplugged for up to a year, but until they are plugged the holes must be left so as to eliminate hazards to humans and animals. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Pits or trenches on mining claims showing discovery may be left open pending verification by federal mining examiners but shall not create a hazard to humans or animals. Such abandoned pits and trenches must be reclaimed within one (1) year of verification. (7-1-21)T
- e.** If water runoff from exploration causes siltation of surface waters in amounts more than normally results from runoff, the operator shall reclaim affected lands and adjoining lands under his control as is necessary to meet state water quality standards. (7-1-21)T

**07. Exploration Reclamation (More Than Two Acres).** Reclamation of lands where exploration has affected more than two (2) acres must be completed as set forth in Subsection 060.06 and the following additional requirements: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Abandoned exploration roads must be cross-ditched as necessary to minimize erosion. The director may request in writing, or may be petitioned in writing, that a given road or road segment be left for a specific purpose and not be cross-ditched or revegetated. If the director approves the petition, the operator cannot thereafter be required to conduct reclamation activities with respect to that given road or road segment. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Ridges of overburden must be leveled so as to have a minimum width of ten (10) feet at the top. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Peaks of overburden must be leveled so as to have a minimum width of fifteen (15) feet at the top. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Overburden piles must be reasonably prepared to control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Abandoned lands affected by exploration must be top-dressed to the extent that such overburden is reasonably available from any pit or other excavation created by the exploration, with that type of overburden that is conducive to the control of erosion or the growth of vegetation that the operator elects to plant thereon. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Any water containment structure created in connection with exploration, must be reasonably prepared so as not to constitute a hazard to humans or animals. (7-1-21)T

**08. Additional Reclamation.** The operator and the director may agree, in writing, to complete additional reclamation beyond the requirements established in the chapter and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 067. (RESERVED)**

**068. APPLICATION FEES**

**01. Base Application Fees.** The following base fee schedule will be used for all reclamation plans and permanent closure plans and amendments to those plans. For plans processed under Section 069 of these rules, this base fee covers up to twenty (20) hours of staff time for review and processing. For plans processed under Section 070 of these rules, the applicant may instead enter an agreement with the Department as described in Subsection 068.03 of these rules. The applicable acreage is based on the proposed reclamation plan area identified in the application:

| Type of Plan   | Fee (Dollars)                       |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Section 069 of these rules, Reclamation Plan 0 to 5 acres        | Five hundred (\$500)                |
| Section 069 of these rules, Reclamation Plan >5 to 40 acres      | Six hundred (\$600)                 |
| Section 069 of these rules, Reclamation Plan over 40 acres       | Seven hundred fifty (\$750)         |
| Section 070 of these rules, Reclamation Plan 0 to 100 acres      | One thousand (\$1,000)              |
| Section 070 of these rules, Reclamation Plan >100 to 1,000 acres | One thousand five hundred (\$1,500) |
| Section 070 of these rules, Reclamation Plan >1,000 acres        | Two thousand (\$2,000)              |
| Section 071 of these rules, Permanent Closure Plan               | Five thousand (\$5,000)             |

(7-1-21)T

**02. Additional Fees for Applications Submitted Under Section 069.** Plans processed under Section 069 of these rules that require more than twenty (20) hours of staff time due to an incomplete application will result in additional fees being charged. After a revised application has been received and determined to be complete with the exception of the fee, IDL will send an invoice to the operator at a rate of forty dollars per hour (\$40/hour) for the

additional review time over the initial twenty (20) hours. If this additional fee is not paid prior to the sixty (60) day approval deadline, the application will be denied. If the additional fee is paid within 30 days of the denial, the application will be considered complete and the time requirements of Subsection 080.03 will apply. (7-1-21)T

**03. Alternative Fee Agreement for Applications Submitted Under Section 070.** In lieu of paying a fee at the time the application is submitted, an applicant under Section 070 of these rules may enter into an agreement with the Department for actual costs incurred to process an application, verify a reclamation cost estimate submitted under Idaho Code § 47-1512(c), and issue a final decision. The applicant shall not commence operations until the terms of the agreement have been met, including that the Department has been reimbursed for all actual costs incurred for the permitting process. (7-1-21)T

**069. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR QUARRIES, DECORATIVE STONE, BUILDING STONE, AND AGGREGATE MATERIALS INCLUDING SAND, GRAVEL AND CRUSHED ROCK.**

**01. Approval Required.** Approval of a reclamation plan by the Department is required even if approval of such plan has been or will be obtained from a federal agency. (7-1-21)T

**02. No Operator Shall Conduct Mining Operations.** No operator shall conduct mining operations on any lands in the state until the reclamation plan has been approved by the director, and the operator has filed financial assurance that meets the requirements of the chapter and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Application Package.** The operator must submit a complete application package, for each separate mine or mine panel, before the reclamation plan will be approved. Separate mines are individual, physically disconnected operations. A complete application package consists of: (7-1-21)T

**a.** An application provided by the director; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A map or maps of the proposed mining operation which includes the information required under Subsection 069.04; (7-1-21)T

**c.** A reclamation plan, in map and narrative form, which includes the information required under Subsection 069.05; and (7-1-21)T

**d.** An out-of-state operator shall designate an in-state agent authorized to act on behalf of the operator. In case of an emergency that requires an action or actions to prevent environmental damage, both the operator and the authorized agent will be notified. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The correct fee listed in Section 068 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Map Requirements.** A vicinity map must be prepared on standard United States Geological Survey ("USGS") seven and one-half (7.5) minute quadrangle maps or equivalent. A map of the proposed mining operation site must be of sufficient scale to show: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The location of existing roads, access, and main haul roads to be constructed or reconstructed in conjunction with the mining operation and the approximate dates for construction, reconstruction, and abandonment; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The approximate location and names, if known, of drainages, streams, creeks, or water bodies within one thousand (1,000) feet of the mining operation; (7-1-21)T

**c.** The approximate boundaries of the lands to be utilized in the mining operations, including a legal description to the quarter-quarter section; (7-1-21)T

**d.** The approximate boundaries and acreage of the lands that will become affected land as a result of the mining operation during the first year of operations; (7-1-21)T

**e.** The currently planned storage locations of fuel, equipment maintenance products, wastes, and chemicals that will be utilized in the mining operation; (7-1-21)T

**f.** The currently planned location and configuration of pits, overburden piles, crusher reject materials, mineral stockpiles, topsoil storage, wash plant ponds and sediment ponds that will be utilized; (7-1-21)T

**g.** Scaled cross-sections by length and height showing surface profiles prior to mining; and (7-1-21)T

**h.** A surface and mineral control or ownership map of appropriate scale for boundary identification; (7-1-21)T

**05. Reclamation Plan Requirements.** Reclamation plans must be submitted in map and narrative form and include the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Where waters of the state are likely to be impacted or when requested by the director, documents identifying and assessing foreseeable, site-specific sources of water quality impacts from mining operations and proposed management activities, such as BMPs or other measures and practices, to comply with water quality requirements; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Scaled cross-sections by length and height, showing planned surface profiles and slopes after reclamation; (7-1-21)T

**c.** Roads to be reclaimed; (7-1-21)T

**d.** A plan for revegetation of affected lands including soil types, slopes, precipitation, seed rates, species, handling of topsoil or other growth medium, time of planting, method of planting and, if necessary, fertilizer and mulching rates; (7-1-21)T

**e.** The planned reclamation of wash plant or sediment ponds; (7-1-21)T

**f.** A drainage control map which identifies the location of BMPs that will be implemented to control erosion and water quality impacts during mining and reclamation activities; (7-1-21)T

**g.** The location of any current 100-year floodplain in relation to the mining facilities if the floodplain is within one hundred (100) feet of the facilities, and the BMPs to be implemented that will keep surface waters from entering any pits and potentially changing course. (7-1-21)T

**h.** For operations over five (5) acres, an estimate of total reclamation cost to be used in establishing a financial assurance amount. The cost estimate will include, but is not limited to, the approximate cost of grading, revegetation, equipment mobilization, labor, and other pertinent direct and indirect costs of a third-party to complete reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**i.** If construction, mining, or reclamation will be completed in phases, a description of the tasks to be completed in each phase, an estimated schedule, and proposed adjustments of financial assurance related to each phase. (7-1-21)T

**070. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR OTHER MINING OPERATIONS INCLUDING HARDROCK, UNDERGROUND AND PHOSPHATE MINING.**

**01. Reclamation Plan Approval Required.** Approval of a reclamation plan by the Department is required even if approval of such plan has been or will be obtained from a federal agency. No operator shall conduct mining operations on any lands in the state until the reclamation plan has been approved by the director, and the operator has filed the required financial assurance. (7-1-21)T

**02. Application Package.** The operator must submit a complete application package for each separate mine or mine panel before the reclamation plan will be approved. Separate mines are individual, physically disconnected operations. A complete application package consists of: (7-1-21)T

- a. All items and information required or allowed under Section 069 of these rules; (7-1-21)T
  - b. Any additional information required by Subsection 070.04; and (7-1-21)T
  - c. An operating plan, if required by Section 47-1506(b), Idaho Code, prepared in accordance with Subsection 070.05 of these rules. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Map Requirements.** Maps must be prepared in accordance with Subsection 069.04 of these rules with the addition of any tailings facilities or process fluid ponds. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Reclamation Plan Requirements.** Reclamation plans must include all of the information required under Subsection 069.05, including but not limited to phases as described in Subsection 069.05.i, and the following additional information: (7-1-21)T
- a. A description of the planned reclamation of overburden disposal areas, tailings facilities, and sediment ponds; and (7-1-21)T
  - b. An estimate of total reclamation cost to be used in establishing the financial assurance amount. The cost estimate should include the approximate cost of grading, revegetation, equipment mobilization, labor, and other pertinent costs for third party reclamation. (7-1-21)T
  - c. To assist in meeting the requirements of paragraph 069.05.a in these rules, a summary of requirements from a SWPPP, IPDES permit, ground water point of compliance, and other permits or approvals or BMPs related to foreseeable water quality impacts on the affected land. (7-1-21)T
  - d. Structures that will be built to help implement a SWPPP, IPDES permit, Point of Compliance or other permits or approvals related to foreseeable water quality impacts on the affected land. (7-1-21)T
  - e. Additional information regarding coarse and durable rock armor if any is proposed to be used for reclamation of mine facilities. The director may, after considering the type, size, and potential environmental impact of the facility, require the operator to include additional information in the reclamation plan. Such information may include, but is not limited to, one (1) or more of the following: (7-1-21)T
    - i. A description of the quantities, size, geologic characteristics, and durability of the materials to be used for final reclamation and armoring. (7-1-21)T
    - ii. A description of how the coarse and durable materials will be handled and/or stockpiled, including a schedule for such activities that will ensure adequate quantities are available during reclamation. (7-1-21)T
  - f. The director may, after considering the type, size, and potential environmental impact of the facility, require the operator to provide a geotechnical analysis and report. If failure of these structures can reasonably be expected to impact adjacent surface or ground waters or adjacent private or state-owned lands, the analysis may be required to consider the long-term stability of these structures, the potential for ground water accumulation, and the expected seismic accelerations at the site. The report must bear the imprint of an Idaho licensed professional engineer that is both signed and dated by the engineer. The report shall show that the following features, if present, are designed in a manner that is consistent with industry standards to minimize the potential for failure: (7-1-21)T
    - i. Any waste rock or overburden stockpiles; (7-1-21)T
    - ii. Any pit walls proposed to be more than one hundred (100) feet high; and (7-1-21)T
    - iii. Any pit walls where geologic conditions could lead to failure of the wall regardless of the height. (7-1-21)T
  - g. Underground mines must provide the following additional information: (7-1-21)T

i. Location and dimensions of all underground mine openings at the ground surface, including but not limited to vents, shafts, and adits; and (7-1-21)T

ii. A description of how each mine opening in subparagraph 070.04.g.i of these rules will be secured during reclamation to eliminate hazards to human health and safety. (7-1-21)T

**h.** A description of post-closure activities that includes the proposed length of the post-closure period and the following: (7-1-21)T

i. A summary of procedures and methods for water management including any likely IPDES permit, stormwater permit, and monitoring required for any ground water point of compliance, along with sufficient information to support a cost estimate for such water management activities. (7-1-21)T

ii. Care and maintenance for facilities after mining has ceased. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Other pertinent information the Department has determined is necessary to ensure that the operator will comply with the requirements of the chapter. (7-1-21)T

**05. Operating Plan Requirements.** A complete operating plan shall consist of: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Ore, tailings, and waste rock handling flow sheets and diagrams. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Waste rock management plan. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Water quality monitoring locations. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Anticipated concurrent reclamation prior to the cessation of mining. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Estimated throughput and timeline for mining. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Types of ore processing and beneficiation. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Process fluid pond volumes and anticipated contents, if applicable. (7-1-21)T

**06. Monitoring Data.** The Department will, as needed and through consultation with DEQ, obtain the operator's baseline data on ground water or surface water gathered during the planning and permitting process for the operation, and may require the operator to furnish additional monitoring data during the life of the project. This will not require any additional monitoring data where such data is already provided under an IPDES permit, SWPPP, ground water point of compliance, or other federal or state requirements for collecting surface or ground water data. (7-1-21)T

**071. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMANENT CLOSURE OF CYANIDATION FACILITIES.**

**01. Permanent Closure Plan Approval Required.** No operator shall operate a new cyanidation facility or materially modify or materially expand an existing cyanidation facility prior to obtaining a permit, approval from the director and before the operator has filed financial assurance, as required by these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Permanent Closure Plan Requirements.** A permanent closure plan shall: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Identify the current owner of the cyanidation facility and the party responsible for the permanent closure and the long-term care and maintenance of the cyanidation facility; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Include a timeline showing: (7-1-21)T

i. The schedule to complete permanent closure activities, including neutralization of process waters and material stabilization, and the time period for which the operator is responsible for post-closure activities; and (7-1-21)T



- ii. If the operator plans to complete construction, operation, and/or permanent closure of the cyanidation facility in phases, the schedule to begin each phase of construction, operation, and/or permanent closure activities and any associated post-closure activities. (7-1-21)T
- c. Provide the objectives, methods, and procedures that will achieve neutralization of process waters and material stabilization during the closure period and through post-closure; (7-1-21)T
- d. Provide a water management plan from the time the cyanidation facility is in permanent closure through the defined post-closure period. The plan must be prepared in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.13, "Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation," administered by the DEQ, as required to meet the objectives of the permanent closure plan. (7-1-21)T
- e. Include the schematic drawings for all BMPs that will be used during the closure period, through the defined post-closure period, and a description of how the BMPs support the water management plan, and an explanation of the water conveyance systems that are planned for the cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T
- f. Provide proposed post-construction topographic maps and scaled cross-sections showing the configuration of the final heap or tailing facility, including the final cap and cover designs and the plan for long-term operation and maintenance of the cap. Caps and covers used as source control measures for cyanidation facilities must be designed to minimize the interaction of meteoric waters, surface waters, and ground waters with wastes containing pollutants that are likely to be mobilized and discharged to waters of the state. Prior to approval of a permanent closure plan, engineering designs and specifications for caps and covers must bear the imprint of an Idaho licensed professional engineer that is both signed and dated by the engineer; (7-1-21)T
- g. Include monitoring plans for surface and ground water during closure and post-closure periods, adequate to demonstrate water quality trends and to ensure compliance with the stated permanent closure objectives and the requirements of the chapter; (7-1-21)T
- h. Provide an assessment of the potential impacts to soils, vegetation, and surface and ground waters for all areas to be used for the land application system and provide a mitigation plan, as appropriate. (7-1-21)T
- i. Provide information on how the operator will comply with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.; Idaho Hazardous Waste Management Act, Chapter 44, Title 39, Idaho Code; Idaho Solid Waste Management Act, Chapter 74, Title 39, Idaho Code; and appropriate state rules, during operation and permanent closure; (7-1-21)T
- j. Provide sufficient detail to allow the operator to prepare an estimate of the reasonable costs to implement the permanent closure plan; (7-1-21)T
- k. Provide an estimate of the reasonable estimated costs to complete the permanent closure activities specified in the permanent closure plan in the event the operator fails to complete those activities. The estimate shall: (7-1-21)T
- i. Identify the incremental costs of attaining critical phases of the permanent closure plan and a proposed financial assurance release schedule; (7-1-21)T
- ii. Assume that permanent closure activities will be completed by a third party whose services are contracted for by the Board as a result of a financial assurance forfeiture under Section 47-1513, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- l. If the proposal is to complete cyanidation facility construction, operation, and/or permanent closure activities in phases: (7-1-21)T
- i. Describe how these activities will be phased and how, after the first phase of activities, each subsequent phase will be distinguished from the previous phase or phases; and (7-1-21)T

ii. Describe how any required post-closure activities will be addressed during and after each subsequent phase has begun. (7-1-21)T

m. Provide any additional information that may be required by the Department to ensure compliance with the objectives of the permanent closure plan and the requirements of the chapter. (7-1-21)T

**03. Preapplication Conference.** Prospective applicants are encouraged to meet with the Department well in advance of preparing and submitting an application package to discuss the anticipated application requirements and application procedures, and to arrange for a visit or visits to the proposed location of the cyanidation facility. The preapplication conference may trigger a period of collaborative effort between the Department, the DEQ, and the applicant in developing checklists to be used by the agencies in reviewing an application for completion, accuracy, and protectiveness. (7-1-21)T

**04. Application Package for Permanent Closure.** An application and its contents submitted to the Department will be used to determine whether an applicant can complete all permanent closure activities in conformance with all applicable state laws. An application must provide information in sufficient detail to allow the director to make necessary application review decisions regarding cyanidation facility closure and protection of public health, safety, and welfare, in accordance with the chapter. A complete application package must be submitted to the Department. A complete application package for an operator proposing to use cyanidation shall consist of: (7-1-21)T

a. A Department application form completed, signed, and dated by the applicant. This form shall contain the following information: (7-1-21)T

i. Name, location, and mailing address of the cyanidation facility; (7-1-21)T

ii. Name, mailing address, and phone number of the operator. An out-of-state operator shall designate an in-state agent authorized to act on his behalf. In case of an emergency that requires actions to prevent environmental damage, both the operator and his agent will be notified; (7-1-21)T

iii. Land ownership status (federal, state, private or public); (7-1-21)T

iv. The legal description to the quarter-quarter section of the location of the proposed cyanidation facility; and (7-1-21)T

v. The legal structure (corporation, partnership, etc.) and primary place of business of the operator. (7-1-21)T

b. Evidence that the applicant is authorized by the Secretary of State to conduct business in the state of Idaho; (7-1-21)T

c. A permanent closure plan as prescribed in Subsection 071.02; (7-1-21)T

d. The DEQ application and supporting materials; (7-1-21)T

e. The fee as defined in Subsection 071.05.a. (7-1-21)T

**05. Application Fee.** The application fee shall consist of two (2) parts: (7-1-21)T

a. Processing and review fee. (7-1-21)T

i. The applicant shall pay a nonrefundable five thousand dollar (\$5,000) fee upon submission of an application. Within thirty (30) days of receiving an application and this fee, the director shall provide a detailed cost estimate to the operator which includes a description of the scope of the Department's review; the assumptions on which the Department's estimate is based; and an itemized accounting of the anticipated number of labor hours, hourly labor rates, travel expenses and any other direct expenses the Department expects to incur, and indirect expenses equal to ten percent (10%) of the Department's estimated direct costs, as required to satisfy its statutory

obligation pursuant to the chapter. (7-1-21)T

ii. If the Department's estimate is greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), the applicant may agree to pay a fee equal to the difference between five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and the Department's estimate, or may commence negotiations with the Department to establish a reasonable fee. (7-1-21)T

iii. If, within twenty (20) days from issuance of the Department's estimate, the Department and applicant cannot agree on a reasonable application processing and review fee, the applicant may appeal to the Board. The Board shall: (7-1-21)T

(1) Review the Department's estimate; (7-1-21)T

(2) Conduct a hearing where the applicant is allowed to give testimony to the Board concerning the Department's estimate; and (7-1-21)T

(3) Establish the amount of the application review and processing fee. (7-1-21)T

iv. If the fee is more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), the applicant shall pay the balance of the fee within fifteen (15) days of the Board's decision or withdraw the application. (7-1-21)T

v. Nothing in this section shall extend the time in which the Board must act on a plan submitted. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Permanent closure cost estimate verification fee. (7-1-21)T

i. Pursuant to Sections 47-1506(g) and 47-1508(f), Idaho Code, the Department may employ a qualified independent party, acceptable to the operator and the Board, to verify the accuracy of the permanent closure cost estimate. (7-1-21)T

ii. The applicant is solely responsible for paying the Department's cost to employ a qualified independent party to verify the accuracy of the permanent closure cost estimate. The applicant may participate in the Department's processes for identifying qualified parties and selecting a party to perform this work. (7-1-21)T

iii. If a federal agency has responsibility to establish the financial assurance amount for permanent closure of a cyanidation facility on federal land, the Department may employ the firm retained by the federal agency to verify the accuracy of the permanent closure cost estimate. If the director chooses not to employ the firm retained by the federal agency, he shall provide a written justification explaining why the firm was not employed. (7-1-21)T

**072. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW AND DECISION UPON AN APPLICATION FOR A RECLAMATION PLAN OR PERMANENT CLOSURE PLAN.**

**01. Return of Application.** Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a reclamation plan or permanent closure plan by the Department, an application may be returned for correction and resubmission if either the reclamation plan or permanent closure plan are incomplete. Return of an application by the director shall constitute a rejection in accordance with Section 47-1507(b), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Agency Notification and Comments.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Nonconfidential materials submitted under Sections 069, 070, and 071 will be forwarded by the director to the Idaho Departments of Water Resources, Environmental Quality, and Fish and Game for review and comment. The director may decide not to circulate applications submitted under Section 069 if the director determines the impacts of the proposed activities are minor and do not involve surface or ground waters. The director may provide public notice on receipt of a reclamation plan or permanent closure plan. In addition, nonconfidential contents of an application will be provided to individuals who request the information in writing, as required by the Idaho Public Records Act. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Upon receipt of a complete application for a reclamation plan or a permanent closure plan, the director shall provide notice to the cities and counties where the mining or cyanidation facility operation is proposed, in accordance with Section 47-1505(7), Idaho Code. The notice shall include the name and address of the operator, the procedure and schedule for the Department's review, and an invitation to review nonconfidential portions of the application, if requested in writing. Such notice will be provided upon receipt of a reclamation plan, a permanent closure plan, or any amended plan for an existing operation, or an amended cost estimate to complete permanent closure of a cyanidation facility, if required under the chapter and these rules.. (7-1-21)T

**03. Decision on Reclamation Plans.** The director shall review a new reclamation plan or an amended reclamation plan pursuant to Sections 47-1507 and 47-1508, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Approval. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Within sixty (60) days of receipt of an application that complies with Subsections 069 and 070 of these rules, the Department shall provide written notice to the applicant that the reclamation plan or any amendment(s) to an approved reclamation plan is approved or denied and, if approved, the amount of the financial assurance required; or (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If the director does not take action within sixty (60) days, a reclamation plan or any amendments thereof is deemed to comply with the chapter, unless the sixty (60) day time period is extended pursuant to Section 47-1507(c), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** The operator and director may agree, in writing, to implement additional actions with respect to reclamation that extend beyond the requirements set forth in these rules. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Inspections. The director may determine that an inspection of the proposed mining site location is necessary if the inspection will provide additional information or otherwise aid in processing of the application. (7-1-21)T

**i.** If the director decides to perform an inspection, the applicant will be contacted and asked that he or an authorized employee or agent be present. This rule shall not prevent the Department from making an inspection of the site if the applicant does not appear. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If weather conditions preclude an inspection of a proposed mining operation, the director shall provide written notice to the applicant that review of the reclamation plan or an amended reclamation plan has been suspended until weather conditions permit an inspection, and that the schedule for a decision will be extended for up to thirty (30) days after weather conditions permit such inspection in accordance with Section 47-1507(c), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**04. Decision on Cyanidation Facility Permanent Closure Plans.** Pursuant to Sections 47-1507 and 47-1508, Idaho Code, following review of a complete application, the director shall: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Coordination with DEQ. Initiate a coordinated interagency review of the application by providing a notice in writing to the DEQ director that the Department has received an application for permanent closure of a cyanidation facility; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Approval. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Within one-hundred eighty (180) days of receipt of an application that complies with Subsection 071.04 of these rules, the Department shall provide written notice to the applicant that the permanent closure plan is approved or denied and, if approved, the amount of the permanent closure financial assurance required; or (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If the director does not take action within one-hundred eighty (180) days, a permanent closure plan, or any amendments thereof, is deemed to comply with the provisions of the chapter, unless the one hundred eighty (180) day time period is extended in accordance with Section 47-1507(c), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Inspections. The director may determine that it is necessary to inspect the proposed cyanidation facility location if the inspection will provide additional information or otherwise aid in processing of the application. (7-1-21)T

**i.** If the director determines to inspect the site, the applicant will be contacted and asked that he or an authorized employee or agent be present. The Department may proceed with an inspection if the applicant or his designated employee or agent does not appear. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If weather conditions preclude an inspection of the proposed cyanidation facility, the director shall provide written notice to the applicant that processing of the application has been suspended until weather conditions permit an inspection, and that the schedule for a decision is extended for up to thirty (30) days after weather conditions permit such inspection in accordance with Section 47-1507(c), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**05. Permanent Closure Plan Approval.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Department may condition its approval on issuance of a permit by the DEQ for the cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Except for the concurrent and additional permanent closure requirements that may be established in a permit issued by the DEQ pursuant to Section 39-118A, Idaho Code and IDAPA 58.01.13, "Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation," an approved permanent closure plan shall define the nature and extent of the operator's obligation under the chapter. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The permanent closure plan, as approved by the Department in coordination with the DEQ, will be incorporated by reference into the cyanidation facility permit issued by DEQ as a permit condition and will be enforceable as such. The operator shall ensure that closure complies with the approved permanent closure plan and any additional permanent closure requirements as outlined in the permit issued by DEQ. (7-1-21)T

**d.** No sooner than one hundred and twenty (120) days after an application for a permanent closure plan has been submitted to the Department, the applicant may submit a reclamation plan as required by Section 070 of these rules. The Department will review and approve the reclamation plan in accordance with Subsection 080 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Approval of a permanent closure plan by the Department is required even if approval of such plan has been or will be obtained from an appropriate federal agency. (7-1-21)T

**06. Denial of an Application.** If the director rejects an application, the director shall deliver in writing to the applicant a statement of the reasons the application has been rejected, the factual findings upon which the rejection is based, a statement of the applicable statute(s) and rule(s), the manner in which the application failed to fulfill the requirements of these rules, and the action that must be taken or conditions that must be satisfied to meet the requirements of the chapter and these rules. The applicant may submit an amended application in accordance with Sections 069, 070 or 071 of these rules for review and, if appropriate, approval by the Department. The director shall deny a reclamation plan, permanent closure plan, or any amendments thereof if: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The application is inaccurate or incomplete; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The cyanidation facility as proposed cannot be conditioned for construction, operation, and closure to protect public safety, health, and welfare, in accordance with the scope and intent of these rules, or to protect beneficial uses of the waters of the state, as determined by the DEQ pursuant to Section 39-118A, Idaho Code and IDAPA 58.01.13, "Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation" and other DEQ rules cited therein. (7-1-21)T

**07. Public Hearing.** The director may call a public hearing to determine whether a proposed application complies with the chapter and these rules. A hearing will be conducted in accordance with Section 110 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**08. Referral to Board.** The director may refer the decision concerning an application to the Board. This action will not extend the time period for a decision to approve or deny an application. (7-1-21)T

**09. Appeal of Final Order.** Any final order of the Board regarding an application for a mining reclamation plan or for permanent closure of a cyanidation facility may be appealed as set forth in Section 47-1514, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 089. (RESERVED)**

**090. AMENDING AN APPROVED RECLAMATION PLAN.**

**01. Cause for Reclamation Plan Amendment.** In the event circumstances arise that necessitate amendments to an approved reclamation plan, the operator shall submit an application to amend the plan and state the reasons the amendment is necessary. Either the operator or the director may initiate a process to amend an approved reclamation plan. If the director identifies a material change he believes requires a change in the reclamation plan, the director must deliver in writing to the operator a detailed statement identifying the material change and the action(s) necessary to address the material changes. Plan amendments have the same requirements as described in Section 069 and 070 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Review of Amendment.** The director will process an application to amend a plan in accordance with Sections 080 and 110 of these rules, provided, however, that no land or aspect or provision of an approved reclamation plan that would not be affected by the proposed amendment, is subject to the amendment, review or reapproval in connection with processing the application. Approval of an amendment shall not be conditioned upon the performance of any actions not required by the approved reclamation plan or the proposed amendment itself, unless the operator agrees to perform such actions. (7-1-21)T

**03. Adjustments.** Adjustments to an approved reclamation plan may be made by agreement between the director and the operator, if the adjustment is consistent with the overall objectives of the approved reclamation plan and so long as applicable surface and ground water quality standards will be met. Adjustments are due to changes that are smaller than material changes. (7-1-21)T

**091. AMENDING AN APPROVED PERMANENT CLOSURE PLAN.**

**01. Cause for Permanent Closure Plan Amendment.** In the event circumstances arise that necessitate amendments to an approved permanent closure plan, the operator shall submit an application to amend the permanent closure plan and state the reasons the amendment is necessary. Either the operator or the director may initiate a process to amend an approved permanent closure plan. Circumstances that could require a permanent closure plan to be amended include: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A material modification or material expansion in the cyanidation facility design or operation for which the approved permanent closure plan is no longer adequate; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Conditions substantially different from those anticipated in the original permit for which the approved permanent closure plan is no longer adequate; or (7-1-21)T

**c.** A material change as defined in Subsection 010.09 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Modifications at an Operator's Request.** Requests from an operator to modify a permanent closure plan must be submitted to the Department in writing. The director shall process an application for amendment in accordance with Section 080 of these rules. An application to amend a permanent closure plan shall include: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A written description of the circumstances that necessitate the amendment; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Data supporting the request; (7-1-21)T

**c.** The proposed amendment; (7-1-21)T

**d.** A description of how the amendment will impact the estimated cost to complete permanent closure

pursuant to the chapter; (7-1-21)T

**e.** A cost estimate to implement the amended permanent closure plan, prepared in accordance with Subsection 071.02 of these rules; and (7-1-21)T

**f.** Payment of a reasonable fee as may be determined by the director in accordance with Section 47-1508, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. Modification at Request of Director.** If, following consultation with the DEQ, the director determines that cause exists to amend the permanent closure plan the director shall notify the operator in writing of his determination and explain the circumstances that have arisen which require the permanent closure plan to be amended. Within thirty (30) days or as agreed by the operator and the Department, the operator shall submit an application to amend the permanent closure plan in accordance with Subsection 091.02. (7-1-21)T

**04. Adjustment.** Adjustments to an approved permanent closure plan may be made by agreement between the director and the operator, if the adjustment is consistent with the overall objectives of the approved permanent closure plan and so long as applicable surface and ground water quality standards will be met. (7-1-21)T

**092. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. DEVIATION FROM AN APPROVED RECLAMATION PLAN.**

**01. Unforeseen Events.** If a mining operator finds that unforeseen events or unexpected conditions require immediate change from an approved plan, the operator may continue mining in accordance with the procedures dictated by the changed conditions, pending submission and approval of an amended plan, even though operations do not comply with the approved reclamation plan on file with the Department. This shall not excuse the operator from complying with the requirements of Sections 140 and 120 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notification.** The operator shall notify the director, in writing, within ten (10) days of the discovery of conditions that require deviation from the approved plan. A proposed amendment to the reclamation plan must be submitted by the operator within thirty (30) days of the discovery of those conditions. (7-1-21)T

**101. -- 109. (RESERVED)**

**110. PUBLIC HEARING.**

**01. Call for a Hearing.** A public hearing called by the director following receipt of a complete application submitted in accordance with Sections 069, 070, or 071 of these rules is conducted in accordance with Section 47-1507(d), Idaho Code. The director may call for a hearing following his preliminary review of an application for a new operation or an amendment application for an existing operation when one (1) or more of the following circumstances arises: (7-1-21)T

**a. Public Concern.** The public, potentially affected landowners, any governmental entity, or any other interested parties who may be affected by the operations proposed under the chapter have registered, in writing, a concern with the director regarding the proposed operations or cyanidation facility. The purpose of the public hearing is to gather written and oral comments as to whether the proposed reclamation plan or permanent closure plan meets the requirements of the chapter and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**b. Agency Concern.** The director determines, after consultation with the Department of Water Resources, DEQ, the Department of Fish and Game, and affected Indian tribes that the proposed mining or cyanidation facility operations could reasonably be expected to significantly degrade adjacent surface and/or ground waters or otherwise threaten public health, safety or welfare. The purpose of a public hearing held under this subsection will be to receive written and oral comments on the measures the operator is proposing to use to protect surface and/or ground water quality from nonpoint source pollution. (7-1-21)T

**02. Consolidation.** If the director determines that a hearing should be held, he shall order that such proceedings be consolidated. The applicant and the public must be advised of the specific subjects to be discussed at

the hearing at least twenty (20) days prior to the hearing. The Department will coordinate with the DEQ, as appropriate, for any hearings relating to permanent closure of a cyanidation facility to streamline application processing. (7-1-21)T

**03. Location.** A hearing will be held in the locality of the proposed mine or a proposed cyanidation facility at a reasonably convenient time and place for public participation. The director may call for more than one hearing when conditions warrant. (7-1-21)T

**04. Notice of Hearing.** The director shall provide at least twenty (20) days' advance notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing to: federal, state, and local governmental agencies, Indian tribes who may have an interest in the decision as shown on the application, and the public; to all persons who petitioned for a hearing; and to any person identified by the applicant under Subsection 070.02 as a legal owner of the land that will likely be affected by the proposed operations. Notice to the applicant must be sent by certified mail and postmarked not less than twenty (20) days before the scheduled public hearing date. (7-1-21)T

**05. Publication of Notice.** The director shall provide at least twenty (20) days advance notice to the general public of the date, time, and place of the hearing. A newspaper advertisement will be placed once a week, for two (2) consecutive weeks, in the locale of the area covered by the application. (7-1-21)T

**a.** In the event a hearing is ordered under Section 110, the notice shall describe: (7-1-21)T

**i.** The potentially significant surface water quality impacts from the proposed mining operation and the operator's description of the measures that will be used to prevent degradation of adjacent surface and ground waters from sources of pollution; or (7-1-21)T

**ii.** The objectives of a permanent closure plan that have been submitted for review. (7-1-21)T

**b.** A copy of the application will be placed for review in a public place in the local area of the proposed mining operation or cyanidation facility, in the closest Department area office, and the Department's administrative office in Boise. (7-1-21)T

**06. Hearing Officer.** The hearing will be conducted by the director or his designated representative. Both oral and written testimony will be accepted. Proceedings of the hearing will be recorded on audio tape and a verbatim transcript will be prepared. (7-1-21)T

**07. Consideration of Hearing Record.** The Department will consider the hearing record when reviewing reclamation plans or permanent closure plans for final approval or rejection. (7-1-21)T

## **111. COMPLETION OF PERMANENT CLOSURE.**

**01. Implementation of a Permanent Closure Plan.** Unless otherwise specified in the approved permanent closure plan, an operator must begin implementation of the approved permanent closure plan as follows: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Within two (2) years of the final addition of new cyanide to the ore process circuit; or (7-1-21)T

**b.** If the product recovery phase of the cyanidation facility has been suspended for a period of more than two (2) years. (7-1-21)T

**02. Submittal of a Permanent Closure Report.** The operator must submit a permanent closure report to the Department for review and approval. A permanent closure report must be of sufficient detail for the directors of the Department and DEQ to issue a determination that permanent closure, as defined by Subsection 010.15 of these rules, has been achieved. The permanent closure report shall address: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The effectiveness of material stabilization; (7-1-21)T

**b.** The effectiveness of the water management plan and the adequacy of the monitoring plan; (7-1-



21)T

- c. The final configuration of the cyanidation facility and its operational/closure status; (7-1-21)T
- d. The post-closure operation, maintenance, and monitoring requirements, and the estimated reasonable cost to complete those activities; (7-1-21)T
- e. The operational/closure status of any land application site of the cyanidation facilities; (7-1-21)T
- f. Source control systems that have been constructed or implemented to eliminate, mitigate, or contain short- and long-term discharge of pollutants from the cyanidation facility, unless otherwise permitted; (7-1-21)T
- g. The short- and long-term water quality trends in surface and ground water through the statistical analysis of the existing monitoring data pursuant to the ore-processing by cyanidation permit; (7-1-21)T
- h. Ownership and responsibility for the site upon permanent closure during the defined post-closure period; (7-1-21)T
- i. The future beneficial uses of the land, surface and ground waters in and adjacent to the closed cyanidation facilities; and (7-1-21)T
- j. How the permanent closure of the cyanidation facility complies with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Hazardous Waste Management Act, Solid Waste Management Act, and appropriate rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Review of a Permanent Closure Report.** The Department will immediately forward a copy of the permanent closure report to DEQ for their review and comment. (7-1-21)T

**112. DECISION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF A PERMANENT CLOSURE REPORT.**

**01. Receipt of a Permanent Closure Report.** Within sixty (60) days of receipt of a permanent closure report, the director shall issue to the operator a director's determination of approval or disapproval of the permanent closure report. (7-1-21)T

**02. Permanent Closure Report Is Disapproved.** The director's determination to approve or disapprove a permanent closure report will be based on the permanent closure report's demonstration that permanent closure has resulted in long-term neutralization of process waters and material stabilization. If a permanent closure report is disapproved, the director shall provide in writing identification of: (7-1-21)T

- a. Errors or inaccuracies in the permanent closure report; (7-1-21)T
- b. Issues or details that require additional clarification; (7-1-21)T
- c. Failures to fully implement the approved permanent closure plans; (7-1-21)T
- d. Failures to ensure protection for public health, safety, and welfare or to prevent degradation of waters of the state; (7-1-21)T
- e. Outstanding violations or other noncompliance issues; and (7-1-21)T
- f. Other issues supporting the Department's disagreement with the contents, final conclusions or recommendations of the permanent closure report. (7-1-21)T

**113. -- 119. (RESERVED)**

**120. FINANCIAL ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Submittal of Financial Assurance Before Mining.** Prior to beginning any mining on a mine panel covered by a reclamation plan, an operator shall submit to the director, on a Department form, financial assurance meeting the requirements of this rule. (7-1-21)T

**02. Submittal of Financial Assurance Before Operating a Cyanidation Facility.** Prior to beginning operation of a cyanidation facility an operator will submit to the director, on a Department form, financial assurance meeting the requirements of Section 47-1512(a)(2), Idaho Code. The financial assurance will be in an amount equal to the total costs estimated under paragraph 071.02.k. and Section 120 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Timely Financial Assurance Submittal.** Financial assurance must be received by the Department within twenty-four (24) months of reclamation or permanent closure plan approval or the Department will cancel the respective plan without prejudice. If financial assurance is not received within eighteen (18) months of a plan approval, the Department will notify the operator that financial assurance is required prior to the twenty-four (24) month deadline. Extensions will be granted by the director for reasonable cause given if a written request is received prior to the deadline. If financial assurance or an extension request is not received by the deadline, the plan will be canceled. The operator must then submit a new plan application and application fee to restart the approval process. (7-1-21)T

**04. Phased Financial Assurance.** If the Department approves a reclamation plan or permanent closure plan with phased financial assurance, then financial assurance may increase incrementally commensurate with the additional reclamation or permanent closure liability. After construction and operation of the initial phase has commenced and after filing by an operator of the initial financial assurance, an operator will not construct any component of a subsequent phase or phases of the subject mine or cyanidation facility before filing the additional financial assurance amount that is required by the Board. If phased financial assurance is not authorized, the operator is required to file the financial assurance amount required to complete reclamation or permanent closure of all planned phases prior to any construction of the mine or operation of the cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T

**05. Financial Assurance for Mines with Five (5) or Less Disturbed Acres.** Financial assurance will be a minimum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per acre unless the operator or the Department determine that the estimated reasonable costs of reclamation require a different amount. No financial assurance may exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for a given acre of affected land unless the condition in Subsection 120.07 of these rules have been met. (7-1-21)T

**06. Financial Assurance for Cyanidation Facility Affecting Five (5) or Less Disturbed Acres.** The Board may require financial assurance in excess of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) if the conditions in Subsection 120.07 of these rules have been met. (7-1-21)T

**07. Process for Requiring Higher Financial Assurance.** Financial assurance in excess of the amounts in Subsections 120.05 and 06 of this rule may only be obtained if: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Board has determined that such financial assurance is necessary to meet the requirements of the chapter; and (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Board has delivered to the operator, in writing, a notice setting forth the reasons it believes such financial assurance is necessary; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** The Board has conducted a hearing where the operator is allowed to give testimony to the Board concerning the amount of the proposed financial assurance, as provided by Section 47-1512, Idaho Code. This requirement for a hearing may be waived, in writing, by the operator. (7-1-21)T

**08. Financial Assurance for Mine or Cyanidation Facility with More than Five (5) Disturbed Acres.** The amount of financial assurance must be the amount necessary for the Board to pay the estimated reasonable costs of reclamation required under the reclamation plan or permanent closure plan, including indirect costs in Section 120 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**09. Mobilization Costs are Direct Costs.** Mobilization and demobilization costs will be included in

financial assurance calculations as a direct cost. Costs will be calculated to the mine from the nearest community that has at least two (2) contractors able to perform the reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**10. Indirect Costs for Reclamation Cost Calculations.** Reclamation and permanent closure cost calculations shall include the following indirect costs and should fall within the percentages given. If a different percentage is used, then a justification must be given. Alternatively, an operator may propose the use of an industry recognized standardized reclamation cost estimation tool for use in reclamation and/or permanent closure cost estimates and the use of the tool's associated indirect costs which are established using the project direct costs as identified: (7-1-21)T

- a. Contractor profit at six percent to ten percent (6% to 10%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- b. Contractor overhead at four percent to eight percent (4% to 8%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- c. Contractor insurance at one and a half percent (1.5%) of labor costs; (7-1-21)T
- d. Contractor bonding at two and a half percent to three and a half percent (2.5% to 3.5%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- e. Contract administration at five percent to nine percent (5% to 9%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- f. Re-engineering for mines or cyanidation facilities with direct reclamation costs over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000). Re-engineering will be three percent to seven percent (3% to 7%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- g. Scope contingency at six percent to eleven percent (6% to 11%) of direct costs; (7-1-21)T
- h. Bid contingency at six percent to eleven percent (6% to 11%) of direct costs; and (7-1-21)T
- i. Other site specific costs as appropriate. (7-1-21)T

**11. Salvage Value Not Allowed.** Reclamation or permanent closure costs will not be reduced by assigning a salvage value to structures or fixtures to be removed during reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**12. Mining Operation Conducted by Public or Government.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the financial assurance provisions of the chapter and these rules do not apply to any surface mining operations conducted by a public or governmental agency for maintenance, repair, or construction of a public highway. (7-1-21)T

**13. Annual Financial Assurance Review for Reclamation Plans.** At the beginning of each calendar year, the operator shall notify the director of any increase in the acreage of affected land beyond that covered by the existing financial assurance which will result from planned mining activity within the next twelve (12) months. A commensurate increase in the financial assurance will be required for an increase in affected acreage. Any additional financial assurance required must be submitted on the appropriate form within ninety (90) days of operator's receipt of notice from the Department that an additional amount is required. In no event will mining operations be conducted that would affect additional acreage until the appropriate form and financial assurance has been submitted to the Department. Acreage on which reclamation is complete will be reported in accordance with Subsection 120.16 of these rules and after release of this acreage from the reclamation plan by the director, the financial assurance will be reduced by the amount appropriate to reflect the completed reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**14. Financial Assurance Provided to the Federal Government.** Any financial assurance provided to the federal government that also meets the requirements of Section 120 of these rules will be sufficient for the purposes of these rules. A mine providing financial assurance through an order under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act is not required to submit financial assurance to the Department as described in Idaho Code 47-1512(n). (7-1-21)T

**15. Financial Assurance Reduction for Mines.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** An operator may petition the director for a change in the initial financial assurance amount. The director will review the petition and if satisfied with the information presented a revised financial assurance amount will be determined. The revised amount will be based upon the estimated cost that the director would incur should a forfeiture of financial assurance occur and it became necessary for the director, through contracting with a third party, to complete reclamation to the standards established in the plan. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Upon finding that any land covered by financial assurance will not be affected by mining, the operator will notify the director. The amount of the financial assurance will be reduced by the amount being held to reclaim those lands. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Any request for financial assurance reduction will be answered by the director within thirty (30) days of receiving such request unless weather conditions prevent inspection. (7-1-21)T

**16. Financial Assurance Release Following Mine Reclamation.** Upon completion of all or a portion of the reclamation or post-closure activity specified in the plan, the operator may notify the director of his desire to secure release from financial assurance. When the director has verified that the requirements of the reclamation plan have been substantially met as stated in the plan, the financial assurance will be released. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Any request for financial assurance release will be answered by the director within thirty (30) days of receiving such request unless weather conditions prevent inspection. (7-1-21)T

**b.** If the director finds that a specific portion of the reclamation or post-closure has been substantially completed, the financial assurance may be reduced to the amount required to complete the remaining reclamation or post-closure. The following schedule will be used to complete these financial assurance reductions unless the director determines in a specific case that this schedule is not appropriate and specifies a different schedule, or the approved reclamation plan has a different schedule based on site-specific conditions. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Sixty percent (60%) of the financial assurance may be released when the operator completes the required backfilling, regrading, topsoil replacement, and drainage control of a specific area in accordance with the approved reclamation plan; and (7-1-21)T

**ii.** After revegetation activities have been performed by the operator on the regraded lands, according to the approved reclamation plan, the Department may release an additional twenty-five percent (25%) of the financial assurance. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The remaining financial assurance shall not be released: (7-1-21)T

**i.** As long as the affected lands are contributing suspended solids to surface waters outside the affected area in excess of state water quality standards and in greater quantities than existed prior to the commencement of mining operations; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Until final removal of equipment and structures related to the mining activity or until any remaining equipment and structures are brought under an approved reclamation plan and financial assurance by a new operator; and (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Until all temporary sediment or erosion control structures have been removed and reclaimed or until such structures are brought under an approved reclamation plan and financial assurance by a new operator. (7-1-21)T

**17. Corporate Guarantee Released First.** If an operator provides part of their financial assurance through a corporate guarantee, then the corporate guarantee will be released prior to any other type of financial assurance being released. Other types of financial assurance will only be released after the corporate guarantee has been completely released. (7-1-21)T

**18. Cooperative Agreements.** The director may through private conference, conciliation, and persuasion reach a cooperative agreement with the operator to correct deficiencies in complying with the reclamation

plan and thereby postpone action to forfeit the financial assurance and cancel the reclamation plan if all deficiencies are satisfactorily corrected within the time specified by the cooperative agreement. (7-1-21)T

**19. Permanent Closure Financial Assurance Review.** The Department will periodically review all financial assurances filed for permanent closure to determine their sufficiency to complete the work required by an approved permanent closure plan. For reviews conducted under paragraphs a and b the director may employ a qualified independent party to verify the accuracy of the revised permanent closure cost estimate as described in paragraph 071.05.b. of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Once every three (3) years, the operator must submit an updated permanent closure cost estimate to the Department for review. The director will review the updated estimate to determine whether the existing financial assurance amount is adequate to implement the permanent closure plan, as approved by the Department. Any resulting change in the financial assurance amount does not in and of itself require an amendment to the permanent closure plan as may be required by Section 091 of these rules. The director will review the estimate to determine whether the existing financial assurance amount is adequate to complete permanent closure of the cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T

**b.** When the director determines that there has been a material change in the estimated reasonable costs to complete permanent closure: (7-1-21)T

**i.** The director will notify the operator in writing of his intent to reevaluate the financial assurance amount. Within a reasonable time period determined by the Department, the operator will provide to the Department a revised cost estimate to complete permanent closure as approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the revised cost estimate, the director will notify the operator in writing of his determination of financial assurance adequacy. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Within ninety (90) days of notification of the director's assessment, the operator will make the appropriate adjustment to the financial assurance or the director will reduce the financial assurance as appropriate. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The Department may conduct an internal review of the amount of each financial assurance annually to determine whether it is adequate to complete permanent closure. (7-1-21)T

**20. Permanent Closure Financial Assurance Release.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** A financial assurance filed for permanent closure of a cyanidation facility will be released according to the schedule in the permanent closure plan. The schedule will include provisions for the release of the post-closure monitoring and maintenance portions of the financial assurance. The schedule may be adjusted to reflect the operator's performance of permanent closure activities and their demonstrated effectiveness. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Upon completion of an activity required by an approved permanent closure plan, the operator may request in writing a financial assurance reduction for that activity. The Department will notify the operator within thirty (30) days whether or not the activity meets the requirements of the permanent closure plan. When the director, in consultation with DEQ, has verified that the activity meets the requirements of the permanent closure plan, the financial assurance will be reduced by an amount to reflect the activity completed. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Upon the director's determination that all activities specified in the permanent closure plan have been successfully completed, the Department will, in accordance with Section 47-1512(i), Idaho Code, release the balance remaining after partial financial assurance releases. (7-1-21)T

**21. Liabilities for Reclamation Costs Not Covered by Financial Assurance.** An operator who is not required to furnish financial assurance by these rules but fails to reclaim may be subject to civil penalty under Section 47-1513(c), Idaho Code. The amount of civil penalty will be the estimated cost of reasonable reclamation of affected lands as determined by the director. Reasonable reclamation of the site will be presumed to be in accordance with the standards established in the approved reclamation plan. The amount of the civil penalty is in addition to those described in Section 47-1513(f), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**22. Appeal Process for Financial Assurance Decisions.** All decisions regarding financial assurance extension requests, plan cancellation, financial assurance reduction, or financial assurance release as described in Section 120 of these rules are subject to appeal as described in Section 58-104, Idaho Code, and Section 47-1514, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**121. (RESERVED)**

**122. FORM OF FINANCIAL ASSURANCE.**

**01. Corporate Surety Bond.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** A corporate surety bond is an indemnity agreement executed for the operator and a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Idaho, filed on the appropriate Department form. The bond must be payable to the state of Idaho and conditioned to require the operator to faithfully perform all requirements of the chapter, and the rules in effect on the date that a reclamation plan or a permanent closure plan was approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The surety company issuing the bond must, at a minimum, be among those listed as acceptable sureties in Circular 570 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. (7-1-21)T

**c.** When replacement financial assurance is submitted, the following rider must be filed with the Department as part of the replacement before the existing financial assurance will be released: “[Surety company or principal] understands and expressly agrees that the liability under this bond shall extend to all acts for which reclamation is required on areas disturbed in connection with reclamation plan or permanent closure plan [number], both prior to and subsequent to the date of this rider.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Collateral Bond.** A collateral bond is an indemnity agreement executed by or for the operator, payable to the state of Idaho, pledging cash deposits, government securities, real property, time deposit receipts, or certificates of deposit of any financial institution authorized to do business in the state. Collateral bonds are subject to the following conditions. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The director shall obtain possession of cash or other negotiable collateral bonds, and, upon receipt, deposit them with the state treasurer to hold them in trust for the purpose of bonding reclamation or permanent closure performance. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The director shall value the collateral at its current market value minus any penalty for early withdrawal, not its face value. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Certificates of deposit or time deposit receipts are issued or assigned, in writing, to the state of Idaho and upon the books of the financial institution issuing such certificates. Interest will be allowed to accrue and may be paid by the bank, upon demand and after written release by the Department, to the operator or another person who posted the collateral bond. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Amount of an individual certificate of deposit or time deposit receipt may not exceed the maximum amount insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or their successors. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Financial institutions issuing certificates of deposit or time deposit receipts will waive all rights of set-off or liens which it has or might have against such certificates, and will place holds on those funds that prevent the operator from withdrawing funds until the Department sends a written release to the bank. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Certificates of deposit and time deposit receipts must be automatically renewable. (7-1-21)T

**03. Letters of Credit.** A letter of credit is an instrument executed by a bank doing business in Idaho, made at the request of a customer. A letter of credit states that the issuing bank will honor drafts for payment upon compliance with the terms of the credit. Letters of credit are subject to the following conditions. (7-1-21)T

- a.** All credits must be irrevocable and prepared in a format prescribed by the director. (7-1-21)T
- b.** All credits must be issued by an institution authorized to do business in the state of Idaho or through a correspondent bank authorized to do business in the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T
- c.** The account party on all credits must be identical to the entity identified in the reclamation plan or in the permanent closure plan and on the cyanidation facility permit as the party obligated to complete reclamation or permanent closure. (7-1-21)T

**04. Real Property.** Real property used as a collateral bond must be a perfected, first lien security interest in real property located within the state of Idaho, in favor of the state of Idaho, which meets the requirements of these rules using a deed of trust form acceptable to the Department for all lands forty (40) acres or less, or a mortgage form approved by the Department for all lands over forty (40) acres. (7-1-21)T

- a.** The following information must be submitted for real property collateral: (7-1-21)T

  - i.** The value of the real property. The property will be valued at the difference between the fair market value and any reasonable expense anticipated by the Department in selling the property. The fair market value will be determined by an appraisal conducted by a licensed appraiser. The appraiser will be selected by the Department and the Department will provide appraisal instructions; however, the operator may propose an appraiser to the Department. The appraisal will be performed in a timely manner, and a copy sent to the Department and the operator. The expense of the appraisal will be borne by the operator. The real property will be reappraised every three (3) years; (7-1-21)T
  - ii.** A description of the property and a site improvement survey plat to verify legal descriptions of the property and to identify the existence of recorded easements; (7-1-21)T
  - iii.** Proof of ownership and title to the real property; (7-1-21)T
  - iv.** A current title binder which provides evidence of clear title containing no exceptions, or containing only exceptions acceptable to the director; and (7-1-21)T
  - v.** Phase I environmental assessment. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Real property will not include any lands in the process of being mined, reclaimed, or planned to be mined under an approved reclamation plan. The operator may offer any lands within a reclamation plan that have received full release of financial assurances. In addition, any land used as a security will not be mined or otherwise disturbed while it is a security. The acceptance of real property within the permit boundary will be at the discretion of the director. (7-1-21)T

**05. Trusts.** Trusts are subject to the requirements of Sections 47-1512(1) and 68-101 et seq. Idaho Code. The proposed trustee, range of investments, initial funding, schedule of payments, trustee fees, and expected rate of return are subject to review and approval by the Department through a memorandum of agreement with the operator. The trustee will invest the principal and income of the fund in accordance with general investment practices. Investments can include equities, bonds, and government securities and be well diversified in accordance with the following conditions: (7-1-21)T

- a.** The joint party on the trust must be identical to the entity identified in the reclamation plan or in the permanent closure plan as the party obligated to complete reclamation or permanent closure. (7-1-21)T
- b.** The trustee must be an entity which has the authority to act as a trustee and whose trust operations are regulated and examined by a federal or state agency. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Equities may include stock funds, stock index funds, or individual stocks, but an individual stock may not exceed five percent (5%) of the total value of the trust. Direct investments in the operator's company or parent company are not allowed. Corporate equities must not exceed seventy percent (70%) of the total value of the

- trust fund. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Bonds or money market funds must be investment-grade rated securities from a nationally recognized securities rating service. Individual corporate bonds may not exceed five percent (5%) of the total value of the trust. (7-1-21)T
- e.** Payments into the trust will be made as follows: (7-1-21)T
- i.** When used to cover reclamation or permanent closure costs, the trust fund will be initially funded in an amount needed to cover any surface disturbance in the first year of the trust fund. Annual payments into the trust will occur as needed prior to the disturbance of additional affected land at the mine or cyanidation facility. (7-1-21)T
- ii.** When used to cover a portion of reclamation or permanent closure costs in combination with other types of financial assurance, the initial and annual payments will be the pro-rata amount of the reclamation or permanent closure costs as described in subparagraph 122.05.e.i of these rules. (7-1-21)T
- iii.** When used to cover the anticipated post-closure costs, a payment schedule will be created in the memorandum of agreement. The trust fund, together with the anticipated earnings, must be enough at the expected start of the post-closure period to cover the costs of the post-closure period. (7-1-21)T
- f.** Disbursements from the trust will only occur upon written authorization of the Department. Disbursements include payments to the trustee or any other payment of funds not related to financial assurance release and not specifically mentioned in the memorandum of agreement. (7-1-21)T
- g.** Trusts will be irrevocable. (7-1-21)T
- h.** Income accrued on trust funds will be retained in the trust, except as otherwise agreed by the director under the terms of an agreement governing the trust. (7-1-21)T
- 06. Corporate Guarantees.** (7-1-21)T
- a.** Up to fifty percent (50%) of required financial assurance for reclamation costs may be provided by a corporate guarantee. Post-closure costs for reclamation plans and permanent closure plans cannot be covered by a corporate guarantee. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Only operators who submit plans under Sections 070 or 071 of these rules may provide a corporate guarantee. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Operators who want to provide financial assurance through a corporate guarantee must provide an audited financial statement from a third-party certified public accountant that meets the requirements of IDAPA 24.30.01, the Idaho Accountancy Rule. The audited financial statement must show the operator meets two (2) of the following three (3) criteria and the criteria in paragraph d of this section: (7-1-21)T
- i.** Ratio of total liabilities to stockholder's equity is less than two (2) to one (1); (7-1-21)T
- ii.** Ratio of sum of net income plus depreciation, depletion, and amortization to total liabilities greater than ten one-hundredths (0.1) to one (1); or (7-1-21)T
- iii.** Ratio of current assets to current liabilities greater than one and fifty one-hundredths (1.5) to one (1). (7-1-21)T
- d.** The following financial criteria must also be met for a corporate guarantee: (7-1-21)T
- i.** Net working capital and tangible net worth are each equal to or greater than the total reclamation or permanent closure cost estimate; (7-1-21)T
- ii.** Tangible net worth of at least ten million dollars (\$10,000,000); and (7-1-21)T



iii. At least ninety percent (90%) of the corporation's total assets are in the United States, or the total assets in the United States are at least six (6) times greater than total reclamation or permanent closure cost estimate. (7-1-21)T

e. A corporate guarantee can be provided by a parent company guarantor if that guarantor meets the conditions of paragraphs (c) and (d) in this section as if it were the operator. The terms of this corporate guarantee will provide for the following: (7-1-21)T

i. The operator and the parent company will submit to the Department an indemnity agreement signed by corporate officers from both companies who are authorized to bind their corporations. The operator or parent company must also provide an affidavit certifying that such an agreement is valid under all applicable federal and state laws. The indemnity agreement will bind each party jointly and severally; (7-1-21)T

ii. If the operator fails to complete reclamation or permanent closure, the parent company guarantor will do so or the guarantor will be liable under the indemnity agreement to provide funds to the Department sufficient to complete reclamation or permanent closure as per the plan, but not to exceed the financial assurance amount; (7-1-21)T

iii. The corporate guarantee will remain in force unless the parent company guarantor sends notice of cancellation by certified mail to the operator and to the Department at least ninety (90) days in advance of the cancellation date, and the Department accepts the cancellation; and (7-1-21)T

iv. The cancellation will be accepted by the Department only if the operator obtains replacement financial assurance before the cancellation date or if the lands for which the corporate guarantee, or portion thereof, was accepted have not been disturbed. (7-1-21)T

v. If the operator is a partnership or joint venture, the indemnity agreement will bind each partner or member who has a beneficial interest, directly or indirectly, in the operator. (7-1-21)T

f. The operator, or parent company guarantor, is required to either complete the approved reclamation or permanent closure plan for the lands in default, or pay to the Department an amount necessary to complete the approved reclamation, not to exceed the amount established in Section 120 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

g. The operator or parent company guarantor will submit an annual update of the information required under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section by April 1 following the issuance of the corporate guarantee. (7-1-21)T

h. If the operator or parent company guarantor's financial fitness falls below the eligibility for providing a corporate guarantee they will immediately notify the Department, and the Department will require the operator to submit replacement financial assurance within ninety (90) days of being notified. (7-1-21)T

i. The Department may require the operator or parent company guarantor to provide an update of the information in paragraphs (c) and (d) in this section at any time. The update must be provided within thirty (30) days of being requested. The requirements of paragraph (h) in this Section will then apply. (7-1-21)T

**07. Blanket Financial Assurance.** Where an operator is involved in more than one (1) reclamation plan or permanent closure plan permitted by the Department, the director may accept a blanket financial assurance in lieu of separate reclamation or permanent closure financial assurances under the approved plans. The amount of such financial assurance must be equal to the total of the requirements of the separate financial assurances being combined into a single financial assurance, as determined pursuant to Section 47-1512, Idaho Code, and in accordance with Section 120 of these rules. The principal is liable for an amount no more than the financial assurance filed for completion of reclamation activities or permanent closure activities if the Department takes action against the financial assurance pursuant to Section 47-1513, Idaho Code and Section 123 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**08. Reclamation Fund.** Reclamation plans processed under Section 069 of these rules may provide financial assurance through the Reclamation Fund established by Section 47-18, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.03.03. If financial assurance is provided through the Reclamation Fund, no other type of financial assurance may be combined

with it on an individual mine site. (7-1-21)T

**09. Multiple Forms of Financial Assurance Accepted.** An operator may combine more than one type of financial assurance, within the limitations of each type of financial assurance, to reach the full amount of the required financial assurance for a reclamation plan or permanent closure plan. (7-1-21)T

**123. FORFEITURE OF FINANCIAL ASSURANCE.**

A financial assurance may be forfeited in accordance with Section 47-1513, Idaho Code, when the operator has not conducted the reclamation or has not conducted permanent closure in accord with an approved plan and the applicable requirements of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**124. -- 129. (RESERVED)**

**130. TRANSFER OF APPROVED PLANS.**

**01. Reclamation Plans.** A reclamation plan may be transferred from one (1) operator to another only after the Department's approval. To complete a transfer, the new applicant must file a notarized assumption of reclamation plan form as prescribed by the Department and provide replacement financial assurance. The new operator is responsible for the past operator's obligations under the chapter, these rules, and the reclamation plan. (7-1-21)T

**02. Permanent Closure Plans.** An approved permanent closure plan permit may be transferred to a new operator if he provides written notice to the director that includes a specific date for transfer of permanent closure responsibility, coverage, and liability between the old and new operators no later than ten (10) days after the date of closure. An operator is required to provide such notice at the same time he provides notice to the DEQ as required IDAPA 58.01.13, "Rules for Ore Processing by Cyanidation." To complete a transfer, the new applicant must: (7-1-21)T

- a. File a notarized assumption of permanent closure plan form as prescribed by the Department; and (7-1-21)T
- b. File a replacement permanent closure plan financial assurance on a form approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**131. -- 139. (RESERVED)**

**140. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND RECLAMATION FOR MINING OPERATION AND PERMANENT CLOSURE OF CYANIDATION FACILITIES.**

These are the minimum standards expected for all activities covered by these rules. Specific standards for individual mines may be appropriate based on site specific circumstances, and must be described in the plan. (7-1-21)T

**01. Nonpoint Source Control.** (7-1-21)T

a. Appropriate BMPs for nonpoint source controls will be designed, constructed, and maintained with respect to site-specific mining operations or permanent closure activities. Operators shall utilize BMPs designed to achieve state water quality standards and to protect existing beneficial uses of adjacent waters of the state. State water quality standards, as administered by DEQ, is the standard that must be achieved by BMPs. (7-1-21)T

b. If the BMPs utilized by the operator do not result in compliance with Subsection 140.01.a., the director shall require the operator to modify or improve such BMPs to meet the controlling, water quality standards as set forth in current laws, rules, and regulations. (7-1-21)T

**02. Sediment Control.** In addition to proper mining techniques and reclamation measures, the operator shall take necessary steps at the close of each operating season to assure that sediment movement associated with surface runoff over the area is minimized in order to achieve water quality standards, or to preserve the condition of water runoff from the mined area prior to commencement of the subject mining or exploration operations, whichever is the more appropriate standard. Sediment control measures refer to best management practices carried out within

and, if necessary, adjacent to the disturbed area and consist of utilization of proper mining and reclamation measures, as well as specific necessary sediment control methods, separately or in combination. Specific sediment control methods may include, but are not limited to: (7-1-21)T

- a. Keeping the disturbed area to a minimum at any given time through progressive reclamation; (7-1-21)T
- b. Shaping waste to help reduce the rate and volume of water runoff by increasing infiltration; (7-1-21)T
- c. Retaining sediment within the disturbed area; (7-1-21)T
- d. Diverting surface runoff around the disturbed area; (7-1-21)T
- e. Routing runoff through the disturbed area using protected channels or pipes so as not to increase sediment load; (7-1-21)T
- f. Use of riprap, straw dikes, check dams, mulches, temporary vegetation, or other measures to reduce overland flow velocities, reduce runoff volume, or retain sediment; and (7-1-21)T
- g. Use of adequate sediment ponds, with or without chemical treatment. (7-1-21)T

**03. Clearing and Grubbing.** Clearing and grubbing of land in preparation for mining exposes mineral soil to the erosive effects of moving water. Operators are cautioned to keep such areas as small as possible (preferably no more than one (1) year's mining activity) as the operator is required to meet the applicable surface water quality standards on all such areas. Where practicable, trees and slash should be stockpiled for use in seedbed protection and erosion control. (7-1-21)T

**04. Overburden/Topsoil.** To aid in the revegetation of affected lands where mining operations result in the removal of substantial amounts of overburden including any topsoil, the operator should remove the available topsoil or other growth medium as a separate operation for such area. Unless there are previously affected lands which are graded and immediately available for placement of the newly removed topsoil or other growth medium, the topsoil or other growth medium will be stockpiled and protected from erosion and contamination until such areas become available. (7-1-21)T

- a. Overburden/Topsoil Removal. (7-1-21)T
  - i. Any overburden/topsoil to be removed should be removed prior to any other mining activity to prevent loss or contamination; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Where overburden/topsoil removal exposes land area to potential erosion, the director, under the reclamation plan, may require BMPs necessary to prevent violation of water quality standards; and (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Where the operator can show that an overburden material other than topsoil is conducive to plant growth, or where overburden other than topsoil is the only material reasonably available, such overburden may be allowed as a substitute for or a supplement to the available topsoil. (7-1-21)T
- b. Topsoil Storage. Topsoil stockpiles will be placed to minimize rehandling and exposure to excessive wind and water erosion. Topsoil stockpiles will be protected as necessary from erosion by use of temporary vegetation or by other methods which will control erosion, including, but not limited to, silt fences, chemical binders, seeding, and mulching. (7-1-21)T
- c. Overburden Storage. Stockpiled ridges of overburden will be leveled in such a manner as to have a minimum width of ten (10) feet at the top. Peaks of overburden will be leveled in such a manner as to have a minimum width of fifteen (15) feet at the top. The overburden piles will be reasonably prepared to control erosion using best management practices; such activities may include terracing, silt fences, chemical binders, seeding, mulching or slope reduction. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Topsoil Placement. Abandoned affected lands must be covered with topsoil or other type of overburden that is conducive to plant growth, to the extent such materials are readily available, in order to achieve a stable uniform thickness. Excessive compaction of overburden and topsoil is to be avoided. Topsoil redistribution will be timed so that seeding, or other protective measures, can be readily applied to prevent compaction and erosion. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Fill. Backfill and fill materials should be compacted in a manner to ensure stability. (7-1-21)T

**05. Roads.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Roads must be constructed to minimize soil erosion, which may require restrictions on the length and grade of the roadbed, surfacing of roads with durable non-toxic material, stabilization of cut and fill slopes, and other techniques designed to control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**b.** All access and haul roads must be adequately drained. Drainage structures may include, but are not limited to, properly installed ditches, water-bars, cross drains, culverts, and sediment traps. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Culverts that are to be maintained for more than one (1) year must be designed to pass peak flows from not less than a twenty (20) year, twenty-four (24) hour precipitation event and have a minimum diameter of eighteen (18) inches. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Roads and water control structures will be maintained at periodic intervals as needed. Water control structures serving to drain roads must not be blocked or restricted in any manner to impede drainage or significantly alter the intended purpose of the structure. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Roads that will not be recontoured to approximate original contours upon abandonment will be cross-ditched and revegetated, as necessary, to control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Roads that are not abandoned and continue to be used under the jurisdiction of a governmental or private landowner, will comply with the nonpoint source sediment control provisions of Subsection 140.02 until the successor assumes control. (7-1-21)T

**06. Backfilling and Grading.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Every operator who conducts mining or cyanidation facility operations which disturb less than two (2) acres shall, where possible, contour the disturbed land to its approximate previous contour. These lands must be revegetated in accordance with Subsection 140.11. (7-1-21)T

**b.** An operator who conducts mining or cyanidation facility operations which disturb two (2) acres or more shall reduce all waste piles and depressions to the lowest practicable grade. This grade shall not exceed the angle of repose or maximum slope of natural stability for such waste or generate erosion in which sediment enters waters of the state. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Backfill and fill materials should be compacted in a manner to ensure mass and surface stability. (7-1-21)T

**d.** After the disturbed area has been graded, slopes will be measured for consistency with the approved reclamation plan or the permanent closure plan. (7-1-21)T

**07. Disposal of Waste in Areas Other Than Mine Excavation.** Waste material not used to backfill mined areas will be transported and placed in a manner designed to stabilize the waste piles and control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The available disposal area should be on a moderately sloped, naturally stable area. The site should be near the head of a drainage to reduce the area of watershed above the fill. (7-1-21)T

**b.** All surface water flows within the disposal area must be diverted and drained using accepted engineering practices such as a system of French drains, to keep water from entering the waste pile. These measures must be implemented in accordance with standards prescribed by the Idaho Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, and the Idaho Dam Safety Act, Sections 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, if applicable. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The waste material not used in backfilling mined areas should be compacted, where practical, and should be covered and graded to allow surface drainage and ensure long-term stability. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The operator may, if appropriate, use terraces or slope reduction to stabilize the face of any fill. Slopes of the fill material should not exceed angle of repose or generate erosion in which sediment enters waters of the state. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Unless adequate drainage is provided through a fill area, all surface water above the fill must be diverted away from the fill area into protected channels, and drainage shall not be directed over the unprotected face of the fill. (7-1-21)T

**f.** The operator will conduct revegetation activities with respect to such waste piles in accordance with Subsection 140.11 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**08. Settling Ponds; Minimum Criteria.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Sediment Storage Volume. Settling ponds will provide adequate sediment storage capacity to achieve compliance with applicable water quality standards and protect existing beneficial uses, and may require periodic cleaning and proper disposal of sediment. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Water Detention Time. Settling ponds shall have an adequate theoretical detention time for water inflow and runoff entering the pond, but theoretical detention time may be reduced by improvements in pond design, chemical treatment, or other methods. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Emergency Spillway. In addition to the sediment storage volume and water detention time, settling ponds must be designed to withstand and release storm flows as required by the Idaho Dam Safety Act, Section 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, and Safety of Dams Rules, where applicable. (7-1-21)T

**09. Tailings Facilities.** All tailings ponds, dams, or other types of tailings facilities must be designed, constructed, operated, and decommissioned so that upon their abandonment, the dam and impoundment area will meet applicable surface and ground water quality standards and not otherwise constitute a hazard to human or animal life. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Design criteria, construction techniques, and decommission techniques for tailings dams and impoundments shall comply with the Idaho Dam Safety Act, Sections 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, and applicable rules and regulations. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Topsoil will be removed from the area to be affected by the impounding structure, tailings pond, or other tailings facilities in accordance with Subsection 140.04 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Abandonment and Decommissioning of Tailings Impoundments. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Dewatering. Tailings ponds will be dewatered to the extent necessary to provide an adequate foundation for the approved post-mining use. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Control of surface waters. Surface waters shall either be channeled around the reservoir and impoundment structure or through the reservoir and breached structure. Permanent civil structures must be designed and constructed to implement either method of channeling. The structure shall provide for erosion-free passage of waters and adequate energy dissipation prior to entry into the natural drainage below the impounding structure. (7-1-21)T

iii. Detoxification. Hazardous chemical residues within the tailings pond must be detoxified or covered with an adequate thickness of non-toxic material, to the extent necessary to achieve water quality standards in waters of the state. (7-1-21)T

iv. Reclamation. After implementing the required dewatering, detoxification, and surface drainage control measures, the reservoir and impounding structure will be covered with topsoil or other material conducive to plant growth, in accordance with Subsection 140.04 of these rules. Where such soils are limited in quantity or not available, and upon approval by the Department, physical or chemical methods for erosion control may be used. All such areas are to be revegetated in accordance with Subsection 140.11 of these rules, unless specified otherwise. (7-1-21)T

d. When the operator requests termination of its reclamation or permanent closure plan, pursuant to Section 150 of these rules, impoundment structures and any reservoirs retained as fresh water reservoirs after final reclamation or permanent closure are required to conform with the Idaho Dam Safety Act, Sections 42-1710 through 42-1721, Idaho Code, if applicable. (7-1-21)T

**10. Permanent Cessation and Time Limits for Planting.** (7-1-21)T

a. Seeding and planting of affected lands or a permanently closed cyanidation facility should be conducted during the first normal period for favorable planting conditions after final seedbed preparation. (7-1-21)T

b. Reclamation activities, where possible, are encouraged to be concurrent with the mining operation and may be included in the approved reclamation plan. Final reclamation must begin within one (1) year after the mining operations have permanently ceased on a mine panel. If the operator permanently ceases disposing of overburden on a waste area or permanently ceases removing minerals from a pit or permanently ceases using a road or other affected land, the reclamation activity on each given area must start within one (1) year of such cessation, despite the fact that all operations as to the mine panel, which included such pit, road, overburden pile, or other affected land, has not permanently ceased. (7-1-21)T

c. An operator is presumed to have permanently ceased mining operations on a given portion of affected land when no substantial amount of mineral or overburden material has been removed or overburden placed on an overburden dump, or no significant use has been made of a road during the prior three (3) years. If an operator does not plan to use an affected area for three (3) or more years but intends thereafter to use the affected area for mining operations and desires to defer final reclamation until after its subsequent use, the operator must submit a notice of intent and request for deferral of reclamation to the director, in writing. If the director determines that the operator plans to continue the operation within a reasonable period of time, the director shall notify the operator and may require actions to be taken to reduce degradation of surface resources until operations resume. If the director determines that use of the affected land for mining operations will not be continued within a reasonable period of time, the director may proceed as though the mining operation has been abandoned, but the operator will be notified of such decision at least thirty (30) days before taking any formal administrative action. (7-1-21)T

**11. Revegetation Activities.** (7-1-21)T

a. The operator shall select and establish plant species that can be expected to result in vegetation comparable to that growing on the affected lands or on a closed cyanidation facility prior to mining or cyanidation facility operations, respectively. Certified weed free seed should be used in revegetation. The operator may use available technical data and results of field tests for selecting seeding practices and soil amendments which will result in viable revegetation. These practices of selection may be included in an approved reclamation plan or permanent closure. (7-1-21)T

b. Unless otherwise specified in the approved reclamation or permanent closure plan, the success of revegetation efforts is measured against the existing vegetation on site prior to the mining or cyanidation facility operation, or against an adjacent reference area supporting similar types of vegetation. (7-1-21)T

i. The ground cover of living plants on the revegetated area should be comparable to the ground cover of living plants on the adjacent reference area for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of soil amendment or irrigation. (7-1-21)T

- ii. For purposes of this rule, ground cover is considered comparable if it has, on the area actually planted at least seventy percent (70%) of the premining ground cover for the mined area or adjacent reference area; (7-1-21)T
- iii. For locations with an average annual precipitation of more than twenty-six (26) inches, the director, in approving a reclamation or permanent closure plan, may set a minimum standard for success of revegetation as follows: Vegetative cover of seventy percent (70%) for two (2) full growing seasons in areas planted to herbaceous species only; or fifty percent (50%) vegetative cover for two (2) full growing seasons and six hundred (600) woody plants per acre in areas planted to a mixture of herbaceous and woody species. (7-1-21)T
- iv. As used in this section, “herbaceous species” means grasses, legumes, and other forbs; “woody plants” means woody shrubs, trees, and vines; and “ground cover” means the area of the ground surface covered by the combined aerial parts of vegetation and the litter that is produced naturally on-site, expressed as a percentage of the total area measured. Rock surface areas will be excluded from this calculation. (7-1-21)T
- v. For previously mined areas that were not reclaimed to the standards required by Section 140, and which are affected by the mining or cyanidation facility operations, vegetation should be established to the extent necessary to control erosion, but shall not be less than that which existed before redisturbance; and (7-1-21)T
- vi. Vegetative cover shall not be less than that required to control erosion. (7-1-21)T
- c. Introduced species may be planted if they are known to be comparable to previous vegetation, or if known to be of equal or superior use for the approved post-mining use of the affected land, or, if necessary, to achieve a quick, temporary cover for soil stabilization purposes. Species classified as poisonous or noxious weed species shall not be used in revegetation. (7-1-21)T
- d. By mutual agreement of the director, the landowner, and the operator, a site may be converted to a different, more desirable or more economically suitable habitat. (7-1-21)T
- e. Planting of grasses and forbs should be done in a manner which promotes rapid stabilization of the soil surface. Wherever terrain permits, grasses and forbs should be drilled or compacted into the ground using agricultural grass planting equipment or other seeders specifically designed for mine revegetation applications. Broadcast and hydroseeding may be used on areas where other methods are impractical or unavailable. (7-1-21)T
- f. The operator should plant shrubs or shrub seed, as required, where shrub communities existed prior to mining. Shrub seed may be planted as a portion of a grass seed mix or planted as bare-root transplants after grass seeding. Where the landowner desires a specific land use such as grazing or cropland, shrubs will not be required in the revegetation species mix. Shrub lands undergoing revegetation with shrubs will be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical, or other acceptable means during establishment of the shrubs. (7-1-21)T
- g. Reforestation. Tree stocking of forestlands should meet the following criteria: (7-1-21)T
- i. Trees that are adapted to the site should be planted on the area to be revegetated in a density which can be expected over time to yield a timber stand comparable to premining timber stands; (7-1-21)T
- ii. Trees will be established for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of any soil amendments and irrigation before they are considered to be established; and (7-1-21)T
- iii. Forestlands undergoing revegetation with trees should be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical binders, or other acceptable means during seedling establishment. (7-1-21)T
- h. Revegetation is not required on the following areas: (7-1-21)T
- i. Affected lands, or portions thereof, where planting is not practicable or reasonable because the soil is composed of excessive amounts of sand, gravel, shale, stone, or other material to such an extent to prohibit plant growth; (7-1-21)T

- ii. Any mined area or overburden stockpiles proposed to be used in the mining operations for haulage roads, so long as those roads are not abandoned; (7-1-21)T
- iii. Any mined area or overburden stockpile, where lakes are formed by rainfall or drainage runoff from adjoining lands; (7-1-21)T
- iv. Any mineral stockpile; (7-1-21)T
- v. Any exploration trench which will become a part of a pit or an overburden disposal area; and (7-1-21)T
- vi. Any road which is to be used in mining operations, so long as the road is not abandoned. (7-1-21)T
- i. **Mulching.** Mulch should be used on severe sites and may be required by the reclamation or permanent closure plan where slopes are steeper than three to one (3:1) or the mean annual rainfall is less than twelve (12) inches. When used, straw or hay mulch should be obtained from certified weed free sources. "Mulch" means vegetation residues or other suitable materials to aid in the stabilization of soil and soil moisture conservation which will provide a micro-climate more suitable for germination and growth on severe sites. Annual grains such as rye, oats, and wheat may be used as a substitute for mulch where they will provide adequate protection and will be replaced by permanent species within a reasonable length of time. (7-1-21)T

**12. Petroleum-Based Products and Chemicals.** All refuse, chemical and petroleum products and equipment should be stored and maintained in a designated location away from surface water and disposed of in such a manner as to prevent their entry into a waterway. (7-1-21)T

**141. -- 149. (RESERVED)**

**150. TERMINATION OF A PLAN.**

**01. Terminate upon Request of the Operator.** A reclamation plan shall terminate upon request of the operator, upon inspection by the director, and a determination that all reclamation activity has been completed to the standards specified in the plan, and following final approval by the director. Upon termination, the director will release the remaining financial assurance, notify the operator, and any authority to conduct any mining operations under the subject plan shall terminate. (7-1-21)T

**02. Terminate a Permanent Closure Plan.** The director shall terminate a permanent closure plan upon request of the operator, provided all the provisions and objectives of the permanent closure plan have been met, as determined by the director under Sections 111 and 112 of these rules. Upon a determination that permanent closure has been completed in accordance with the approved permanent closure plan and upon consultation with the DEQ that the operator's request to terminate a plan should be approved, the director will notify the operator that any authority to continue cyanidation operations shall cease and he will release the balance of the financial assurance in accordance with Subsection 120.20. (7-1-21)T

**151. -- 154. (RESERVED)**

**155. FIVE (5) YEAR UPDATES AND PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.**

**01. Five (5) Year Updates.** The Department may require operators to submit an update on their mining operation at least every five (5) years. The update will be on a Department form, and will be used to assist the Department in determining whether or not adjustments are needed for financial assurance or if a plan amendment is required due to a material change. Failure by an operator to complete the form and return it to the Department, or an operator providing false statements on the form, may result in the penalties in Section 47-1513(g), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Right of Inspection.** Authorized representatives of the Department have the right to enter upon lands affected or proposed to be affected by exploration, mining operations, or cyanidation facilities to determine



compliance with the reclamation or permanent closure plans and these rules. Inspections will be conducted at reasonable times in the presence of the operator or his authorized representative. The operator shall make such a person available for the purpose of inspection. This rule does not prevent the Department from making an inspection of the site if the operator fails to make a representative available on request. (7-1-21)T

**03. Frequency of Inspection.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Mining operations with an approved reclamation plan will be inspected at least once every five (5) years to determine compliance with the approved plan and adequacy of the financial assurance. Inspections may need to be more frequent due to the large size, rapid pace of mining, complexity of an operation, or high financial assurance. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Cyanidation facilities with an approved permanent closure plan will be inspected as often as is needed, but at least once a year. (7-1-21)T

**156. -- 159. (RESERVED)**

**160. ENFORCEMENT AND FAILURE TO COMPLY.**

**01. Financial Assurance Forfeiture.** Upon request by the director, the attorney general may institute proceedings to have the financial assurance for reclamation or permanent closure forfeited for violation of an order entered pursuant to Section 47-1513, Idaho Code and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Civil Penalty.** An operator with no financial assurance, or an operator who violates these rules by performing an act which is not included in an approved reclamation plan or an approved permanent closure plan that is not subsequently approved by the Department, will be subject to a civil penalty as authorized by Section 47-1513(c), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. Injunctive Procedures.** The director may seek injunctive relief and proceed with legal action, if necessary, to enjoin a mine operator or cyanidation facility operator who violates the provisions of the chapter, these rules, or the terms of an existing approved reclamation or permanent closure plan. Any such action will follow the procedures established in Section 47-1513, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**04. Appeal of Final Order.** An operator dissatisfied with a final order of the Board may within sixty (60) days after receiving the order, file an appeal in accordance with Section 47-1514, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**161. -- 169. (RESERVED)**

**170. COMPUTATION OF TIME.**

Computation of time will be based on calendar days. In computing any period of time prescribed by the chapter, the day on which the designated period of time begins is excluded. The last day of the period is included unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday when the Department is not open for business. In such a case, the time period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays are excluded from the computation when the period of prescribed time is seven (7) days or less. (7-1-21)T

**171. -- 179. (RESERVED)**

**180. PUBLIC AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.**

**01. Information Subject to Disclosure.** Information obtained by the Department pursuant to the chapter and these rules is subject to disclosure under Title 74, Chapter 1, Idaho Code ("Public Records Act"). (7-1-21)T

**02. Use by Board.** Any plans, documents, or materials submitted as confidential and held as such shall not prohibit the Board, director, or Department from using the information in an administrative hearing or judicial proceeding initiated pursuant to Section 47-1514, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. Plans and BMPs.** An operator will not unreasonably designate as confidential portions of reclamation or permanent closure plans which detail proposed BMPs to meet state surface and ground water quality standards. Confidential portions of reclamation or permanent closure plans may be shared with DEQ in its coordinating role under these rules, as reasonably necessary. (7-1-21)T

**181. -- 189. (RESERVED)**

**190. DEPOSIT OF FORFEITURES AND DAMAGES.**

All fees, penalties, forfeitures, and civil damages collected pursuant to the chapter, will be deposited with the state treasurer in the following accounts as appropriate: (7-1-21)T

**01. Mine Reclamation Fund.** The mine reclamation fund to be used by the director for mined land reclamation purposes and to administer the reclamation provisions of the chapter and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Cyanidation Facility Closure Fund.** The cyanidation facility closure fund to be used by the director to complete permanent closure activities and to administer the permanent closure provisions of the chapter and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**191. -- 199. (RESERVED)**

**200. COMPLIANCE OF EXISTING RECLAMATION PLANS.**

**01. Plans Approved Prior to 2019.** Reclamation plans approved prior to July 1, 2019, or reclamation plans that have permanently ceased operations prior to July 1, 2019, are not subject to the 2019 legislative amendments to the chapter regarding financial assurance and post-closure. New reclamation plans or plan amendments received after July 1, 2019, will be subject to the 2019 legislative amendments to the chapter. (7-1-21)T

**02. Plans Submitted in 2019.** Reclamation plan applications submitted prior to July 1, 2019, but not yet approved, have until July 1, 2020 to submit post-closure plans and financial assurances as described in the 2019 legislative amendments to the chapter. (7-1-21)T

**201. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.03 – RULES GOVERNING ADMINISTRATION OF THE RECLAMATION FUND

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

These rules are promulgated by the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners under Sections 58-104(3) and (6), Idaho Code, and Title 47, Chapter 18, Idaho Code. The Board has delegated to the Director of the Idaho Department of Lands the duties and powers under Title 47, Chapter 18, Idaho Code and these rules, except that the Board retains responsibility for administrative review. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.03, “Rules Governing Administration of the Reclamation Fund,” IDAPA 20, Title 03, Chapter 03. (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules constitute the Department’s administrative procedures and participation criteria for the Reclamation Fund, which is an alternative form of financial assurance for certain mines in Idaho. These rules are to be construed in a manner consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the Board and of operators, permit holders, or lessees as set forth in Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code, “Mineral Rights in State Lands;” Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, “Dredge Mining;” Title 47, Chapter 15, Idaho Code, “Mined Land Reclamation;” Title 47, Chapter 18, Idaho Code, “Financial Assurance;” IDAPA 20.03.01, “Dredge and Placer Mining Operations in Idaho;” IDAPA 20.03.02, “Rules Governing Mined Land Reclamation;” and IDAPA 20.03.05, “Riverbed Mineral Leasing In Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

### 002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

Any person aggrieved by a final agency action or a party aggrieved by a final order of the Board arising from its administration of the Reclamation Fund Act is entitled to judicial review pursuant to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, “Administrative Procedure Act,” and IDAPA 20.01.01, “Rules of Practice and Procedure Before the State Board of Land Commissioners.” (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

Except as provided in these rules, the Board adopts the definitions set forth in the Mineral Leasing Act, the Dredge Mining Act, and the Mined Land Reclamation Act. As used in these rules: (7-1-21)T

**01. Actual Allowable Cost.** The allowable total reclamation cost as set by the Board to allow participation in the Reclamation Fund. (7-1-21)T

**02. Actual Allowable Disturbance.** The area of disturbed acres or affected land as set by the Board to allow participation in the Reclamation Fund. (7-1-21)T

**03. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**05. Disturbed Acres; Affected Lands.** Any land, natural watercourses, or existing stockpiles or waste piles affected by placer or dredge mining, re-mining, exploration, stockpiling of ore, waste from placer or dredge mining, or construction of roads, settling ponds, structures, or facilities appurtenant to a placer or dredge mine. The land area included in overburden disposal areas, mined areas, mineral stockpiles, roads, tailings ponds, and other areas disturbed at a mine. The land area disturbed by motorized exploration of state land under a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**06. Dredge Mining Act.** Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.03.01, “Dredge and Placer Mining Operations in Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

**07. Financial Assurance.** Cash, corporate surety bond, collateral bond, or letter of credit as described in the Dredge Mining Act, the Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease. Financial assurance as defined in the Mined Land Reclamation Act. (7-1-21)T

**08. Mine; Mine Panel.** All areas designated by the operator on the map or plan submitted pursuant to Section 47-703A, Idaho Code, or Section 47-1506, Idaho Code, or as an identifiable portion of a placer or dredge mine on the map submitted under Section 47-1317, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**09. Mined Land Reclamation Act.** Title 47, Chapter 15, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.03.02, “Rules

- Governing Mined Land Reclamation.” (7-1-21)T
- 10. Mineral Lease.** Lease executed by the Board and the mineral lessee pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act. (7-1-21)T
- 11. Mineral Lessee.** The lessee of a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Mineral Leasing Act.** Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Mining Reclamation Plan.** Any reclamation plan approved pursuant to the Mined Land Reclamation Act. (7-1-21)T
- 14. Motorized Exploration.** Exploration which may appreciably disturb or damage the land or resources thereon. Motorized exploration includes, but is not limited to, drilling, trenching, dredging, or other techniques which employ the use of earth moving equipment, seismic operations using explosives, and includes sampling with a suction dredge having an intake diameter greater than two (2) inches when operated in a perennial stream. When operated in an intermittent stream, suction dredges shall be considered motorized exploration regardless of intake size. (7-1-21)T
- 15. Operator.** Any person or entity authorized to conduct business in Idaho, partnership, joint venture, or public or governmental agency required to have any reclamation plan under the Mined Land Reclamation Act or the Mineral Leasing Act, or a permit under the Dredge Mining Act, whether individually or jointly through subsidiaries, agents, employees, or contractors. (7-1-21)T
- 16. Permit.** Dredge or placer mining permit issued pursuant to the Dredge Mining Act. (7-1-21)T
- 17. Reclamation Fund.** The interest-bearing dedicated fund authorized pursuant to the Reclamation Fund Act. (7-1-21)T
- 18. Reclamation Fund Act.** Title 47, Chapter 18, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.03.03, “Rules Governing Administration of the Reclamation Fund.” (7-1-21)T
- 011. -- 015. (RESERVED)**
- 016. REQUIRED PARTICIPANTS.**  
Any operator, with the exception of the mines and operators listed in Section 017 of these rules, shall be required to provide alternative financial assurance through the Reclamation Fund to assure the reclamation of disturbed acres or affected lands. Alternative financial assurance pursuant to the Reclamation Fund Act is in lieu of other types of financial assurance as set forth in the Mined Land Reclamation Act, the Mineral Leasing Act, or the Dredge Mining Act. (7-1-21)T
- 017. INELIGIBLE MINES OR OPERATORS.**  
The following types of mines and operators are not allowed to participate in the Reclamation Fund and must file proof of other acceptable financial assurance as required by the Department. (7-1-21)T
- 01. Disturbed Acres Limit.** A mine or mineral lease with un-reclaimed disturbed acres in excess of the actual allowable disturbance may not provide alternative financial assurance through the Reclamation Fund. Un-reclaimed disturbance is that which does not meet the final financial assurance release criteria in the Dredge Mining Act, the Mined Land Reclamation Act or a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Reclamation Cost Limit.** Operators with an estimated reclamation cost in excess of the actual allowable reclamation cost, regardless of the disturbed acres. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Phosphate Mines.** Operators or mineral lessees of phosphate mines. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Hardrock Mines.** Operators or mineral lessees of hardrock mines such as gold, silver, molybdenum, copper, lead, zinc, cobalt, and other precious metal mines. (7-1-21)T

**05. Potential Heavy Metal Releases.** Operators of mines with a reasonable potential to release heavy metals or other substances harmful to human health or the environment, but not including substances such as fuels and other materials commonly used in excavation or construction. (7-1-21)T

**06. Oil and Gas Conservation.** Oil and gas exploration and development under Title 47, Chapter 3, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**07. Oil and Gas Leasing.** Oil and gas leases and associated exploration and development under Title 47, Chapter 8, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**08. Geothermal.** Operators or mineral lessees of geothermal wells and development under Title 47, Chapter 16, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**09. Off Lease Exploration.** Motorized exploration on state lands that are not under a mineral lease or exploration location. (7-1-21)T

**10. Violators.** Mines or operators in violation of the Reclamation Fund Act, Dredge Mining Act, Mined Land Reclamation Act, Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**11. Reclamation Fund Forfeitures.** Operators, permittees or lessees who have not reimbursed the Reclamation Fund for a forfeiture from the Reclamation Fund due to their violations of the Reclamation Fund Act, Dredge Mining Act, Mined Land Reclamation Act, Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**12. Other Forfeitures.** An operator who has forfeited any financial assurance. (7-1-21)T

**13. Operators Providing Acceptable Financial Assurance.** An operator who provides proof of financial assurance accepted by the Department that is greater than or equal to the minimum dollar per acre for each acre of affected land at a mine. (7-1-21)T

**018. ACREAGE AND RECLAMATION COST LIMITATIONS.**

**01. Actual Allowable Participation.** The Board will establish by policy the actual allowable disturbance, actual allowable reclamation cost, and the minimum dollar per acre of disturbance in order to provide financial assurance to opt out of participation in the Reclamation Fund. (7-1-21)T

**02. Maximum Disturbance and Reclamation Cost.** The maximum disturbance and maximum reclamation costs in these rules are maximums. The maximum allowable disturbance is eighty (80) acres; the maximum allowable reclamation cost is four hundred forty thousand dollars (\$440,000). (7-1-21)T

**03. Multiple Plans or Permits.** An operator who has multiple mining reclamation plans or permits that have a total disturbance in excess of the actual allowable disturbance, or with total reclamation costs in excess of the actual allowable reclamation cost, may participate in the Reclamation Fund with one (1) or more sites that together contain less than both of the Board-established actual allowable limits. (7-1-21)T

**019. OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION.**

Operators who have one (1) or more mines or mineral leases that are ineligible to participate in the Reclamation Fund as set forth in Section 017 or 018 of these rules may choose to not participate in the Reclamation Fund with respect to all other eligible mines or mineral leases in their name. An operator who does not participate in the Reclamation Fund must secure all mines with other types of financial assurance approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**020. FEDERAL AGENCY NON-ACCEPTANCE OF RECLAMATION FUND.**

If a federal agency will not accept an operator's participation in the Reclamation Fund as proof of reclamation security, the operator will be required to provide the Department with proof of other types of financial assurance acceptable to the Department. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 025. (RESERVED)**

**026. PAYMENT.**

**01. Board Approved Payment Schedule.** The Board will adopt a payment schedule that determines the annual Reclamation Fund payment for each operator participating in the Reclamation Fund. Any changes to the payment schedule will be approved by the Board. Participating operators shall pay all required payments annually. (7-1-21)T

**02. Acreage Calculation.** The annual payment for each participant in the Reclamation Fund will be established based upon the number of disturbed acres at each mine. The acres used to calculate the annual payment will include the total current disturbed acres of affected lands and the acres planned to be disturbed or affected during the next twelve (12) months. The total acreage calculation will not be rounded when determining annual payments. (7-1-21)T

**03. Annual Payments Non-Refundable.** Payments to the Reclamation Fund are non-refundable. Payments will be billed annually and, if not timely paid, will accrue late fees and interest as established by the Board. New participants will be assessed a pro-rated payment based on the Department's established billing cycle. (7-1-21)T

**04. Supplemental Payments.** If an operator affects more acreage than the acreage secured through the Reclamation Fund for a current period, the Department may require supplemental Reclamation Fund payments. (7-1-21)T

**05. Assignment.** When a mineral lease, mining reclamation plan, or permit is assigned, all financial assurance requirements must be assumed by the new operator. No Reclamation Fund payments will be refunded following an assignment. If the new operator is ineligible to participate in the Reclamation Fund, the new operator must provide proof of other acceptable financial assurance before the assignment may be approved. (7-1-21)T

**06. Non-Payment Constitutes Lack of Bonding.** For any operator participating in the Reclamation Fund, non-payment of the annual payment shall be considered a failure to provide financial assurance as required by the Dredge Mining Act, the Mined Land Reclamation Act, Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**027. -- 030. (RESERVED)**

**031. ENFORCEMENT AND FAILURE TO COMPLY.**

**01. Forfeiture.** Prior to withdrawing monies from the Reclamation Fund due to a violation of the Dredge Mining Act, the Mined Land Reclamation Act, Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease, the Department will comply with the respective financial assurance forfeiture procedures. (7-1-21)T

**02. Penalties.** If an operator fails to provide financial assurance as required by these rules or has forfeited monies from the Reclamation Fund and has not repaid those monies, the Board shall be authorized to file liens against personal property and equipment of the operator to recover costs. The operator shall be liable for actual costs of all unpaid annual payments, interest, and late payment charges, the actual reclamation costs, and administrative costs incurred by the Department in reclaiming the disturbed or affected lands. Authorization to obtain a lien under these rules and Section 47-1804, Idaho Code, shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, any other legal remedy available to the Board and the Department pursuant to the Dredge Mining Act, Mined Land Reclamation Act, Mineral Leasing Act, or a mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**032. MINIMUM BALANCE FOR THE RECLAMATION FUND.**  
The Board will determine a reasonable minimum balance for the Reclamation Fund. (7-1-21)T

**033. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.03.04 – RULES FOR THE REGULATION OF BEDS, WATERS, AND AIRSPACE  
OVER NAVIGABLE LAKES IN THE STATE OF IDAHO**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

This Chapter is adopted under the legal authorities of Sections 58-104(6), 58-104(9), 58-105, and 58-127, Idaho Code; Title 58, Chapter 13, Idaho Code; and Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.04, “Rules for the Regulation of Beds, Waters, and Airspace Over Navigable Lakes in the State of Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules govern encroachments on, in, or above navigable lakes in the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

Any person aggrieved by any final decision or order of the board is entitled to judicial review pursuant to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, IDAPA 20.01.01, Title 58, Chapter 13, Sections 58-1305 and 58-1306, Idaho Code, and Sections 025, 030, and 080 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**003. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.**

The following documents are incorporated by reference into these rules: (7-1-21)T

**01. IDAPA 24.39.10, “Rules of the Idaho Electrical Board.”** IDAPA 24.39.10 is available at <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/24/243910.pdf>. (7-1-21)T

**02. IDAPA 24.39.20, “Rules Governing Plumbing.”** This rule is available at <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/24/243920.pdf>. (7-1-21)T

**03. 33 CFR Part 62, revised as of July 27, 2015 (United States Aids to Navigation System).** The Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR) is available at <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR>. (7-1-21)T

**004. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Adjacent.** Contiguous or touching, and with regard to land or land ownership having a common boundary. (7-1-21)T

**02. Aids to Navigation.** Buoys, warning lights, and other encroachments in aid of navigation intended to improve waterways for navigation. (7-1-21)T

**03. Artificial High Water Mark.** The high water elevation above the natural or ordinary high water mark resulting from construction of man-made dams or control works and impressing a new and higher vegetation line. (7-1-21)T

**04. Beds of Navigable Lakes.** The lands lying under or below the “natural or ordinary high water mark” of a navigable lake and, for purposes of these rules only, the lands lying between the natural or ordinary high water mark and the artificial high water mark, if there be one. (7-1-21)T

**05. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its designee. (7-1-21)T

**06. Boat Garage.** A structure with one (1) or more slips that is completely enclosed with walls, roof, and doors, but no temporary or permanent residential area. (7-1-21)T

**07. Boat Lift.** A mechanism for mooring boats partially or entirely out of the water. (7-1-21)T

**08. Boat Ramp.** A structure or improved surface extending below the ordinary or artificial high water mark whereby watercraft or equipment are launched from land-based vehicles or trailers. (7-1-21)T

**09. Commercial Marina.** A commercial navigational encroachment whose primary purpose is to provide moorage for rental or for free to the general public. (7-1-21)T

- 10. Commercial Navigational Encroachment.** A navigational encroachment used for commercial purposes. (7-1-21)T
- 11. Community Dock.** A structure that provides private moorage for more than two (2) adjacent littoral owners, or other littoral owners possessing a littoral common area with littoral rights including, but not limited to homeowner’s associations. No public access is required for a community dock. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Covered Slip.** A slip, or group of slips, with a frame, fabric canopy, and eaves that do not extend beyond the underlying dock. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands or its designee. (7-1-21)T
- 14. Director.** The head of the Idaho Department of Lands or his designee. (7-1-21)T
- 15. Encroachments in Aid of Navigation.** Includes docks, piers, jet ski and boat lifts, buoys, pilings, breakwaters, boat ramps, channels or basins, and other facilities used to support water craft and moorage on, in, or above the beds or waters of a navigable lake. The term “encroachments in aid of navigation” is used interchangeably with the term “navigational encroachments.” (7-1-21)T
- 16. Encroachments Not in Aid of Navigation.** Includes all other encroachments on, in, or above the beds or waters of a navigable lake, including landfills, bridges, utility and power lines, or other structures not constructed primarily for use in aid of navigation, such as float homes and boat garages. The term “encroachments not in aid of navigation” is used interchangeably with the term “nonnavigational encroachments.” (7-1-21)T
- 17. Floating Home or Float Home.** A structure that is designed and built to be used, or is modified to be used, as a stationary waterborne residential dwelling and is not self-propelled. These structures are usually dependent for utilities upon a continuous utility linkage to a source originating on shore, and must have either a permanent continuous connection to a sewage system on shore, or an alternative method of sewage disposal that does not violate local, state, or federal water quality and sanitation regulations. (7-1-21)T
- 18. Floating Toys.** Trampolines, inflatable structures, water ski courses, and other recreational equipment that are not permanently anchored to the lake bed or an encroachment and are either located between the shoreline and the line of navigability or are waterward of the line of navigability for less than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours. (7-1-21)T
- 19. Jet Ski Ramp, Port, or Lift.** A mechanism for mooring jet skis or other personal watercraft similar to a boat lift. The lifts may be free standing or attached to a dock or pier. (7-1-21)T
- 20. Line of Navigability.** A line located at such distance waterward of the low water mark established by the length of existing legally permitted encroachments, water depths waterward of the low water mark, and by other relevant criteria determined by the board when a line has not already been established for the body of water in question. (7-1-21)T
- 21. Low Water Mark.** That line or elevation on the bed of a lake marked or located by the average low water elevations over a period of years, and marks the point to which the riparian rights of adjoining landowners extend as a matter of right, in aid of their right to use the waters of the lake for purposes of navigation. (7-1-21)T
- 22. Moorage.** A place to secure float homes and watercraft including, but not limited to, boats, personal watercraft, jet skis, etc. (7-1-21)T
- 23. Natural or Ordinary High Water Mark.** The high water elevation in a lake over a period of years, uninfluenced by man-made dams or works, at which elevation the water impresses a line on the soil by covering it for sufficient periods to deprive the soil of its vegetation and destroy its value for agricultural purposes. (7-1-21)T
- 24. Navigable Lake.** Any permanent body of relatively still or slack water, including man-made reservoirs, not privately owned and not a mere marsh or stream eddy, and capable of accommodating boats or canoes.



This definition does not include man-made reservoirs where the jurisdiction thereof is asserted and exclusively assumed by a federal agency. (7-1-21)T

**25. Party.** Each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party. (7-1-21)T

**26. Person.** A partnership, association, corporation, natural person, or entity qualified to do business in the state of Idaho and any federal, state, tribal, or municipal unit of government. (7-1-21)T

**27. Piling.** A metal, concrete, plastic, or wood post that is placed into the lakebed and used to secure floating docks and other structures. (7-1-21)T

**28. Plans.** Maps, sketches, engineering drawings, aerial and other photographs, word descriptions, and specifications sufficient to describe the extent, nature and approximate location of the proposed encroachment and the proposed method of accomplishing the same. (7-1-21)T

**29. Public Hearing.** The type of hearing where members of the public are allowed to comment, in written or oral form, on the record at a public meeting held at a set time and place and presided over by a designated representative of the Department who acts as the hearing coordinator. This type of hearing is an informal opportunity for public comment and does not involve the presentation of witnesses, cross examination, oaths, or the rules of evidence. A record of any oral presentations at such hearings will be taken by the Department by tape recorder. The hearing coordinator exercises such control at hearings as necessary to maintain order, decorum and common courtesy among the participants. (7-1-21)T

**30. Public Trust Doctrine.** The duty of the State to its people to ensure that the use of public trust resources is consistent with identified public trust values. This common law doctrine has been interpreted by decisions of the Idaho Appellate Courts and is codified at Title 58, Chapter 12, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**31. Pylon.** A metal, concrete, or wood post that is placed into the lakebed and used to support fixed piers. (7-1-21)T

**32. Riparian or Littoral Rights.** The rights of owners or lessees of land adjacent to navigable waters of the lake to maintain their adjacency to the lake and to make use of their rights as riparian or littoral owners or lessees in building or using aids to navigation but does not include any right to make any consumptive use of the waters of the lake. (7-1-21)T

**33. Riparian or Littoral Owner.** The fee owner of land immediately adjacent to a navigable lake, or his lessee, or the owner of riparian or littoral rights that have been segregated from the fee specifically by deed, lease, or other grant. (7-1-21)T

**34. Riparian or Littoral Right Lines.** Lines that extend waterward of the intersection between the artificial or ordinary high water mark and an upland ownership boundary to the line of navigation. Riparian or littoral right lines will generally be at right angles to the shoreline. (7-1-21)T

**35. Side Tie.** Moorage for watercraft where the dock or pier is on only one (1) side of the watercraft. (7-1-21)T

**36. Single-Family Dock.** A structure providing noncommercial moorage that serves one (1) waterfront owner whose waterfront footage is no less than twenty-five (25) feet. (7-1-21)T

**37. Slip.** Moorage for boats with pier or dock structures on at least two (2) sides of the moorage. (7-1-21)T

**38. Submerged Lands.** The state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers and streams below the natural or ordinary high water marks. (7-1-21)T

**39. Two-Family Dock.** A structure providing noncommercial moorage that serves two (2) adjacent

waterfront owners having a combined waterfront footage of no less than fifty (50) feet. Usually the structure is located on the common littoral property line. (7-1-21)T

**40. Upland.** The land bordering on navigable lakes, rivers, and streams. (7-1-21)T

**011. ABBREVIATIONS.**

**01. ATON.** Aids to Navigation. (7-1-21)T

**02. HDPE.** High-Density Polyethylene. (7-1-21)T

**012. POLICY.**

**01. Environmental Protection and Navigational or Economic Necessity.** It is the express policy of the State of Idaho that the public health, interest, safety and welfare requires that all encroachments upon, in or above the beds or waters of navigable lakes of the state be regulated in order that the protection of property, navigation, fish and wildlife habitat, aquatic life, recreation, aesthetic beauty and water quality be given due consideration and weighed against the navigational or economic necessity or justification for, or benefit to be derived from the proposed encroachment. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the State Board of Land Commissioners to regulate and control the use or disposition of state-owned lake beds, so as to provide for their commercial, navigational, recreational or other public use. (7-1-21)T

**02. No Encroachments Without Permit.** No encroachment on, in or above the beds or waters of any navigable lake in the state may be made unless approval has been given as provided in these rules. An encroachment permit does not guarantee the use of public trust lands without appropriate compensation to the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**03. Permitting of Existing Encroachments.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The provisions of Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1312, Idaho Code, apply. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Any new encroachments, or any unpermitted encroachments constructed after January 1, 1975, are subject to these rules. (7-1-21)T

**013. -- 014. (RESERVED)**

**015. ENCROACHMENT STANDARDS.**

**01. Single-Family and Two-Family Docks.** The following parameters govern the size and dimensions of single-family docks and two-family docks. (7-1-21)T

**a.** No part of the structure waterward of the natural or ordinary high water mark or artificial high water mark may exceed ten (10) feet in width, excluding the slip cut out. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Total surface decking area waterward of the natural or ordinary or artificial high water mark may not exceed seven hundred (700) square feet, including approach ramp and walkway for a single-family dock and may not exceed one thousand one hundred (1,100) square feet, including approach ramp and walkway for a two-family dock. (7-1-21)T

**c.** No portion of the docking facility may extend beyond the line of navigability. Shorter docks are encouraged whenever practical and new docks normally will be installed within the waterward extent of existing docks or the line of navigability. (7-1-21)T

**d.** A variance to the standards in this Subsection 015.01 may be approved by the Department when justified by site specific considerations, such as the distance to the established line of navigability. (7-1-21)T

**02. Community Docks.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** A community dock is considered a commercial navigational aid for purposes of processing the application. (7-1-21)T

**b.** No part of the structure waterward of the natural or ordinary high water mark or artificial high water mark may exceed ten (10) feet in width except breakwaters when justified by site specific conditions and approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**c.** A community dock may not have less than fifty (50) feet combined shoreline frontage. Moorage facilities will be limited in size as a function of the length of shoreline dedicated to the community dock. The surface decking area of the community dock is limited to the product of the length of shoreline multiplied by seven (7) square feet per lineal feet or a minimum of seven hundred (700) square feet. However, the Department, at its discretion, may limit the ultimate size when evaluating the proposal and public trust values. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If a breakwater will be incorporated into the structure of a dock, and a need for the breakwater can be demonstrated, the Department may allow the surface decking area to exceed the size limitations of Paragraph 015.02.c of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**e.** A person with an existing community dock that desires to change the facility to a commercial marina must submit the following information to the Department: (7-1-21)T

**i.** A new application for an encroachment permit. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Text and drawings that describe which moorage will be public and which moorage will be private. (7-1-21)T

**03. Commercial Marina.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Commercial marinas must have a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of their moorage available for use by the general public on either a first come, first served basis for free or rent, or a rent or lease agreement for a period of time up to one (1) year. Moorage contracts may be renewed annually, so long as a renewal term does not exceed one (1) year. Moorage for use by the general public may not include conditions that result in a transfer of ownership of moorage or real property, or require membership in a club or organization. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Commercial marinas that are converted to a community dock must conform to all the community dock standards, including frontage requirements and square footage restrictions. This change of use must be approved by the Department through a new encroachment permit prior to implementing the change. (7-1-21)T

**c.** If local city or county ordinances governing parking requirements for marinas have not been adopted, commercial marinas must provide a minimum of upland vehicle parking equivalent to one (1) parking space per two (2) public watercraft or float home moorages. If private moorage is tied to specific parking spaces or designated parking areas, then one (1) parking space per one (1) private watercraft or float home moorage must be provided. In the event of conflict, the local ordinances prevail. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If a commercial marina can be accessed from a road, marina customers must be allowed access via that road. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Moorage that is not available for public use as described in Paragraph 015.03.a. of these rules is private moorage. (7-1-21)T

**f.** When calculating the moorage percentage, the amount of public moorage is to be compared to the amount of private moorage. Commercial marinas with private float home moorage are required to provide either non-private float home moorage or two (2) public use boat moorages for every private float home moorage in addition to any other required public use boat moorages. (7-1-21)T

**g.** When private moorage is permitted, the public moorage must be of similar size and quality as private moorage, except for float home moorage as provided in Paragraph 015.03.f. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Commercial marinas with private moorage must form a condominium association, co-op, or other entity that owns and manages the marina, littoral rights, upland property sufficient to maintain and operate a marina, and private submerged land, if present. This entity is responsible for obtaining and maintaining an encroachment permit under these rules and a submerged lands lease under IDAPA 20.03.17, “Rules Governing Leases on State-Owned Submerged lands and Formerly Submerged Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**i.** Existing commercial marinas that desire to change their operations and convert some of their moorage to private use must keep at least fifty percent (50%) of their moorage available for use by the general public. This change in operations must be approved by the Department through a new encroachment permit prior to implementation of the change. The permit application must describe, in text and in drawings, which moorage will be public and which moorage will be private. (7-1-21)T

**04. Covered Slip.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Covered slips, regardless of when constructed, may not have a temporary or permanent residential area. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Slip covers should have colors that blend with the natural surroundings and are approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Covered slips may not be supported by extra piling nor constructed with hard roofs. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Slip covers with permanent roofs and up to three (3) walls may be maintained or replaced at their current size if they were previously permitted or if they were constructed prior to January 1, 1975. These structures may not be expanded nor converted to boat garages. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Fabric covered slips must be constructed as canopies without sides unless the following standards are followed: (7-1-21)T

**i.** At least two (2) feet of open space is left between the bottom of the cover and the dock or pier surface; and (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Fabric for canopy and sides will transmit at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the natural light. (7-1-21)T

**05. Boat Garage.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Boat garages are considered nonnavigational encroachments. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Applications for permits to construct new boat garages, expand the total square footage of the existing footprint, or raise the height will not be accepted unless the application is to support local emergency services. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Existing permitted boat garages may be maintained or replaced with the current square footage of their existing footprint and height. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Relocation of an existing boat garage will require a permit. (7-1-21)T

**06. Breakwaters.** Breakwaters built upon the lake for use in aid of navigation will not be authorized below the level of normal low water without an extraordinary showing of need, provided, however that this does not apply to floating breakwaters secured by piling and used to protect private property from recurring wind, wave, or ice damage, or used to control traffic in busy areas of lakes. The breakwater must be designed to counter wave actions of known wave heights and wave lengths. (7-1-21)T

**07. Seawalls.** Seawalls should be placed at or above the ordinary high water mark, or the artificial high water mark, if applicable. Seawalls are not an aid to navigation, and placement waterward of the ordinary or artificial

high water mark will generally not be allowed. (7-1-21)T

**08. Riprap.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Riprap used to stabilize shorelines will consist of rock that is appropriately sized to resist movement from anticipated wave heights or tractive forces of the water flow. The rock must be sound, dense, durable, and angular rock resistant to weathering and free of fines. The riprap must overlie a distinct filter layer which consists of sand, gravel, or nonwoven geotextile fabric. The riprap and filter layer must be keyed into the bed below the ordinary or artificial high water mark, as applicable. If the applicant wishes to install riprap with different standards, they must submit a design that is signed and stamped for construction purposes by a professional engineer registered in the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Riprap used to protect the base of a seawall or other vertical walls may not need to be keyed into the bed and may not require a filter layer, at the Department's discretion. (7-1-21)T

**09. Mooring Buoys.** Buoys must be installed a minimum of thirty (30) feet away from littoral right lines of adjacent littoral owners. One (1) mooring buoy per littoral owner may be allowed. (7-1-21)T

**10. Float Homes.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Applications for permits to construct new float homes, or to expand the total square footage of the existing footprint, will not be accepted. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Applications for relocation of float homes within a lake or from one (1) lake to another are subject to the following requirements: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Proof of ownership or long term lease of the uplands adjacent to the relocation site must be furnished to the Department. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** The applicant must show that all wastes and waste water will be transported to shore disposal systems by a method approved by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality or the appropriate local health authority. Applicant must either obtain a letter from the local sewer district stating that the district will serve the float home or demonstrate that sewage will be appropriately handled and treated. Applicant must also provide a statement from a professional plumber licensed in the state of Idaho that the plumbing was designed in accordance with IDAPA 24.39.20, "Rules Governing Plumbing," as incorporated by reference in Section 003 of these rules, installed properly, and has been pressure tested. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Encroachment applications and approved local permits are required for replacement of, or adding another story to, a float home. (7-1-21)T

**d.** All plumbing work on float homes must be done in accordance with IDAPA 24.29.20, "Rules Governing Plumbing" and IDAPA 29.39.10, "Rules of the Idaho Electrical Board," as incorporated by reference in Section 003 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**e.** All float homes in Idaho that connect with upland sewer or septic systems must implement the following standards by December 31, 2012: (7-1-21)T

**i.** The holding tank with pump or grinder unit must be adequately sealed to prevent material from escaping and to prevent lake water from entering. The tank lid must have a gasket or seal, and the lid must be securely fastened at all times unless the system is being repaired or maintained. An audible overflow alarm must also be installed. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Grinders or solids handling pumps must be used to move sewage from the float home to the upland system. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** If solids handling pumps are used, they must have a minimum two (2) inch interior diameter discharge, and the pipe to the shoreline must also have a minimum two (2) inch interior diameter. Connectors used on

either end of this pipe may not significantly reduce the interior diameter. (7-1-21)T

iv. The pipeline from the float home to the shoreline must be a continuous line with no mechanical connections. Check valves and manual shutoff valves must be installed at each end of the line. Butt fused HDPE, two hundred (200) psi black polyethylene pipe, or materials with similar properties must be used. The pipeline must contain sufficient slack to account for the maximum expected rise and fall of the lake or river level. The pipeline must be buried in the lakebed for freeze protection where it will be exposed during periods of low water. Pipelines on the bed of the lake must be appropriately located and anchored so they will not unduly interfere with navigation or other lake related uses. (7-1-21)T

v. Manifolds below the ordinary, or artificial if applicable, high water mark that collect two (2) or more sewer lines and then route the discharge to the shore through a single pipe are not allowed. All float homes must have an individual sewer line from the float home to a facility on the shore. (7-1-21)T

f. All float home permittees will have their float homes inspected by a professional plumber licensed in the state of Idaho by December 31, 2012. The inspection will be documented with a report prepared by the inspector. The report will document whether or not the float homes meet the standards in Paragraph 015.10.e. of these rules, and will be provided to the Department before the above date. (7-1-21)T

g. A float home permittee must request an extension, and give cause for the extension, if their float home does not meet the standards in paragraph 015.01.e. of these rules by December 31, 2012. Extensions beyond December 31, 2016 will not be allowed. A permittee's failure to either request the extension, if needed, or to meet the December 31, 2016 deadline will be a violation subject to the provisions of Section 080 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

h. Construction or remodel work on a float home that costs fifty percent (50%) or more of its assessed value will require an encroachment application and construction drawings stamped by an engineer licensed in the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**11. Excavated or Dredged Channel. (7-1-21)T**

a. Excavating, dredging, or redredging channels require an encroachment permit and are processed in accordance with Section 030 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

b. An excavated or dredged channel or basin to provide access to navigable waters must have a clear environmental, economic, or social benefit to the people of the state, and must not result in any appreciable environmental degradation. A channel or basin will not be approved if the cumulative effects of these features in the same navigable lake would be adverse to fisheries or water quality. (7-1-21)T

c. Whenever practical, such channels or basins must be located to serve more than one (1) littoral owner or a commercial marina; provided, however, that no basin or channel will be approved that will provide access for watercraft to nonlittoral owners. (7-1-21)T

**12. ATONs. Aids to Navigation will conform to the requirements established by the United States Aid to Navigation system. (7-1-21)T**

**13. General Encroachment Standards. (7-1-21)T**

a. Square Footage. The square footage limitations in Subsections 015.01 and 015.02 include all structures beyond the ordinary or artificial high water mark such as the approach, ramp, pier, dock, and all other floating or suspended structures that cover the lake surface, except for: (7-1-21)T

i. Boat lifts as allowed pursuant to Paragraph 015.13.b. (7-1-21)T

ii. Jet ski ramp, port, or lift as allowed pursuant to Paragraph 015.13.b. (7-1-21)T

iii. Slip covers. (7-1-21)T

- iv. Undecked portions of breakwaters. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Boat Lifts and Jet Ski Lifts. (7-1-21)T
- i. Single-family docks are allowed a single boat lift and two (2) jet ski lifts, or two (2) boat lifts, without adding their footprint to the dock square footage. Additional lifts will require that fifty percent (50%) of the footprint of the largest lifts be included in the allowable square footage of the dock or pier as per Subsection 015.01. (7-1-21)T
- ii. Two-family docks are allowed two (2) boat lifts and four (4) jet ski lifts, or four (4) boat lifts, without adding their footprint to the dock square footage. Additional lifts will require that fifty percent (50%) of the footprint of the largest lifts be included in the allowable square footage of the dock or pier as per Subsection 015.01. (7-1-21)T
- iii. A boat lift or jet ski lift within lines drawn perpendicular from the shore to the outside dock edges will not require a separate permit if the lift is outside the ten (10) foot adjacent littoral owner setback, the lift does not extend beyond the line of navigability, and the lift does not count toward the square footage of the dock as outlined in Subparagraphs 015.13.b.i. and 015.13.b.ii. The permittee must send a revised permit drawing with the lift location as an application to the Department. If the lift meets the above conditions, the application will be approved as submitted. Future applications must include the lifts. (7-1-21)T
- iv. Community docks are allowed one (1) boat lift or two (2) jet ski lifts per moorage. Boat lifts placed outside of a slip must be oriented with the long axis parallel to the dock structure. Additional lifts will require that fifty percent (50%) of their footprint be included in the allowable square footage of the dock or pier as per Subsection 015.02. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Angle from Shoreline. (7-1-21)T
- i. Where feasible, all docks, piers, or similar structures must be constructed so as to protrude as nearly as possible at right angles to the general shoreline, lessening the potential for infringement on adjacent littoral rights. (7-1-21)T
- ii. Where it is not feasible to place docks at right angles to the general shoreline, the Department will work with the applicant to review and approve the applicant's proposed configuration and location of the dock and the dock's angle from shore. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Length of Community Docks and Commercial Navigational Encroachments. Docks, piers, or other works may extend to a length that will provide access to a water depth that will afford sufficient draft for water craft customarily in use on the particular body of water, except that no structure may extend beyond the normal accepted line of navigability established through use unless additional length is authorized by permit or order of the Director. If a normally accepted line of navigability has not been established through use, the Director may from time to time as he deems necessary, designate a line of navigability for the purpose of effective administration of these rules. (7-1-21)T
- e.** Presumed Adverse Effect. It will be presumed, subject to rebuttal, that single-family and two-family navigational encroachments will have an adverse effect upon adjacent littoral rights if located closer than ten (10) feet from adjacent littoral right lines, and that commercial navigational encroachments, community docks or nonnavigational encroachments will have a like adverse effect upon adjacent littoral rights if located closer than twenty-five (25) feet to adjacent littoral right lines. Written consent of the adjacent littoral owner or owners will automatically rebut the presumption. All boat lifts and other structures attached to the encroachments are subject to the above presumptions of adverse affects. (7-1-21)T
- f.** Weather Conditions. Encroachments and their building materials must be designed and installed to withstand normally anticipated weather conditions in the area. Docks, piers, and similar structures must be adequately secured to pilings or anchors to prevent displacement due to ice, wind, and waves. Flotation devices for docks, float homes, etc. must be reasonably resistant to puncture and other damage. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Markers. If the Department determines that an encroachment is not of sufficient size to be readily seen or poses a hazard to navigation, the permit will specify that aids to navigation be used to clearly identify the potential hazard. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Overhead Clearance. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Overhead clearance between the natural or ordinary high water mark or the artificial high water mark, if there be one, and the structure or wires must be sufficient to pass the largest vessel that may reasonably be anticipated to use the subject waters in the vicinity of the encroachment. In no case will the clearance be required to exceed thirty (30) feet unless the Department determines after public hearing that it is in the overall public interest that the clearance be in excess of thirty (30) feet. Irrespective of height above the water, approval of structures or wires presenting a hazard for boating or other water related activities may be conditioned upon adequate safety marking to show clearance and otherwise to warn the public of the hazard. The Department will specify in the permit the amount of overhead clearance and markings required. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** When the permit provides for overhead clearance or safety markings under Paragraph 015.13.h., the Department will consider the applicable requirements of the United States Coast Guard, the Idaho Transportation Department, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and any other applicable federal, state, or local regulations. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Beaded Foam Flotation. Beaded foam flotation must be completely encased in a manner that will maintain the structural integrity of the foam. The encasement must be resistant to the entry of rodents. (7-1-21)T

**14. Floating Toys.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Encroachment permits are not required for floating toys, except where noted in Paragraph 015.14.b. Counties and cities may regulate floating toys for public safety and related concerns. (7-1-21)T

**b.** A floating toy becomes a nonnavigational encroachment, and an encroachment permit is required, when one (1) of the following occurs: (7-1-21)T

**i.** It is anchored to the bed of the lake with a device that requires equipment to remove it from the bed of the lake, or; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** It is located waterward of the line of navigability for more than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours. (7-1-21)T

**15. Lake Specific Encroachment Permit Terms.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Department may use encroachment permit conditions specific to individual lakes if the permit conditions are needed to protect public trust values and the permit condition is approved by the Land Board. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Lake specific encroachment permit conditions may supplement, negate, or alter encroachment standards established in Section 015 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Lake specific encroachment permit conditions will be used to assist with implementing lake management plans authorized by Title 39, Chapter 66, Idaho Code; Title 39, Chapter 85, Idaho Code; Title 67, Chapter 43, Idaho Code; and Title 70, Chapter 2, Idaho Code. The purpose for using such lake specific permit conditions is to address lake specific environmental concerns that require attention and create a need for a variance from what is allowed on other lakes. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Lake specific encroachment permit terms may be read at the Idaho Department of Lands website: <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/>. (7-1-21)T

**016. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. APPLICATIONS.**



**01. Encroachment Applications.** No person shall hereafter make or cause to be made any encroachment on, in or above the beds or waters of any navigable lake in the state of Idaho without first making application to and receiving written approval from the department. The placing of dredged or fill material, refuse or waste matter intended as or becoming fill material, on or in the beds or waters of any navigable lake in the state of Idaho shall be considered an encroachment and written approval by the department is required. If demolition is required prior to construction of the proposed encroachment, then the application must describe the demolition activities and the steps that will be taken to protect water quality and other public trust values. No demolition activities may proceed until the permit is issued. (7-1-21)T

**02. Signature Requirement.** Only persons who are littoral owners or lessees of a littoral owner shall be eligible to apply for encroachment permits. A person who has been specifically granted littoral rights or dock rights from a littoral owner shall also be eligible for an encroachment permit; the grantor of such littoral rights, however, shall no longer be eligible to apply for an encroachment permit. Except for waterlines or utility lines, the possession of an easement to the shoreline does not qualify a person to be eligible for an encroachment permit. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Permits.** Nothing in these rules shall excuse a person seeking to make an encroachment from obtaining any additional approvals lawfully required by federal, local or other state agencies. (7-1-21)T

**04. Repairs, Reinstallation of Structures.** No permit is required to clean, maintain, or repair an existing permitted encroachment, but a permit is required to completely replace, enlarge, or extend an existing encroachment. Replacement of single-family and two-family docks may not require a permit if they meet the criteria in Section 58-1305(e), Idaho Code. Reinstalling the top or deck of a dock, wharf or similar structure shall be considered a repair; reinstallation of winter damaged or wind and water damaged pilings, docks, or float logs shall be considered a repair. Repairs, or replacements under Section 58-1305(e), Idaho Code, that adversely affect the bed of the lake will be considered a violation of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**05. Dock Reconfiguration.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Rearrangement of single-family and two-family docks will require a new application for an encroachment permit. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Rearrangement of community docks and commercial navigational encroachments may not require a new application for an encroachment permit if the changes are only internal. The department shall be consulted prior to modifications being made, and shall use the following criteria to help determine if a new permit must be submitted: (7-1-21)T

i. Overall footprint does not change in dimension or orientation; (7-1-21)T

ii. No increase in the square footage, as described in the existing permit and in accordance with Paragraph 015.13.a., occurs. This only applies to community docks; (7-1-21)T

iii. The entrances and exits of the facility do not change. (7-1-21)T

**06. Redredging.** Redredging a channel or basin shall be considered a new encroachment and a permit is required unless redredging is specifically authorized by the outstanding permit. Water quality certification from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality is required regardless of how redredging is addressed in any existing or future permit. (7-1-21)T

**07. Forms, Filing.** Applications and plans shall be filed on forms provided by the Department together with filing fees and costs of publication when required by these rules. Costs of preparation of the application, including all necessary maps and drawings, shall be paid by the applicant. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Plans shall include the following information at a scale sufficient to show the information requested: (7-1-21)T

- i. Lakebed profile in relationship to the proposed encroachment. The lakebed profile shall show the summer and winter water levels. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Copy of most recent survey or county plat showing the full extent of the applicant's lot and the adjacent littoral lots. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Proof of current ownership or control of littoral property or littoral rights. (7-1-21)T
  - iv. A general vicinity map. (7-1-21)T
  - v. Scaled air photos or maps showing the lengths of adjacent docks as an indication of the line of navigability, distances to adjacent encroachments, and the location and orientation of the proposed encroachment in the lake. (7-1-21)T
  - vi. Total square footage of proposed docks and other structures, excluding pilings, that cover the lake surface. (7-1-21)T
  - vii. Names and current mailing addresses of adjacent littoral landowners. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Applications must be submitted or approved by the littoral owner or, if the encroachment will lie over or upon private lands between the natural or ordinary high water mark and the artificial high water mark, the application must be submitted or approved by the owner of such lands. When the littoral owner is not the applicant, the application shall bear the owner's signature as approving the encroachment prior to filing. (7-1-21)T
- c.** If more than one (1) littoral owner exists, the application must bear the signature of all littoral owners, or the signature of an authorized officer of a designated homeowner's or property management association. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Applications for noncommercial encroachments intended to improve waterways for navigation, wildlife habitat and other recreational uses by members of the public must be filed by any municipality, county, state, or federal agency, or other entity empowered to make such improvements. Application fees are not required for these encroachments. (7-1-21)T
- e.** The following applications shall be accompanied by the respective nonrefundable filing fees together with a deposit toward the cost of newspaper publication, which deposit shall be determined by the director at the time of filing: (7-1-21)T
- i. Nonnavigational encroachments require a fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000); except that nonnavigational encroachments for bank stabilization and erosion control require a fee of five hundred fifty dollars (\$550). (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Commercial navigational encroachments require a base fee of two thousand dollars (\$2,000). If the costs of processing an application exceed this amount, then the applicant may be charged additional costs as allowed by Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1307, Idaho Code; (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Community navigational encroachments require a fee of two thousand dollars (\$2,000); and (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Navigational encroachments extending beyond the line of navigability require a fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). (7-1-21)T
- f.** Applicants shall pay any balance due on publication costs before written approval will be issued. The Department shall refund any excess at or before final action on the application. (7-1-21)T
- g.** Application for a single-family or two-family dock not extending beyond the line of navigability or a nonnavigational encroachment for a buried or submerged water intake line serving four or less households shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable filing fee of four hundred twenty-five dollars (\$425). (7-1-21)T

**h.** No publication cost is required for application for noncommercial navigational encroachment not extending beyond the line of navigability or for application for installation of buried or submerged water intake lines and utility lines. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Applications and plans shall be stamped with the date of filing. (7-1-21)T

**j.** Applications that are incomplete, not in the proper form, not containing the required signature(s), or not accompanied by filing fees and costs of publication when required, shall not be accepted for filing. The department shall send the applicant a written notice of incompleteness with a listing of the application's deficiencies. The applicant will be given thirty (30) days from receipt of the notice of incompleteness to resubmit the required information. The deadline may be extended with written consent of the department. If the given deadline is not met, the department will notify the applicant that the application has been denied due to lack of sufficient information. The applicant may reapply at a later date, but will be required to pay another filing fee and publication fee, if applicable. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY AND TWO-FAMILY NAVIGATIONAL ENCROACHMENTS WITHIN LINE OF NAVIGABILITY.**

**01. Single-Family and Two-Family Navigational Encroachments.** Applications for single-family and two-family navigational encroachments not extending beyond the line of navigability will be processed with a minimum of procedural requirements and shall not be denied except in the most unusual of circumstances. No newspaper publication, formal appearance by the applicant, or hearing is contemplated. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notification of Adjacent Littoral Owners.** The department will provide a copy of the application to the littoral owners immediately adjacent to the applicant's property. If the applicant owns one (1) or more adjacent lots, the department shall notify the owner of the next adjacent lot. If the proposed encroachment may infringe upon the littoral rights of an adjacent owner, the department will provide notice of the application by certified mail, return receipt requested; otherwise, the notice will be sent by regular mail. Notification will be mailed to the adjacent littoral owners' usual place of address, which, if not known, will be the address shown on the records of the county treasurer or assessor. The applicant may submit the adjacent littoral owners' signatures, consenting to the proposed encroachment, in lieu of the department's notification. (7-1-21)T

**03. Written Objections.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** If an adjacent littoral owner files written objections to the application with the department within ten (10) days from the date of service or receipt of notice of the completed application, the department shall fix a time and a place for a hearing. In computing the time to object, the day of service or receipt of notice of the application shall not be counted. Objections must be received within the ten (10) day period by mail or hand delivery in the local department office or the director's office in Boise. If the last day of the period is Saturday, Sunday or a legal holiday, the time within which to object shall run until the end of the first business day thereafter. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The applicant and any objectors may agree to changes in the permit that result in the objections being withdrawn. Department employees may facilitate any such agreement. Participation by department personnel in this informal mediation shall not constitute a conflict of interest for participation in the hearing process. A withdrawal of objections must be in writing, completed prior to a scheduled hearing, and contain: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Signatures of the applicant and the objecting party; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** A description of the changes or clarifications to the permit that are acceptable to the applicant, the objecting party, and the department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Unusual Circumstances.** Even though no objection is filed by an adjacent littoral owner to a noncommercial navigational encroachment, if the director deems it advisable because of the existence of unusual circumstances, he may require a hearing. (7-1-21)T

**05. Hearings.** Hearings fixed by the director following an objection pursuant to Subsection 025.03 or the Director's own determination pursuant to Subsection 025.04 shall be fixed as to time and place, but no later than sixty (60) days from date of acceptance for filing of the application. At the hearing the applicant and any adjacent riparian owner filing timely objections may appear personally or through an authorized representative and present evidence. The department may also appear and present evidence at the hearing. In such hearings the hearing coordinator shall act as a fact finder and not a party. The Director, at his discretion, will designate a Department representative to sit as the hearing coordinator. Provided, however, that the parties may agree to informal disposition of an application by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order, or other informal means. (7-1-21)T

**06. Decision Following a Hearing.** The director shall, within forty-five (45) days after close of the hearing provided for in Subsections 025.03 or 025.04 render a final decision and give notice thereof to the parties appearing before him either personally or by certified or registered mail. The final decision shall be in writing. (7-1-21)T

**07. Disposition Without Hearing.** If a hearing is not held under Subsection 025.03 or Subsection 025.04, then the department shall act upon a complete application filed under Subsection 025.01 as expeditiously as possible but no later than sixty (60) days from acceptance of the application. Failure to act within this sixty (60) day timeframe shall constitute approval of the application. Applications determined to be incomplete under Subsection 020.07 are not subject to the sixty (60) day timeframe until the information requested by the department and required by the rules has been submitted. (7-1-21)T

**08. Judicial Review.** Any applicant aggrieved by the Director's final decision, or an aggrieved party appearing at a hearing, shall have a right to have the proceedings and final decision reviewed by the district court in the county where the encroachment is proposed by filing a notice of appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the final decision. An adjacent littoral owner shall be required to deposit an appeal bond with the court, in an amount to be determined by the court but not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) insuring payment to the applicant of damages caused by delay and costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred on the appeal in the event the district court sustains the action of the director. The applicant need post no bond with the court to prosecute an appeal. (7-1-21)T

**026. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR ALL OTHER TYPES OF ENCROACHMENTS.**

**01. Nonnavigational, Community, and Commercial Navigational Encroachments.** Within ten (10) days of receiving a complete application for a nonnavigational encroachment, a community dock, a commercial navigational encroachment, or a navigational encroachment extending beyond the line of navigability, the Department will cause to be published a notice of application once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the encroachment is proposed. If, however, the Director orders a hearing on the application within the time for publication of the above notice, the Department will dispense with publication of the notice of the application and proceed instead to publish a notice of the public hearing as provided in Subsection 030.05. Applications for installation of buried or submerged water intake lines and utility lines are exempt from the newspaper publication process. (7-1-21)T

**02. Encroachments Not in Aid of Navigation.** Encroachments not in aid of navigation in navigable lakes will normally not be approved by the Department and will be considered only in cases involving major environmental, economic, or social benefits to the general public. Approval under these circumstances is authorized only when consistent with the public trust doctrine and when there is no other feasible alternative with less impact on public trust values. (7-1-21)T

**03. Notifications.** Upon request or when the Department deems it appropriate, the Department may furnish copies of the application and plans to federal, state and local agencies and to adjacent littoral owners, requesting comment on the likely effect of the proposed encroachment upon adjacent littoral property and public trust values such as navigation, fish and wildlife habitat, aquatic life, recreation, aesthetic beauty, water quality, etc. (7-1-21)T

**04. Written Comments or Objections.** Within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication, an agency, adjacent littoral owner or lessee, or any resident of the state of Idaho may do one (1) of the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Notify the Department of their opinions and recommendation, if any, for alternate plans they believe will be economically feasible and will accomplish the purpose of the proposed encroachment without unreasonably adversely affecting adjacent littoral property or public trust values; or (7-1-21)T

**b.** File with the Department written objections to the proposed encroachment and request a public hearing on the application. The hearing must be specifically requested in writing. Any person or agency requesting a hearing on the application must deposit and pay to the Department an amount sufficient to cover the cost of publishing notice of hearing provided in Subsection 030.05. (7-1-21)T

**05. Hearing.** Notice of the time and place of public hearing on the application will be published by the Director once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper in the county in which the encroachment is proposed, which hearing will be held within ninety (90) days from the date the application is accepted for filing. (7-1-21)T

**06. Hearing Participants.** Any person may appear at the public hearing and present oral testimony. Written comments will also be received by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**07. Decision After Hearing.** The Director will render a final decision within thirty (30) days after close of the public hearing. A copy of his final decision will be mailed to the applicant and to each person or agency appearing at the hearing and giving oral or written testimony in support of or in opposition to the proposed encroachment. (7-1-21)T

**08. Decision Where No Hearing.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** In the event no objection to the proposed encroachment is filed with the Department and no public hearing is requested under Subsection 030.04, or ordered by the Director under Subsection 030.01, the Department, based upon its investigation and considering the economics of the navigational necessity, justification or benefit, public or private, of such proposed encroachment as well as its detrimental effects, if any, upon adjacent real property and public trust values such as navigation, fish and wildlife habitat, aquatic life, recreation, aesthetic beauty, water quality, etc. will prepare and forward to the applicant its decision. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The applicant, if dissatisfied with the Director's decision, has twenty (20) days from the date of the Director's decision to request reconsideration thereof. If reconsideration is required, the Director will set a time and place for a reconsideration hearing, not to exceed thirty (30) days from receipt of the request, at which time and place the applicant may appear in person or through an authorized representative and present briefing and oral argument. Upon conclusion of reconsideration, the Director will, by personal service or by registered or certified mail, notify the applicant of his final decision. (7-1-21)T

**09. Judicial Review.** Any applicant aggrieved by the Director's final decision, or an aggrieved party who appeared at a hearing, has the right to have the proceedings and final decision of the Director reviewed by the district court in the county in which the encroachment is proposed by filing a notice of appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the final decision. The applicant need post no bond with the court to prosecute an appeal. Any other aggrieved party is required to deposit an appeal bond with the court, in an amount to be determined by the court but not less than five hundred dollars (\$500), insuring payment to the applicant of damages caused by delay and costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred on the appeal in the event the district court sustains the action of the Director. (7-1-21)T

**10. Factors in Decision.** In recognition of continuing private property ownership of lands lying between the natural or ordinary high water mark and the artificial high water mark, if present, the Department will consider unreasonable adverse effect upon adjacent property and undue interference with navigation the most important factors to be considered in granting or denying an application for either a nonnavigational encroachment or a commercial navigational encroachment not extending below the natural or ordinary high water mark. If no objections have been filed to the application and no public hearing has been requested or ordered by the Director, or,

if upon reconsideration of a decision disallowing a permit, or following a public hearing, the Department determines that the benefits, whether public or private, to be derived from allowing such encroachment exceed its detrimental effects, the permit will be granted. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. TEMPORARY PERMITS.**

**01. Applicability.** Temporary permits are used for construction, temporary activities related to permitted encroachments, or other activities approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**02. Permit Term.** These permits are generally issued for less than one (1) year, but longer terms may be approved by the Department and permits may be extended with Department approval. (7-1-21)T

**03. Bonding.** The Department may require bonds for temporary permits. (7-1-21)T

**04. Fee.** The board sets fees for temporary permits, but the fees will not be greater than the amounts listed for the respective permit types in Subsection 020.07. Fee information is available on the Internet at [www.idl.idaho.gov](http://www.idl.idaho.gov). (7-1-21)T

**05. Processing.** These permits may be advertised if the Department deems it appropriate, with the applicant paying the advertising fee as per Subsection 020.07. (7-1-21)T

**036. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. RECORDATION.**

Recordation of an issued permit in the records of the county in which an encroachment is located is a condition of issuance of a permit and proof of recordation must be furnished to the Department by the permittee before a permit becomes valid. Such recordation is at the expense of the permittee. Recordation of an issued permit serves only to provide constructive notice of the permit to the public and subsequent purchasers and mortgagees, but conveys no other right, title, or interest on the permittee other than validation of said permit. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 054. (RESERVED)**

**055. LEASES AND EASEMENTS.**

**01. Lease or Easement Required.** As a condition of the encroachment permit, the Department may require a submerged land lease or easement for use of any part of the state-owned bed of the lake where such lease or easement is required in accordance with “Rules Governing Leases on State-owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands,” IDAPA 20.03.17, or “Rules For Easements On State-owned Submerged Lands And Formerly Submerged Lands,” IDAPA 20.03.09. A lease or easement may be required for uses including, but not limited to, commercial uses. Construction of an encroachment authorized by permit without first obtaining the required lease or easement constitutes a trespass upon state-owned public trust lands. This rule is intended to grant the state recompense for the use of the state-owned bed of a navigable lake where reasonable and it is not intended that the Department withhold or refuse to grant such lease or easement if in all other respects the proposed encroachment would be permitted. (7-1-21)T

**02. Seawalls, Breakwaters, Quays.** Seawalls, breakwaters, and quays on or over state-owned beds, designed primarily to create additional land surface, will be authorized, if at all, by an encroachment permit and submerged land lease or easement, upon determination by the Department to be an appropriate use of submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**056. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. INSTALLATION.**

**01. Installation Only After Permit Issued.** Installation or on site construction of an encroachment

may commence only when the permit is issued or when the department notifies the applicant in writing that installation may be commenced or when the department has failed to act in accordance with Subsection 025.07.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Removal of Construction Waste.**

(7-1-21)T

**a.** Pilings, anchors, old docks, and other structures or waste at the site of the installation or reinstallation and not used as a part of the encroachment shall be removed from the water and lakebed at the time of the installation or reinstallation to a point above normal flood water levels; provided, however, that this shall not be construed to prevent the use of trash booms for the temporary control of floatable piling ends and other floatable materials in a securely maintained trash boom, but approval for a trash boom shall be required as part of a permit.

(7-1-21)T

**b.** Demolition of encroachments shall be done in a manner that does not unnecessarily damage the lakebed or shoreline. Demolition work must comply with water quality standards administered by the Department of Environmental Quality.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Compliance with Permit.** All work shall be done in accordance with these rules, and the application submitted, and is subject to any condition specified in the permit.

(7-1-21)T

**04. Sunset Clause.** All activities authorized within the scope of the encroachment permit must be completed within three (3) years of issuance date. If the activities are not completed within three (3) years, the permit shall automatically expire unless it was previously revoked or extended by the department. The department may issue a permit with an initial sunset clause that exceeds three (3) years, if the need is demonstrated by the applicant.

(7-1-21)T

**061. -- 064. (RESERVED)**

**065. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Assignment of Encroachment Permit.** Encroachment permits may be assigned upon approval of the department provided that the encroachment conforms with the approved permit. The assignor and assignee must complete a department assignment form and forward it to the appropriate area office.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Assignment Fee.** The assignment fee is three hundred dollars (\$300) and is due at the time the assignment is submitted to the department.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Approval Required for Assignment.** An assignment is not valid until it has been approved by the department.

(7-1-21)T

**04. Assignment With New Permit.** Encroachments not in compliance with the approved permit may be assigned only if:

(7-1-21)T

**a.** An application for a new permit to correct the noncompliance is submitted at the same time.

(7-1-21)T

**b.** The assignee submits written consent to bring the encroachment permit into compliance.

(7-1-21)T

**066. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. MISCELLANEOUS.**

**01. Water Resources Permit.** A permit to alter a navigable stream issued by the Department of Water Resources pursuant to Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, may, in appropriate circumstances, contain language stating the approval of the Department of Lands to occupy the state-owned bed of the navigable stream.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Dredge and Placer Mining.** Department authorization is required for dredge and placer mining in

the lands, lakes and rivers within the state, whether or not the state owns the beds, pursuant to Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. Mineral Leases.** Littoral rights do not include any right to remove bed materials from state-owned lakebeds. Applications to lease minerals, oil, gas and hydrocarbons, and geothermal resources within the state-owned beds of navigable lakes will be processed by the Department pursuant to Title 47, Chapters 7, 8 and 16, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated thereunder. (7-1-21)T

**04. Other Laws and Rules.** The permittee must comply with all other applicable state, federal and local rules and laws insofar as they affect the use of public trust resources. (7-1-21)T

**071. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. VIOLATIONS - PENALTIES.**

**01. Cease and Desist Order.** When the Department determines that a violation of these rules is occurring due to the ongoing construction of an unauthorized encroachment or an unauthorized modification of a permitted encroachment, it may provide the landowner, contractor, or permittee with a written cease and desist order that consists of a short and plain statement of what the violation is, the pertinent legal authority, and how the violation may be rectified. This order will be served by personal service or certified mail. The cease and desist order is used to maintain the status quo pending formal proceedings by the Department to rectify the violation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notice of Noncompliance/Proposed Permit Revocation.** When the Department determines that these rules have been violated, a cause exists for revocation of a lake encroachment permit, or both of these have occurred, it will provide the permittee or offending person with a notice of noncompliance/proposed permit revocation that consists of a short and plain statement of the violation including any pertinent legal authority. This notice also informs the permittee or offending person of what steps are needed to either bring the encroachment into compliance, if possible, or avoid revocation, or both. (7-1-21)T

**03. Noncompliance Resolution.** The Department will attempt to resolve all noncompliance issues through conference with the permittee or other involved party. Any period set by the parties for correction of a violation is binding. If the Department is unsuccessful in resolving the violations, then the Department may pursue other remedies under Section 080 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Violations.** The following acts or omissions subject a person to a civil penalty as allowed by Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1308, Idaho Code: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A violation of the provisions of Title 58, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, or of the rules and general orders adopted and applicable to navigable lakes; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A violation of any special order of the Director applicable to a navigable lake; or (7-1-21)T

**c.** Refusal to cease and desist from any violation in regards to a navigable lake after having received a written cease and desist order from the Department by personal service or certified mail, within the time provided in the notice, or within thirty (30) days of service of such notice if no time is provided. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Willfully and knowingly falsifying any records, plans, information, or other data required by these rules. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Violating the terms of an encroachment permit. (7-1-21)T

**05. Injunctions, Damages.** The Board expressly reserves the right, through the Director, to seek injunctive relief under Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1308, Idaho Code and mitigation of damages under Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1309, Idaho Code, in addition to the civil penalties provided for in Subsection 080.04 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**06. Mitigation, Restoration.** The board expressly reserves the right, through the Director, to require



mitigation and restoration of damages under Title 58, Chapter 13, Section 58-1309, Idaho Code, in addition to the civil penalties and injunctive relief provided for in Subsections 080.04 and 080.05 of these rules. The Department may consult with other state agencies to determine the appropriate type and amount of mitigation and restoration required. (7-1-21)T

**07. Revocation of Lake Encroachment Permits. (7-1-21)T**

**a.** The Department may institute an administrative action to revoke a lake encroachment permit for violation of the conditions of a permit, or for any other reason authorized by law. All such proceedings will be conducted as contested case hearings subject to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.01.01, “Rules of Practice and Procedure before the State Board of Land Commissioners.” (7-1-21)T

**b.** A hearing officer appointed to conduct the revocation hearing prepares recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law and forward them to the Director for final adoption or rejection. (7-1-21)T

**c.** An aggrieved party who appeared and testified at a hearing has the right to have the proceedings and final decision of the Director reviewed by the district court of the county in which the violation or revocation occurred by filing a notice of appeal within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of the final decision. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.05 – RIVERBED MINERAL LEASING IN IDAHO

### 000. AUTHORITY.

**01. Statutory Authority.** These rules are promulgated by the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners pursuant to Title 47 and 58, Chapters 7 and 1, Sections 47-710, 47-714 and 58-104, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Discretionary Powers.** The Board of Land Commissioners is delegated discretionary power to regulate and control the use or disposition of lands in the beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams, to the natural or ordinary high water mark thereof, so as to provide for their commercial, navigational, recreational or other public use; provided that the Board will take no action in derogation of or seeking to interfere with the riparian or littoral rights of the owners of upland property abutting or adjoining such lands. (Section 58-104(9), Idaho Code). (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.05, “Riverbed Mineral Leasing in Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Where Applicable.** These rules apply to the exploration and extraction of precious metals, minerals, and construction materials from a placer deposit situated in state-owned submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**03. Where Not Applicable.** These rules do not apply to the application and leasing of geothermal resources by title 47, Chapter 16, Idaho Code, or to the application and leasing of oil and gas resources covered by Title 47, Chapter 8, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

### 002. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Available State Lands.** All lands between the ordinary high water marks of a navigable river which have not been located, leased, or withdrawn. (7-1-21)T

**02. Board.** The State Board of Land Commissioners or its authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**03. Casual Exploration.** Entry and/or exploration which does not appreciably disturb or damage the land or resources thereon. Casual exploration includes, but is not limited to, geochemical and/or geophysical exploration techniques, sampling with hand tools, and entry using wheeled vehicles for transportation to conduct such exploration. Exploration using suction dredges having an intake diameter of two inches (2”) or less are considered casual exploration when operated in a perennial stream and authorized under the stream protection act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code. Refer to Section 015 for further clarification regarding casual exploration and recreational mining. (7-1-21)T

**04. Commercial.** The type of operation that engages in the removal of construction materials or uses suction dredges with an intake diameter larger than five inches (5”) or attendant power sources rated at greater than fifteen (15) horsepower and/or other motorized equipment. (7-1-21)T

**05. Construction Materials.** Sand, gravel, cobble, boulders, and other similar materials. (7-1-21)T

**06. Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**07. Motorized Exploration.** Exploration that may appreciably disturb or damage the land or resources thereon. Motorized exploration includes, but is not limited to, drilling, trenching, dredging, or other techniques that employ the use of earth moving or other motorized equipment, seismic operations using explosives, and sampling with suction dredges having an intake diameter greater than two inches (2”) when operated in a perennial stream. When operated in an intermittent stream, suction dredges are considered motorized exploration regardless of the intake size. (7-1-21)T

**08. Natural or Ordinary High Water Mark.** The line that the water impresses upon the soil by covering it for sufficient periods to deprive the soil of its vegetation and destroy its value for agricultural purposes. (7-1-21)T

**09. Person.** (7-1-21)T

- a. An individual of legal age; (7-1-21)T
- b. Any firm, association or corporation qualified to do business in the state of Idaho; or (7-1-21)T
- c. Any public agency or government unit, including without limitation, municipalities. (7-1-21)T
- 10. Recreational Mining.** Mining with a suction dredge having an intake diameter of five inches (5") or less, and attendant power sources, rated at fifteen (15) horsepower or less, pans, rockers, hand tools, hand operated sluices and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T
- 11. River Mile.** Five thousand two hundred eighty (5,280) feet of contiguous riverbed as measured along the approximate center of the river. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Navigable River.** A natural water course of perceptible extent, with definite bed and banks, which confine and conducts continuously flowing water, and the bed of which is owned by the state of Idaho in trust. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Submerged Lands.** All state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams between the natural or ordinary high water marks. (7-1-21)T
- 011. -- 014. (RESERVED)**
- 015. CASUAL EXPLORATION AND RECREATIONAL MINING.**
- 01. Lands Open.** All beds of navigable rivers that have not been located, leased or withdrawn in accordance with statute or the terms of these rules, are free and open to casual exploration and recreational mining on a nonexclusive and first come basis. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Equipment Limitations.** Mining equipment for casual exploration that may occur prior to the filing of a location or lease application is limited to suction dredges with a two (2") inch intake or less, pans, rockers, hand tools, hand operated sluices and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T
- 03. No Approval for Casual Exploration Required.** No written approval is required from the Director for casual exploration. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Recreational Mining Equipment.** Mining equipment for recreational mining is limited to suction dredges with an intake diameter of five (5") inches or less with attendant power sources rated at fifteen (15) horse power or less, pans, rockers, hand tools, hand operated sluices and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T
- 05. Department of Water Resources Permits.** Possession of a valid Stream Protection Act Permit issued by the Idaho Department of Water Resources and a Recreational Mining Permit issued by the Idaho Department of Lands constitutes the Board's waiver of bond, waiver of royalty, and written approval to engage in recreational mining under Section 47-704(6), Idaho Code, and Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 016. EXPLORATION LOCATIONS.**
- 01. Lands Open.** The beds of navigable rivers that have not been located or withdrawn, or are not under application to lease, in accordance with statute or the terms of these rules, are available for exploration location; provided that salable minerals are not subject to exploration location. Details of exploration locations on state lands can be found in Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Size of Location.** Each exploration location is limited to one-half (1/2) mile in length. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Record Keeping Requirement.** A locator must keep a record of all minerals recovered during exploration operations and must pay to the state a royalty of five percent (5%) of the gross value of the minerals recovered. Payment must be made each year with the filing of the assessment work report. (7-1-21)T

**04. When No Written Approval Required.** No written approval is required from the Director for exploratory activity on an exploration location when such exploration is limited to mining equipment such as suction dredges with a five (5") inch intake diameter or less and attendant power sources rated at fifteen (15) horsepower or less, pans, rockers, hand operated sluices, and other similar equipment; provided however, that recreational mining activity performed under a Recreational Mining Permit as authorized under Section 015 does not serve to establish any basis for an exploration location. (7-1-21)T

**05. When Written Approval Required.** Written approval is required from the Director prior to entry for operators conducting motorized exploration except as allowed in Subsection 016.04. Approved operations must be bonded as outlined in Subsection 040.03. (7-1-21)T

**017. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. RIVERBED MINERAL LEASE.**

**01. Limitations on Suction Dredges.** Operators may not use suction dredges with an intake diameter larger than five inches (5") or attendant power sources rated greater than fifteen (15) horsepower, except under lease. (7-1-21)T

**02. Approval Required Before Operations.** Prior to entry upon navigable rivers, operators are required to have written approval from the Director. (7-1-21)T

**03. Bonding.** Approved operations must be bonded as outlined in Subsection 040.01. (7-1-21)T

**04. Simultaneous Filings.** Two (2) or more lease applications received on the same date and hour, covering the same lands, are considered simultaneous filings. Simultaneous filings will be resolved by competitive bidding. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING.**

**01. Publication of Notice.** Upon receipt by the Board of an application to lease any lands that may belong to the state of Idaho by reason of being situated between the high water marks of navigable rivers of the state, the Board will cause at the expense of the applicant, a notice of such application to be published once a week for two (2) issues in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which said lands described in said application are situated. (7-1-21)T

**02. Public Hearing.** The Board may order a public hearing on an application if it deems this action is in the best interest of the public. (7-1-21)T

**03. Petition for Hearing.** The Board or its authorized representative will hold a public hearing on the application, if requested in writing no later than thirty (30) days after the last published notice by ten (10) person whose lawful rights to use the waters applied for may be injured thereby, or by an association presenting a petition with signatures of not less than ten (10) such aggrieved parties; provided that the Board may order a public hearing in the first instance. The Board will consider fully all written and oral submissions respecting the application. (7-1-21)T

**026. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. RENTAL AND ROYALTY AND LATE PAYMENTS.**

**01. Minimum Annual Rental.** The minimum annual rental is one hundred sixty dollars (\$160) for any area up to one hundred sixty (160) acres, and one dollar (\$1) for each additional acre. (7-1-21)T

**02. Minimum Annual Royalty.** In addition to the annual rental, the commercial lessee pays an annual minimum royalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) per year and all other lessees pay an annual minimum royalty of

three hundred forty dollars (\$340) per year. (7-1-21)T

**03. Deduction of Royalty.** The annual minimum royalty and the annual rental for any year is deducted from the actual production royalty as it accrues for that year. (7-1-21)T

**04. Royalty Schedule.** The appropriate Board approved royalty schedule for the commodity mined must be attached and made a part of the mineral lease. (7-1-21)T

**05. Late Payments.** Rental or royalty not paid by the due date is considered late. A twenty-five dollars (\$25) late payment charge or penalty interest from the due date, whichever is greater, will be added to the rental or royalty amount. The penalty interest is one percent (1%) for each calendar month or fraction thereof. (7-1-21)T

**031. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF LEASABLE TRACT.**

**01. One Mile Limitation.** A riverbed lease may not exceed one (1) contiguous river mile in length or all the riverbed within one (1) section should all the available state lands within the section exceed one (1) river mile. (7-1-21)T

**02. Construction Materials.** Leases for construction materials may be limited to a smaller size tract at the Board's discretion. (7-1-21)T

**032. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Prior Written Approval.** No location or lease assignment is valid until approved in writing by the Director, and no assignment takes effect until after the first day of the month following its approval. (7-1-21)T

**02. Partition.** A location or lease may be assigned to any person qualified to hold a state location or lease, provided that in the event an assignment partitions leased lands between two (2) or more persons, both the assigned and the retained part created by the assignment contain not less than one-half (1/2) mile length of river bed land. (7-1-21)T

**03. Segregation of Lease.** If an assignment partitions leased lands between two (2) or more persons, it must clearly segregate the assigned and retained portions of the leasehold. Resulting segregated leases continue in full force and effect for the balance of the term of the original lease or as further extended pursuant to statute and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**036. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. BOND.**

**01. Minimum Bond.** Concurrent with the execution of the lease by the lessee, lessee must furnish to the Director a good and sufficient bond or undertaking on a Department form in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for commercial operations and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for all other operations, in favor of the state of Idaho, conditioned on the payment of all damages to the land and all improvements thereon which result from the lessee's operation and conditioned on complying with statute, these rules and the lease terms. This bond is in addition to the bonds required by the Idaho Dredge and Placer Mining Protection Act (Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code). (7-1-21)T

**02. Statewide Bond.** In lieu of the above bond, the lessee may furnish a good and sufficient "statewide" bond conditioned as above in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in favor of the state of Idaho, to cover all lessee's leases and operations carried on under statute and these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Motorized Exploration.** Motorized exploration on a site under location is subject to a minimum bond in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750). A larger bond not exceeding seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) per acre may be required by the Department depending on the size and scope of the operation. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 044. (RESERVED)**

**045. FEES.**

The following fees apply:

(7-1-21)T

**01. Nonrefundable Application Fee for Lease.** Fifty dollars (\$50) per application. (7-1-21)T

**02. Nonrefundable Fee for Advertising Application.** Forty-five dollars (\$45) per application. (7-1-21)T

**03. Exploration Location Fee.** Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per location. (7-1-21)T

**04. Application Fee for Approval of Assignment.** Fifty dollars (\$50) per lease or location involved in the assignment. (7-1-21)T

**046. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.08 – EASEMENTS ON STATE-OWNED LANDS

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

These rules are promulgated pursuant to and are to be construed in a manner consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners as set forth in Idaho Code Title 58, Chapters 1 and 6, and Article IX, Sections 7 and 8 of the Idaho Constitution. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.08, “Easements on State-Owned Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules set forth procedures concerning the issuance of easements on all lands within the jurisdiction of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners except for state-owned submerged lands and formerly submerged lands. Further, these rules do not apply to easements for hydroelectric projects. (7-1-21)T

**03. Valid Existing Rights.** These rules are not be construed as affecting any valid existing rights. (7-1-21)T

### 002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

An applicant aggrieved by a decision of the Director under these rules may request a hearing before the Board, but must do so within thirty (30) days after receipt of written notice of the Director’s decision. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or such representative as may be designated by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Damage or Impairment of Rights to the Remainder of the Property.** The diminution of the market value of the remainder area, in the case of a partial taking. (7-1-21)T

**03. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**04. Director.** The Director of the Department of Lands or such representative as may be designated by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**05. Easement.** A non-possessory interest in land for a specific purpose. Such interest may be limited to a specified term. (7-1-21)T

**06. Endowment Lands.** Land grants made to the state of Idaho by the Congress of the United States, or real property subsequently acquired through land exchange or purchase, for the sole use and benefit of the public schools and certain other institutions of the state, comprising nine (9) grants altogether. (7-1-21)T

**07. Market Value.** The most probable price at a specified date, in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which the property should bring in a competitive and open market under all conditions requisite to a fair sale, the buyer and seller each acting prudently and knowledgeably, and assuming the price is not affected by undue stimulus. (7-1-21)T

**08. State-Owned Lands.** All lands within the jurisdiction of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners except for state-owned submerged lands or formerly submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**09. Temporary Permit.** An instrument authorizing a specific use on state land usually issued for five (5) years or less, but that may be issued for up to ten (10) years. (7-1-21)T

### 011. -- 019. (RESERVED)

### 020. POLICY.

**01. Easements Required.** Easements are required for all rights-of-way of a permanent nature over state-owned land. Easements will not be granted when temporary permits will serve the required purpose or when a lease is appropriate. (7-1-21)T

**02. Prior Grants.** The Director will recognize easements on state endowment lands by grant of the federal government, or subsequent landowners, prior to title vesting with the State or by eminent domain. (7-1-21)T

**03. Existing Easements.** These rules do not apply to any use, facility or structure described in an existing easement. For amendment of an existing easement, see Section 025. (7-1-21)T

**04. Director's Discretion.** The Director may grant an easement over state-owned land for any legitimate public or private purpose upon payment of appropriate compensation. (7-1-21)T

**05. Reciprocal Easements.** The Director may seek reciprocal easements for access to state-owned lands from applicants for easements over state-owned lands. The value of the easement acquired by the state may be applied towards the cost of the easement acquired from the state. (7-1-21)T

**06. Interest Granted.** An easement grants only such interest to the grantee as is specified in the instrument, including the right to use the property for the specified purpose without interference by the grantor. The right to use the property for all other purposes not inconsistent with the grantee's interest remains with the grantor. (7-1-21)T

**07. Limit of Director's Discretion.** The Director may grant and renew easements in all cases except when the compensation will exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) exclusive of the value of timber and payment for any damage or impairment of rights to the remainder of the property. (7-1-21)T

**08. Width of Easement.** The width of any easement granted may not be less than eight (8) feet. (7-1-21)T

**09. Recordation.** The Department will record the easement, or easement release, with the appropriate county recorder's office. (7-1-21)T

**10. Term Easement.** The Director may grant an easement that is issued for a specific time period of ten (10) to fifty-five (55) years. (7-1-21)T

**021. FEES AND COMPENSATION.**

**01. Application Fee.** The application fee for new, renewed, or amended easements is one hundred dollars (\$100) and is collected from all applicants. This application fee is in addition to the easement compensation and appraisal costs, and is non-refundable unless the Director determines that the land applied for is not under the jurisdiction of the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Easement Fee.** The compensation for permanent easements over state-owned lands covered by these rules is as follows:

|   | <b>COMPENSATION</b>  |
|---|--|
| Highways, roads, railroads, reservoirs, trails, canals, ditches, or any other improvements that require long term, exclusive or near exclusive use and occupation of the right of way | Up to 100% of land value plus payment for any damage or impairment of rights to the remainder of the property as determined by the Director and supported by specific data such as an appraisal  |
| Overhead transmission and power lines   | Up to 100% of land value depending on the exclusivity of use as determined by the Director and supported by specific data such as an appraisal plus payment for any damage or impairment of rights to the remainder of the property as determined by the Director and supported by data such as an appraisal |



|  | <b>COMPENSATION</b>  |
|--|--|
| Buried installations - cables, pipelines, sewerlines, waterlines | Up to 100% of land value, depending on the exclusivity use as determined by the Director and supported by specific data such as an appraisal plus payment for any damage or impairment of rights to the remainder of the property, as determined by the Director and supported by specific data such as an appraisal |

(7-1-21)T

**03. Appraisal Required.** An appraisal of an easement may be required where, in the opinion of the Director, the easement value will exceed the minimum compensation fee of five hundred dollars (\$500). (7-1-21)T

**04. Performance of Appraisal.** The appraisal of the easement will normally be performed by qualified department staff. If so desired by the applicant, and agreed to by the Director, the applicant may provide the appraisal that is acceptable to and meets the specifications set by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**05. Appraisal Costs.** Where the appraisal is performed by department staff, the appraisal is two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for a market analysis, five hundred dollars (\$500) for a short form appraisal, and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for appraisals of easements requiring Board approval. The appraisal cost is in addition to those costs outlined in Subsections 021.01 and 021.02. In no case will an applicant be charged more than one thousand dollars (\$1000) for an appraisal of an easement conducted by departmental staff. (7-1-21)T

**06. Term Easements.** Compensation for term easements will be established by appraisal. (7-1-21)T

**07. Minimum Compensation.** The minimum compensation for any easement is five hundred dollars (\$500), not including the application fee and appraisal costs. (7-1-21)T

**022. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. EASEMENT AMENDMENT.**

Amendment of an existing easement must be processed in the same manner as a new application. Amendment includes change of use, widening the easement area, or changing the location of the easement area. Amendment does not include ordinary maintenance, repair, or replacement of existing structures such as poles, wires, cables, and culverts. (7-1-21)T

**026. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. EMERGENCY WORK.**

The grantee is authorized to enter upon endowment lands and other lands managed by the Department for the purpose of performing emergency repairs on an easement for damage due to floods, high winds and other acts of God, provided that the grantee provides written notice to the Director within forty-eight (48) hours of the time work commences. Thereupon, the Director is authorized to assess any damages to the state lands and seek reimbursement. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. COOPERATIVE USE AND RECIPROCAL USE AGREEMENTS.**

**01. Joint Agreements.** The Director may, subject to the approval of the Board, enter into joint ownership and use agreements with persons for roads providing access to state endowment lands and other lands managed by the Department. Such agreements must provide that all landowners share proportionately in the cost of building and maintaining the shared road. The proportionate shares are calculated on timber volume, acreage or other unit of value. (7-1-21)T

**02. Reciprocal Use Agreements.** The Director may enter into reciprocal use agreements with persons

for existing roads where such agreements will enhance the management of state endowment lands or other lands managed by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Applicability.** Where the Director has entered into such agreements mentioned in Subsections 035.01 and 035.02 above, Sections 021, 040, and 046 do not apply. (7-1-21)T

**036. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Fee.** Easements issued by the Director or by the Board are assignable provided that the assignor and assignee complete the Department's standard assignment form and forward it and the non-refundable assignment fee of fifty dollars (\$50) to any department office. (7-1-21)T

**02. Prior Written Consent.** An assignment is not valid without the prior written consent of the Director. Such consent will not be unreasonably withheld. (7-1-21)T

**03. Multiple Assignments.** If all state easements held by a grantee are assigned at one time, only one (1) assignment fee is required. (7-1-21)T

**041. ABANDONMENT, RELINQUISHMENT, AND TERMINATION.**

**01. Section 58-603, Idaho Code.** The provisions of Idaho Code Section 58-603 apply to all easements over state-owned lands. (7-1-21)T

**02. Non-Use.** An easement not used for the purpose for which it was granted, for five (5) consecutive years, is presumed abandoned and automatically terminates. The Director will notify the grantee in writing of the termination. The grantee has thirty (30) days from the date of notification to reply in writing to the Director to show cause why the easement should be reinstated. Within sixty (60) days of receipt of the statement to show cause, the Director will notify the grantee in writing as to the Director's decision concerning reinstatement. The grantee has thirty (30) days of receipt of the Director's decision to appeal an adverse decision to the Board. (7-1-21)T

**03. Removal of Improvements.** Upon termination, the grantee has twelve (12) months from the date of final notice to remove any facilities and improvements. (7-1-21)T

**04. Voluntary Relinquishment.** The grantee may voluntarily relinquish the easement at any time by completing an easement relinquishment form. The Department will pay the grantee one dollar (\$1) for the relinquishment. (7-1-21)T

**042. -- 045. (RESERVED)**

**046. PROCEDURE.**

**01. Contents of Application.** An easement application contains. (7-1-21)T

**a.** A letter of request stating the purpose of the easement; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A map of right-of-way in triplicate; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** One (1) copy of an acceptable written description based on a centerline survey or a metes and bounds survey of the perimeter of the easement tract. The applicant may also describe the area occupied by existing uses, facilities or structures by platting the state-owned land affected by the use and showing surveyed or scaled ties (to a legal corner) at the points where the use enters and leaves the parcel. (7-1-21)T

**02. Engineer Certification.** As required in Section 58-601, Idaho Code, for any application for a ditch, canal or reservoir, the plats and field notes must be certified by the engineer under whose direction such surveys or plans were made and four (4) copies filed with the Department and one (1) copy with the Director, Department of

Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**03. Where to Submit Application.** An easement application may be submitted to any office of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Notification of Approval.** If approved, the applicant will be notified of the amount due to the Department. (7-1-21)T

**05. Notification of Denial.** If the application is denied, the applicant will be notified in writing of such decision. (7-1-21)T

**047. EASEMENTS ON STATE LAND UNDER LAND SALE CONTRACT.**

**01. Approval of Contract Purchaser.** The Director will not approve an easement on lands under contract of sale (land sale certificate) without the approval of the contract sale purchaser or without reviewing the consideration received to insure that the state's interests are protected. (7-1-21)T

**02. Compensation.** The compensation for easements on lands under land sale contract will be as set out in Section 021 except that "land value" may be the sale value. These moneys will be applied to the principal balance on the land sale contract. Additionally, the Department will collect the one hundred dollar (\$100) application fee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Co-Signature of Contract Purchaser.** The contract sale purchaser must co-sign the easement to validate the document. (7-1-21)T

**048. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.03.09 – EASEMENTS ON STATE-OWNED SUBMERGED LANDS  
AND FORMERLY SUBMERGED LANDS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

These rules are promulgated pursuant to, and are to be construed in a manner consistent with, the duties and responsibilities of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners as set forth in Title 58, Chapters 1, 6, and 13, Idaho Code, and the Equal Footing Doctrine (Idaho Admission Act of July 3, 1890, 26 Stat. 215, Chapter 656). (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.09, “Easements on State-Owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Purpose.** These rules set forth procedures concerning the issuance of easements on state-owned submerged and formerly submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**03. Scope.** These rules apply to the issuance of easements for all uses, other than irrigation facilities, diversion facilities, temporary irrigation berms, headgates, turnouts, and domestic water supply intake lines capable of drawing less than five (5) cubic feet per second of water; except that dams that span the entire width of a navigable stream channel regardless of their purpose are subject to these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Exceptions; Permits Required.** Easements will not be granted where temporary permits will serve the required purpose or when a lease is more usual and customary, such as for marinas, docks, float homes, and similar facilities. (see IDAPA 20.03.17, “Rules Governing Leases on State-owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands.”) (7-1-21)T

**05. Exceptions; Temporary Structures.** These rules do not apply to uses, facilities, and structures considered to be temporary in nature; more specifically, those uses that will be in effect for a period of ten (10) years or less or those facilities or structures with a lifespan of ten (10) years or less. Such uses, facilities, and structures may be authorized by revocable temporary permits. (7-1-21)T

**002. (RESERVED)**

**003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

An applicant aggrieved by a decision of the Director under these rules may request a hearing before the board, but must do so within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of written notice of the Director’s decision. Failure to make said request within the thirty (30) day period constitutes a waiver of the applicant’s right to a hearing before the board. Pursuant to Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, the applicant may appeal an adverse decision of the Board. (7-1-21)T

**004. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Artificial High Water Mark.** The high water elevation above the natural or ordinary high water mark resulting from construction of man-made dams or control works and impressing a new and higher vegetation line (Section 58-1302(d), Idaho Code). (7-1-21)T

**02. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or such representative as may be designated by the board. (7-1-21)T

**03. Dam.** Any artificial barrier, placed across a navigable stream channel or watercourse. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**05. Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Lands or such representative as may be designated by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**06. Easement.** A nonpossessory interest held by one person in land of another person whereby the first person is accorded use for a portion of such land for a specific purpose. (7-1-21)T

**07. Formerly Submerged Lands.** Formerly submerged beds of state-owned navigable lakes, rivers, and streams which have either been filled or have subsequently become uplands because of human activities, i.e.,

dikes, berms, seawalls, etc. Included are islands that have been created on submerged lands by natural processes or human activities since the date of statehood (July 3, 1890). (7-1-21)T

**08. Grantee.** The party to whom the easement is granted and their assigns and successors in interest. (7-1-21)T

**09. Grantor.** The State of Idaho and its assigns and successors in interest (7-1-21)T

**10. Hydroelectric Facilities.** The dam, diversion, penstock, transmission lines, water storage area, powerhouse and other facilities related to generating electric energy from water power. (7-1-21)T

**11. Market Value.** The amount in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which in all probability the property would be sold by a knowledgeable owner willing but not obligated to sell to a knowledgeable purchaser who desired but is not obligated to buy. (7-1-21)T

**12. Natural or Ordinary High Water Mark.** The line which the water impresses upon the soil covering it for a sufficient period of time to deprive the soil of its vegetation and destroy its value for agricultural purposes (Section 58-104(9), Idaho Code). When the soil, configuration of the surface, or vegetation has been altered by man's activity, the natural or ordinary high water mark shall be located where it would have been if this alteration had not occurred. (7-1-21)T

**13. Person.** A partnership, an association, a joint venture or a corporation qualified to do business in the State of Idaho, any federal, state, county or local unit of government, or an individual. (7-1-21)T

**14. Right-of-Way.** The privilege that one (1) person, or persons particularly described, may have of passing over the land of another in some particular line. Usually an easement over the land of another. (7-1-21)T

**15. Submerged Lands.** The state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams lying below the natural or ordinary high water marks. (7-1-21)T

**16. Uplands.** The land bordering on navigable lakes, rivers, and streams. (7-1-21)T

**011. POLICY.**

**01. Regulation of the Beds of Navigable Waters.** It is the policy of the State of Idaho to regulate and control the use or disposition of lands in the beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams to the natural or ordinary high water mark thereof, so as to provide for their commercial, navigational, recreational or other public use; provided, that the board shall take no action in derogation of or seeking to interfere with the riparian or littoral rights of the owners of upland property abutting or adjoining such lands (Section 58-104, Idaho Code). (7-1-21)T

**a.** These rules shall not be construed as adversely affecting any valid existing rights. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The board or Director shall not grant an easement for any use, facility, or structure that would impair those uses of submerged and formerly submerged lands protected under the public trust doctrine. (7-1-21)T

**02. Exercise of State Title.** The state exercises its title over the beds of all lakes, rivers, and streams that are navigable in fact. The department will respond to requests or inquiries as to which lakes, rivers, and streams are deemed navigable in fact. Additional information about streams deemed navigable by the state of Idaho is available from the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Stream Channel and Encroachment Permits.** Issuance of an easement shall be contingent upon the applicant first obtaining a stream channel alteration permit if required by the Idaho Department of Water Resources, pursuant to Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, or a lake encroachment permit if required by the Department, pursuant to the Lake Protection Act, Section 58-1301, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**04. Other Permits.** Issuance of an easement shall not relieve an applicant of acquiring other permits and licenses that are required by law. (7-1-21)T

**05. Existing Easements.** These rules apply to existing easements on submerged or formerly submerged lands. However, it shall not be necessary for a person possessing a valid easement on the effective date of these rules to file a new application pursuant to these rules. (7-1-21)T

**06. Existing Permits.** Any person holding a permit, issued after May 23, 1984 during the pendency of the promulgation of these rules, for right-of-way on submerged or formerly submerged lands shall convert the permit to an easement upon payment of fees and compensation in the amount provided for by these rules. (7-1-21)T

**07. Limitation on Easement Grant.** An easement grants only such interest to the grantee as is specified within the document, including the legal right to occupy and use the submerged or formerly submerged lands for the specified purpose in the easement without interference by the grantor, except as otherwise provided by law. The legal right to use the submerged or formerly submerged lands for all other purposes not inconsistent with the grantee's interest remains with the grantor. (7-1-21)T

**08. Minimum Width.** The minimum width of any easement granted shall be eight (8) feet. (7-1-21)T

**012. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. FEES AND COMPENSATION.**

**01. Administrative Fee.** There shall be a one-time nonrefundable administrative fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) for any use, facility, or structure requiring an easement under these rules. No supplemental compensation, in excess of the one-time administrative fee, shall be required for: (7-1-21)T

**a.** An easement for a use, facility, or structure for which the navigable lake, river, or stream poses an obstacle or barrier for construction or operation of the use, facility, or structure, or where the applicant demonstrates, and the Director or Board concurs, that the impact of the use, facility, or structure on the submerged lands is less than the impact on the other values associated with the adjacent upland such as conservation of resources, significant cost savings to the public, or accessibility. (7-1-21)T

**b.** An easement for a dam that does not produce hydroelectric power and is less than ten (10) feet in height (as measured from the natural stream bed at the downstream side). (7-1-21)T

**02. Supplemental Compensation.** In addition to the one-time nonrefundable administrative fee of three hundred dollars (\$300), supplemental compensation will be required for: (7-1-21)T

**a.** New and renewed easements for all dams of any size that produce hydroelectric power and all dams that are ten (10) feet and higher (as measured from the natural stream bed at the downstream side). Supplemental compensation for such easements shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000), and for a dam including associated hydroelectric facilities, there shall be an additional one-time payment of five dollars (\$5) per megawatt of installed capacity per the nameplate rating of said facility. If the facility is situated on a Snake River segment that is a common border with the state of Oregon or the state of Washington, the installed capacity shall be prorated based on the location of the common border for the purpose of calculating the compensation. Total compensation for a new or renewed easement issued for a dam including associated hydroelectric facilities shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000). If an easement for a hydroelectric facility has been issued prior to relicensing, the fee will be prorated based on a fifty (50) year use period. The fee for annual extensions that are frequently issued by FERC because of permitting delays prior to issuance of the major FERC license will be prorated based on a fifty (50) year use period. (7-1-21)T

**b.** An easement over submerged and formerly submerged lands, for any use, facility, or structure, that is not a dam or hydroelectric facility, which would use submerged or formerly submerged lands as a substitute for or to reduce or eliminate the use of uplands. Supplemental compensation for such easements shall be a one-time payment based on the market value of the submerged or formerly submerged lands. The compensation shall be determined by appraisal. For purposes of this subsection, the per acre value of the submerged or formerly submerged lands shall be the same as the per acre value of the adjacent uplands for which the submerged or formerly submerged lands shall serve as a substitute or in the case of filled lands, the per acre value shall be based on its highest and best

use. Adjacent uplands are uplands bordered on one (1) side by the water body and extending landward at least one (1) lot in depth or three hundred (300) feet, whichever is greater. (7-1-21)T

**03. Appraisal.** The appraisal of the easement normally will be performed by qualified Department staff. If so desired by the applicant and agreed to by the Director, the applicant may provide the appraisal, which must be acceptable to and meet the specifications set by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**04. Cost of Appraisal.** Where the appraisal is performed by department staff, the appraisal costs shall be the actual cost and shall be charged to the applicant in addition to those costs outlined in Subsections 020.01 and 020.02. These costs shall include transportation, personnel costs (including per diem), and administrative overhead. An itemized statement of these costs shall be provided to the applicant. The appraisal fee shall be billed separately from the nonrefundable administrative fee established in Subsection 020.01. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. TERM OF EASEMENT.**

**01. Permanent Uses.** A permanent easement will be issued for uses, facilities, and structures that are normally considered permanent in nature, such as bridges, utility crossings, highway fills, and dams. (7-1-21)T

**02. Term Easements.** A term easement will be issued for a specific time period of ten (10) to fifty-five (55) years and will be issued for those uses, facilities, and structures not normally considered permanent in nature. (7-1-21)T

**03. Federally Licensed Facilities.** The term of an easement for all federally licensed hydroelectric facilities on submerged or formerly submerged lands shall be run concurrently with the term of such license issued by the United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), or its successor, authorizing the facility. Easements for hydroelectric facilities for which FERC has issued a conduit exemption shall not exceed fifty-five (55) years. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. USE, FACILITY, OR STRUCTURE MODIFICATION.**

Modification of an existing use, facility, or structure shall require an easement or an amendment to an existing easement and shall be processed in the same manner as a new application. Modification includes expanding the use or easement area, or changing the location of the use or easement area. Modification does not include ordinary maintenance, repair, or replacement of existing structures such as poles, wires, and cables. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Assignment Fee.** Easements may be assigned upon approval of the Director. The assignor and assignee must complete the department's standard assignment form and forward it and the nonrefundable assignment fee of fifty dollars (\$50) to any department office. (7-1-21)T

**02. Prior Written Consent.** An assignment is not valid without the written consent of the Director which shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Department shall work diligently to complete assignments within sixty (60) days after receipt of the standard assignment forms and all associated information. (7-1-21)T

**03. Multiple Assignments.** If all state easements held by a grantee are assigned at one time, only one (1) assignment fee shall be required. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. ABANDONMENT, RELINQUISHMENT, AND TERMINATION.**

**01. Section 58-603, Idaho Code.** The provisions of Section 58-603, Idaho Code relating to rights-of-way apply to all easements over state-owned submerged and formerly submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**02. Non-Use.** Upon termination of an easement for any cause, the Director shall provide the grantee with a specific, but reasonable, period of time (up to twelve (12) months) to remove all facilities or structures. Failure to remove all facilities or structures within such time period established by the Director shall be deemed a trespass on submerged or formerly submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**03. Voluntary Relinquishment.** The grantee may voluntarily relinquish the easement at any time by submitting a letter or relinquishment form in recordable format to the state of Idaho. Voluntary relinquishment of an easement does not waive or forgive the obligation of the easement holder to remove facilities as required in Subsection 060.02. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. PROCEDURE.**

**01. Contents of Application.** An easement application shall contain: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A letter of request stating the purpose of the easement; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A plat of right-of-way in triplicate; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** One (1) copy of an acceptable written description based on a survey of the centerline or a metes and bounds survey of the easement tract. The applicant may also describe the area occupied by existing uses, facilities or structures by platting the state-owned submerged or formerly submerged lands affected by the use and showing surveyed or scaled ties (to a legal corner) at the points where the use enters and/or leaves the parcel. (7-1-21)T

**02. Engineer Certification.** All maps, plans, and field notes attached to an application for rights-of-way for ditches and reservoirs governed by Section 58-601, Idaho Code, shall be certified by the engineer under whose direction such surveys or plans were made and four (4) copies filed with the Department and one (1) copy filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**03. Decision on Application.** Upon proper application and payment of the nonrefundable administrative fees, appraisal costs, and supplemental compensation required pursuant to these rules, the Director may, after appropriate review and consideration of the facts and the law, grant an easement on and over submerged or formerly submerged lands for any public or private purpose. The Director may deny an application for easement upon a finding that issuance would not be consistent with law or these rules. Such denial or approval shall be in writing within six (6) months of the receipt of the application. (7-1-21)T

**04. Director's Decision.** The Director may grant and renew easements in all cases except when the compensation will exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), exclusive of the payment for any damage or impairment of rights to the remainder of the property. (7-1-21)T

**05. Board Decision.** Easement applications where compensation exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or that are of a complex and unusual nature as determined by the Director, shall be presented to the Board for appropriate action. (7-1-21)T

**06. Where to Submit.** An easement application may be submitted to any office of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**07. Notification of Approval.** If the application is approved, the applicant shall be notified in writing of the amount due to the Department. (7-1-21)T

**08. Denial of Application.** If the application is denied, the applicant shall be notified in writing of the reasons for the denial. (7-1-21)T



**071. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. EASEMENT ACCESS AND EMERGENCY WORK.**

**01. Use of Land.** The grantee has the right to use such portion of the lands adjacent to and along said easement as may be reasonably necessary in connection with the installation, repair, and replacement of the use, facility, or structure authorized by the easement. If such activities cause soil disturbance, the destruction of vegetation, and/or entering the navigable stream bed below the natural or ordinary high water mark, the grantee will obtain written authorization from the grantor. (7-1-21)T

**02. Emergency Work.** The grantee is authorized to enter upon lands lying outside the easement area, including submerged or formerly submerged lands and other lands managed by the Department, for the purpose of performing emergency repairs on an easement for damage due to floods, high winds, and other acts of God, provided that the grantee provides written notice to the Director within forty-eight (48) hours of the time work commences. The grantee shall be responsible for any damage to lands or other resources outside the easement area. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.03.13 – ADMINISTRATION OF COTTAGE SITE LEASES ON STATE LANDS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

The State Board of Land Commissioners has adopted these rules in accordance with Article IX, Section 8 of the Idaho Constitution and Sections 58-104(1) and 58-304, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.13, “Administration of Cottage Site Leases on State Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** It is the intent and express policy of the Board in administration of cottage site leases located on state-owned lands administered by the Board, to provide for a reasonable rental income from those lands in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the State of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**002. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of these rules, unless otherwise indicated by express term or by context, the term: (7-1-21)T

**01. Annual Rental.** The rental paid on or before January 1, in advance, for the following year. (7-1-21)T

**02. Board.** The State Board of Land Commissioners. (7-1-21)T

**03. Cottage Site.** Any state-owned lot that is leased for recreational residential purposes. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**05. Lessee.** A tenant of a cottage site. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. SALE AND ASSIGNMENT - REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION.**

**01. Documentation of Sale.** The lessee must provide the Department, at their expense, the following documents concerning a cottage site sale prior to assignment of the cottage site lease. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The original of the current lease; or (7-1-21)T

**b.** A signed and notarized Affidavit of Loss if the current lease has been lost. (7-1-21)T

**02. Assignments.** A lease may only be assigned to an individual or to a husband or wife. The Board will not recognize assignments to corporations, partnerships, or companies. Leases may be assigned to and held by an estate only if one (1) individual or husband or wife are designated as the sole contact for all billing and correspondence. A lessee may only hold one (1) cottage site lease at a time. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. LEASE RATE DETERMINATION -- ANNUAL RENTAL.**

Annual rental is set by the Board from time to time as deemed necessary. It is the intent of the State Board of Land Commissioners that those rental rates be determined through market indicators of comparable land values. (7-1-21)T

**026. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.03.14 – RULES GOVERNING GRAZING, FARMING, CONSERVATION, NONCOMMERCIAL  
RECREATION, AND COMMUNICATION SITE LEASES**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

These rules are promulgated by the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners pursuant to Section 58-104, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.14, “Rules Governing Grazing, Farming, Conservation, Noncommercial Recreation, and Communication Site Leases.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules constitute the Department’s administrative procedures for leasing of state endowment trust land for grazing, farming, conservation, noncommercial recreation, communication sites and other uses that are treated similarly under the provisions of Section 58-307, Idaho Code, regarding a lease term for no longer than twenty (20) years, and under the provisions of Section 58-310, Idaho Code regarding lease auctions. These rules are to be construed in a manner consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners as set forth in Title 58, Chapter 3, Idaho Code; Article 9, Sections 3, 7 and 8, of the Idaho Constitution; and Section 5 of the Idaho Admission Bill. (7-1-21)T

**002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

**01. Board Appeal.** All decisions of the Director are appealable to the Board. An aggrieved party desiring to make such an appeal must, within twenty (20) days after receiving notice of the final decision being appealed or in case of a conflict auction within twenty (20) days after the auction is held, file with the Director a written notice of appeal setting forth the basis for the appeal. The Board has the discretion to accept or reject any timely appeal. In the event that the Board rejects hearing the appeal, the decision of the Director will be deemed final. (7-1-21)T

**02. Board Decision.** In the event the Board hears an appeal, it will do so at the earliest practical time or, in its discretion, appoint a Board sub-committee or a hearing officer to hear the appeal. The Board sub-committee or hearing officer will make findings and conclusions which the Board accepts, rejects or modifies. The decision of the Board after a hearing, or upon a ruling concerning the Board sub-committee or hearing officer’s findings and conclusions, are final. (7-1-21)T

**03. Judicial Review.** Judicial review of the final decision of the Board is in accord with the Administrative Procedure Act, Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**003. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Amortization.** The purchase of Department authorized, lessee installed, lease improvements by the Department through allowance of credit to the lessee’s annual lease payments. (7-1-21)T

**02. Animal Unit Month (AUM).** The amount of forage necessary to feed one (1) cow or one (1) cow with one (1) calf under six (6) months of age or one (1) bull for one (1) month. One (1) yearling is considered seven tenths (.7) of an AUM. Five (5) head of sheep, or five (5) ewes with lambs are considered one (1) AUM. One (1) horse is considered one and one-half (1 1/2) AUM. (7-1-21)T

**03. Assignment.** The Department approved transfer of all, or a portion of, a lessee’s right to another person wherein the second person assumes the lease contract with the Department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or such representatives as may be designated. (7-1-21)T

**05. Conflict Application.** An application to lease state endowment trust land for grazing, farming, conservation, noncommercial recreation or communication site use when one (1) or more applications have been submitted for the same parcel of state endowment trust land and for the same or an incompatible use. (7-1-21)T

**06. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**07. Director.** The Director of the Department of Lands, or such representative as may be designated by

the Director. (7-1-21)T

**08. Extension.** An approved delay in the due date of the rental owed on a farming lease without risk of loss of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**09. Improvement Valuation.** The process or processes of estimating the value of Department authorized improvements associated with a lease, as defined in Section 102. (7-1-21)T

**10. Lease.** A written agreement between the Department and a person containing the terms and conditions upon which the person will be authorized to use state endowment trust land. (7-1-21)T

**11. Herd Stock.** Livestock leased or managed, but not owned, by the lessee. (7-1-21)T

**12. Lease Application.** An application to lease state endowment trust land for grazing, farming, conservation, noncommercial recreation, or communication site purposes. (7-1-21)T

**13. Manageable Unit.** A unit of state endowment trust land designated by the Department, geographically configured and sufficiently large to achieve the proposed use. (7-1-21)T

**14. Management Plan.** The signed state endowment trust land lease for grazing, farming and conservation, and any referenced attachments such as annual operating plans or federal allotment management plans, is considered the management plan. (7-1-21)T

**15. Mortgage Agreement.** Department authorization for the lessee to obtain a mortgage on a state endowment trust land lease. (7-1-21)T

**16. Person.** An individual, partnership, association, corporation or any other entity qualified to do business in the state of Idaho and any federal, state, county, or local unit of government. (7-1-21)T

**17. Proposed Management Plan.** A document written and submitted by the lease applicant detailing the management objectives and strategies associated with their proposed activity. (7-1-21)T

**18. Sublease.** An agreement in which the state endowment trust land lease holder conveys the right of use and occupancy of the property to another party on a temporary basis. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 018. (RESERVED)**

**019. LESSEE MAILING ADDRESS.**

Unless otherwise notified by the lessee, all lease correspondence from the Department will be sent to the name and address as it appears on the lease application. It is the lessee's duty to notify the Department, in writing, of any change in mailing address. (7-1-21)T

**020. APPLICATIONS AND PROCESSING.**

**01. Eligible Applicant.** Any person legally competent to contract may submit an application to lease state endowment trust land provided such person is not then in default of any contract with the Department of Lands; provided further, that the Department may, in its discretion, exclude any person in breach of any contract with the state of Idaho or any department or agency thereof. (7-1-21)T

**02. Application Process.** All lease applications must be submitted to the Department on the appropriate Department form. The applications must be signed by the applicant, must be submitted in such manner as determined by the Department, and must meet the following criteria: (7-1-21)T

**a. Non-refundable Fee.** Each application for a lease must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee in the amount specified by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**b. Application Deadline.** The deadline to apply to lease a parcel of state endowment trust land already

covered by a lease is as established by the Department for the year the existing lease expires. Applications to lease unleased state endowment trust land may be submitted at any time, or at such time as designated by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Proposed Management Plan. All applicants for state grazing, farming and conservation leases must submit a proposed management plan with their application. Where current lessee is an applicant, the Department will recognize the existing management plan, as described by the existing lease provisions, as the proposed management plan required to complete the lease application. The Department may require amendments to the proposed management plan in accordance with Subsections 020.02.e. and 020.02.f. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Legal Description on Application. All applications must include a legal description of the state endowment trust land applied on. The Department reserves the right to require an amendment of the legal description of state endowment trust lands identified in a lease application to ensure the parcel is a manageable unit or for any other reason deemed appropriate by the Department. If the applicant fails to provide an amended application, referencing a manageable unit as designated by the Department, the application is considered invalid. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Nonconflicted Applications. (7-1-21)T

**i.** If the current lessee is the only applicant and the Department does not have concerns with the lessee's current management of the leased state endowment trust land, a new lease will be issued. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If the current lessee is the only applicant and the Department has concerns with the lessee's current management of the state endowment trust lands, the Department will request in writing a new proposed management plan and meet with the current lessee to develop terms and conditions of a proposed lease. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Conflicted Applications. (7-1-21)T

**i.** All applicants submitting conflict applications must meet with the Department to develop the terms and conditions of a proposed lease specific to each applicant's proposed management plan. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** The Department will provide all applicants for conflicted leases with the list of criteria that will be used to develop lease provisions. Among the factors to be addressed in the criteria are the following: (7-1-21)T

(1) The applicant's proposed use and the compatibility of that use of the state endowment trust land with preserving its long-term leasing viability for purposes of generating maximum return to trust beneficiaries; i.e., the impact of the proposed use and any anticipated improvements on the parcel's future utility and leasing income potential. (7-1-21)T

(2) The applicant's legal access to and/or control of land or other resources that will facilitate the proposed use and is relevant to generating maximum return to trust beneficiaries. (7-1-21)T

(3) The applicant's previous management of land leases, land management plans, or other experience relevant to the proposed use or ability/willingness to retain individuals with relevant experience. (7-1-21)T

(4) Potential environmental and land management constraints that may affect or be relevant to assessing the efficacy or viability of the proposed use. (7-1-21)T

(5) Mitigation measures designed to address trust management concerns such as: (7-1-21)T

(a) Construction of improvements at lessee's expense. (7-1-21)T

(b) Payment by lessee of additional or non-standard administrative costs where the nature of the proposed use and/or the applicant's experience raises a reasonable possibility that greater monitoring or oversight by the Department than historically provided will be necessary to ensure lease-term compliance. (7-1-21)T

(c) Bonding to ensure removal of any improvements installed for the lessee's benefit only and which would impair the future utility and leasing income potential of the state endowment trust land. (7-1-21)T

(d) Bonding to ensure future rental payments due under the lease in cases where the lessee is determined by the Department to pose a significant financial risk because of lack of experience or uncertain financial resources. (7-1-21)T

(6) Any other factors the Department deems relevant to the management of the state endowment trust land for the proposed use. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Proposed Lease. Within ten (10) days of the final meeting with the applicant to discuss lease provisions, the Department will provide the applicant with a proposed lease containing those terms and conditions upon which it will lease the state endowment trust land. If the applicant does not accept in writing the lease as proposed by the Department within seven (7) days of receipt, the application will be rejected in writing by the Department. Within twenty (20) days of the date of mailing of the rejection notice, the applicant may appeal the Department's determination as to the lease's terms and conditions to the Land Board. If the appeal is denied, the applicant may continue with the auction process by accepting the lease terms and conditions initially offered by the Department. No auction may be held until the Land Board resolves any such appeal. (7-1-21)T

**03. Expiring Leases.** Lease applications will be mailed by the Department to all holders of expiring leases no less than thirty (30) days prior to the application deadline. Signed applications and the application fee must be returned to the Department by the established deadline or postmarked no later than midnight of that date. It is the lessee's responsibility to ensure applications are delivered or postmarked by the deadline. (7-1-21)T

**04. Rental Deposit.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Existing Lessee. If the existing lessee is the sole applicant, the lessee may submit the rental deposit at the normal due date. If a conflict application is also filed on the expiring lease and the existing lessee is awarded the lease by the Land Board, the lessee must deposit, with the Department, the estimated first year's rental for the lease at the time the lease is submitted to the Department with lessee's signature. (7-1-21)T

**b.** New Applicants. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Expiring Lease. New applicants for expiring leases must submit the estimated first year's rental to the Department at the time of the application's submission. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Unleased State Endowment Trust Land. All applicants for unleased state endowment trust land are deemed new applicants. If an applicant for unleased state endowment trust land is the sole applicant, the applicant may submit the rental deposit at the normal billing cycle, unless the time of application and desired time of use do not coincide with the normal billing cycle, in which case payment must be rendered at the direction of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**021. LENGTH OF LEASE.**  
The Department may issue a lease for any period of time up to the maximum term provided by law. (7-1-21)T

**022. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. CHANGE IN LAND USE.**  
The Director may change the use of any state endowment trust land, in whole or in part, for other uses that will better achieve the objectives of the Board. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. RENTAL.**

**01. Rental Rates.** The methodology used to calculate rental rates is determined by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Special Uses.** Fees for special uses requested by the lessee and approved by the Department are

determined by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Rental Due Date.** Lease rentals are due in accordance with the terms of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**041. CHANGE OF RENTAL.**

The Department reserves the right to increase the annual lease rental. Notice of any increase will be provided in writing to the lessee at least one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the lease rental due date. (7-1-21)T

**042. LATE PAYMENTS.**

Rental not paid by the due date is considered late. Late payment charges from the due date forward are specified in the lease. (7-1-21)T

**043. -- 048. (RESERVED)**

**049. BREACH.**

**01. Non-Compliance.** A lessee is in breach if the lessee's use is not in compliance with the provisions of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**02. Damages for Breach.** A lessee is responsible for all damages resulting from breach and other damages as provided by law. (7-1-21)T

**050. LEASE CANCELLATION.**

Leases may be canceled by the Director for the following reasons: (7-1-21)T

**01. Non-Compliance.** If the lessee is not complying with the lease provisions or if resource damage attributable to the lessee's management is occurring to state endowment trust land within a lease, the lessee will be provided written notification of the violation by regular and certified mail. The letter will set forth the reasons for the Department's cancellation of the lease and provide the lessee thirty (30) days' notice of the cancellation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Change in Land Use.** A lease may be canceled in whole or in part upon one hundred eighty (180) days written notice by the Department if the state endowment trust lands are to be leased for any other use as designated by the Board or the Department and the new use is incompatible with the existing lease. In the event of early cancellation due to a change in land use, the lessee will be entitled to a prorated refund of the premium bid for a conflicted lease. (7-1-21)T

**03. Land Sale.** The Department reserves the right to sell state endowment trust lands covered under the lease. The lessee will be notified that the state endowment trust lands are being considered for sale prior to submitting the sales plan to the Board for approval. The lessee will also be notified of a scheduled sale at least thirty (30) days prior to sale. In the event of early cancellation due to land sale, the lessee will be entitled to a prorated refund of the premium bid for a conflicted lease. (7-1-21)T

**04. Mutual Agreement.** Leases may be canceled by mutual agreement between the Department and the lessee. (7-1-21)T

**051. LEASE ADJUSTMENTS.**

**01. Department Required.** The Department may make adjustments to the lease for resource protection or resource improvement. (7-1-21)T

**02. Lessee Requested.** Lessee requested changes in lease conditions must be submitted in writing and must receive written approval from the Department before implementation. (7-1-21)T

**052. EXTENSIONS OF ANNUAL FARMING LEASE PAYMENT.**

**01. Farming Lease Extensions.** An extension of the annual lease payment may be approved for farming leases only. Each lease is limited to no more than two (2) successive or five (5) total extensions during any

ten (10) year lease period. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing and must include the extension fee determined by the Board. The lessee must provide a written statement from a financial institution verifying that money is not available for the current year's farming operations. (7-1-21)T

**02. Liens.** When an extension is approved, the Department will file a lien on the lessee's pertinent crop in a manner provided by Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**03. Due Date.** Rental plus interest at a rate established by the Board will be due not later than November 1 of the year the extension is granted. (7-1-21)T

**053. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. FEES.**

Fees for lease administration will be periodically set by the Board and must be paid in full before a transaction can occur. All lease administration fees are non refundable. The Board has the authority to set fees related to administration of the leasing process including, but not limited to the following: lease applications; full lease assignment; partial lease assignment; mortgage agreement; subleases; late rental payment; minimum lease fee; and lease payment extension request. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. SUBLEASING.**

A lessee may not authorize another person to use state endowment trust land without prior written approval from the Department. The lessee must provide the name and address of sublessee, purpose of sublease, and a copy of the proposed sublease agreement. Lessee controlled herd stock does not require sublease approval. (7-1-21)T

**071. ASSIGNMENTS.**

The lessee may not assign a lease, or any part thereof, without prior written approval of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**072. MORTGAGE AGREEMENTS.**

The lessee may not enter into a mortgage agreement that involves state endowment trust land lease without prior written approval of the Department. The lessee must submit the required filing fee. The term of a mortgage agreement may not exceed the lease term. (7-1-21)T

**073. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. MANAGEMENT PLANS.**

**01. Federal Plan.** When state endowment trust land is managed in conjunction with federal land, the management plan prepared for the federal land may be deemed by the Department, at its discretion, the management plan. (7-1-21)T

**02. Modification of Plan.** The Department may review and modify any grazing management plan upon changes in conditions, laws, or regulations, provided that the Department will give the lessee thirty (30) days notice of any such modifications prior to the effective date thereof. Modifications mutually agreeable to both the Department and lessee may be made at any time and may be initiated by lessee's request. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 089. (RESERVED)**

**090. TRESPASS.**

**01. Loss or Waste.** The lessee must use the property within the lease in such manner as will best protect the state of Idaho against loss or waste. Unauthorized activities occurring on state endowment trust land are considered trespass; these include dumping of garbage, constructing improvements without a permit, and other unauthorized actions. (7-1-21)T

**02. Civil Action by Lessee.** The lessee is encouraged to take civil action against owners of trespass



livestock on state endowment trust lands to recover damages to the lessee for lost forage or other values incurred by the lessee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Continuing Trespass.** When continued trespass causes resource damage, the Department will initiate proceedings to restrict further trespass and recover damages as necessary. (7-1-21)T

**04. Trespass Claims.** Trespass claims initiated by the Department will be assessed as triple the current State AUM rate for forage taken. (7-1-21)T

**091. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS.**

**01. Prior Written Approval.** The lessee must secure the written approval of the Department prior to constructing any improvements or buildings, or clearing any state endowment trust land. Failure to secure such approval eliminates any right to an improvement credit and may, at the Department’s discretion, be deemed a material breach of the lease and cause for cancellation. Any arrangement for cost sharing or improvement crediting will be identified in the improvement permit. Routine farming practices identified in a farm plan will not require prior approval. (7-1-21)T

**02. Maintenance.** All authorized improvements must be maintained in functional condition by the lessee. The lessee may be required to remove or reconstruct improvements in poor or non-serviceable condition. Existing maintenance agreements on lands acquired from the federal government remain in effect until amended by the parties involved. If maintenance is not being accomplished, the Department will provide a certified letter to the lessee informing the lessee of the rule violation. If work is not begun within thirty (30) days, the Department may contract repairs and add the amount to the annual rental. (7-1-21)T

**03. Bond.** The Department may require the lessee to furnish a bond prior to constructing improvements as deemed necessary to protect endowment assets or to ensure performance under the lease. (7-1-21)T

**101. IMPROVEMENT CREDIT.**

**01. Sale or Auction.** In the event of sale of the state endowment trust land covered under the lease or if the existing lessee is not the successful bidder at the auction of the lease, the creditable value of the authorized improvements, as determined by the Department, will be paid to the former lessee by the Department or the purchaser where a sale occurs or by the successful bidder where a new lease is issued. (7-1-21)T

**02. Exchange.** In the event of exchange of the state endowment trust land covered under the lease, the creditable value of authorized improvements, as determined by the Department, will be paid to the former lessee by the acquiring party, if other than the existing lessee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Crediting.** Improvement credit may be allowed when the Department determines that such credit would further the objective of maximizing long-term financial return to trust beneficiaries if the improvements are: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Authorized in writing by the Department or lacking written authorization, but in existence prior to 1970; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Not expressly permitted “for lessee’s benefit only”; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** Maintained during the lease term. (7-1-21)T

**04. Value Only to Lessee.** Where improvements are approved, but due to their nature, are not acceptable to receive improvement credit because no value exists for a future lessee, a notation will be made in the permit, “For lessee’s benefit only.” If the succeeding lessee or assignee chooses not to purchase the non-creditable improvements, the former lessee will be required to remove them. (7-1-21)T

**05. Maintenance Costs.** Maintenance of improvements will be considered a normal cost of doing business and no improvement credit will be allowed, except that, with prior written approval from the Department, improvement crediting may be allowed for materials used for the maintenance of Department-funded improvements. (7-1-21)T

**06. Unauthorized Improvements.** No credit will be allowed for unauthorized improvements. At the discretion of the Department, the lessee may be required to remove unauthorized improvements. (7-1-21)T

**07. Cost Sharing.** Federal or state cost-share amounts are not included in the allowable improvement credit. (7-1-21)T

**102. VALUATION OF IMPROVEMENTS.**

Credited improvements will be valued on the basis of replacement cost, including lessee provided labor, equipment and materials, less depreciation based on loss of utility. Improvements cannot be appraised higher than current market value, regardless of lessee's cost. Any improvement amortization or cost limitations identified by the Department will be considered in determining a final value. (7-1-21)T

**01. Applicant Review of Department Improvement Credit Valuation.** All applicants for a conflicted lease will be provided a copy of the Department's improvement credit valuation for review and a notice of objection form. Any applicant objecting to the appraisal will have twenty-one (21) days from the date of the valuation mailing to submit the notice of objection form to the Department. If no objections are received during the twenty-one (21) day review period, the lease auction will be scheduled and will proceed using the Department's improvement credit valuation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Failure to File a Timely Notice of Objection.** Failure to submit a notice of objection within the specified twenty-one (21) day period will preclude any applicant from further administrative remedies and the auction will proceed using the Department's improvement credit valuation. (7-1-21)T

**03. Notice of Objection.** Any applicant objecting to the Department improvement credit valuation must submit a complete and timely notice of objection form, and payment of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or ten percent (10%) of the total Department improvement credit valuation whichever is greater, to pay for the services of an independent third party. Within five (5) days of receipt of the notice of objection, the Department will notify all applicants in writing that an objection has been received and provide them with a list of certified appraisers. (7-1-21)T

**04. Selection of an Independent Third Party.** The applicants will have twenty-one (21) days from the date of the Department's notification of an objection to select by mutual agreement, one individual from the list of certified appraisers to serve as an independent third party. If the applicants cannot agree on an independent third party within the twenty-one (21) day time period, the Department will randomly select one individual from the list to serve as the independent third party. (7-1-21)T

**05. Duties of the Independent Third Party.** The independent third party will review the Department improvement credit valuation and alternate valuations provided by the applicants. Following this review, the independent third party will select from among the Department valuation and alternate valuations, the one value that (s)he determines is the most accurate value of the improvements. The independent third party will notify the Department of this value in writing. (7-1-21)T

**06. Notification of Final Improvement Value.** Within five (5) days of receiving the independent third party's final determination of improvement credit value, the Department will mail to each applicant an auction notice that will reference the independent third party's determined value of improvements. The determination by the independent third party of the improvement value will be deemed final, and the appraised value of improvements will not be allowed as a basis for appeal of the auction. (7-1-21)T

**103. -- 104. (RESERVED)**

**105. CONFLICT AUCTIONS.**

**01. Two or More Applicants.** When two (2) or more eligible applicants apply to lease the same state endowment trust land for grazing, farming conservation, noncommercial recreation, or communication site purposes and the Department determines the proposed uses are not compatible, the Department will hold an auction. (7-1-21)T

**02. Minimum Bid.** Bidding begins at two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or the cost of preparing any required improvement valuation in connection with the expiring lease, whichever is greater. (7-1-21)T

**03. Auction Bidding.** Each applicant who appears in person or by proxy at the time and place so designated in said notice and bids for the lease is deemed to have participated in the auction. A proxy must be authorized by the lease applicant in writing prior to the start of the auction. (7-1-21)T

**04. Withdrawal Prior to or Failure to Participate in an Auction.** Applicants who either withdraw their applications after accepting the Department offered lease per Subsection 020.02 of this rule and prior to the auction that results in no need to schedule an auction or cancellation of a scheduled auction; or applicants who fail to participate at the auction by not submitting a bid which results in only one (1) participant at the scheduled auction, forfeit an amount equal to the lesser of the following: (7-1-21)T

- a. The Department’s cost of making any required improvement credit valuation; (7-1-21)T
- b. For existing lessee applicants, any improvement credit payment that would otherwise be due if not awarded the lease; or (7-1-21)T
- c. For conflict applicants, the rental deposit made. (7-1-21)T

**05. High Bid Deposit.** The high bidder is required to submit payment in the amount of the high bid at the conclusion of the auction. (7-1-21)T

**06. Auction Procedures.** The Department will prescribe the procedures for conducting conflicted lease auctions. (7-1-21)T

**07. Withdrawal After Auction.** (7-1-21)T

- a. If the high bidder withdraws or refuses to accept the lease, the high bid payment will be retained by the Department. (7-1-21)T
  - i. If the auction involved only two (2) participants, the second high bidder will be awarded the lease. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. If the auction involved more than two (2) participants, the lease will be reaucted. (7-1-21)T
- b. If an auction bidder other than the high bidder withdraws a bid before Land Board review and action on the auction results, no adjustment will be made in the payment deposited by the high bidder. (7-1-21)T

**106. BOARD REVIEW OF AUCTION.**  
The Board will review the proposed leases and auction results and make the determination required under Section 58-310, Idaho Code, consistent with its obligations under Article IX, Section 8 of the Idaho Constitution and all relevant statutory provisions. (7-1-21)T

**107. -- 110. (RESERVED)**

**111. NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL.**

**01. Weed Control.** The lessee must cooperate with the Department, or any other authorized agency, to undertake programs for control or eradication of noxious weeds on state endowment trust land. The lessee will take measures to control noxious weeds on the leased state endowment trust land in accordance with Title 22, Chapter 24, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Responsibility.** The lessee will not be held responsible for the control of noxious weeds resulting from other land management activities such as temporary permits, easements, special leases and timber sales. Control of noxious weeds on state grazing lands will be shared by the lessee and Department, with the Department's share subject to funds appropriated for that purpose. (7-1-21)T

**112. LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE.**

**01. Cooperation.** The lessee must cooperate with the state/ federal agency responsible for the control of livestock diseases. (7-1-21)T

**02. Non-Compliance.** Non-compliance with state/federal regulations will be considered a lease violation and may result in cancellation of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**113. ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL.**

The lessee may request the services of USDA Animal and Plant and Health Inspection Service-Wildlife Services to remove animals causing crop damage or harassing/killing the lessee's livestock. The Department is liable for any consequence from any animal control actions. (7-1-21)T

**114. LIABILITY (INDEMNITY).**

The lessee must indemnify and hold harmless the state of Idaho, its departments, agencies and employees for any and all claims, actions, damages, costs and expenses which may arise by reason of lessee's occupation of the leased state endowment trust land, or the occupation of the leased parcel by any of the lessee's agents or by any person occupying the same with the lessee's permission. (7-1-21)T

**115. RULES AND LAWS OF THE STATE.**

The lessee must comply with all applicable rules, regulations and laws of the state of Idaho and the United States insofar as they affect the use of the state endowment trust lands described in the lease. (7-1-21)T

**116. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.15 – RULES GOVERNING GEOTHERMAL LEASING ON IDAHO STATE LANDS

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This Chapter is adopted under the legal authorities of Sections 58-104(1), 58-104(6), 58-104(9), 58-105, and 58-127, Idaho Code; Section 58-307, Idaho Code; Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code; Title 47, Chapter 16, Idaho Code; and Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.15, “Rules Governing Geothermal Leasing on Idaho State Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules apply to the exploration and extraction of any and all geothermal resources situated in state-owned mineral lands. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Laws.** In addition to these rules, the Lessee must comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations. The violation of any applicable law, rule or regulation constitutes a breach of any lease issued in accordance with these rules. (7-1-21)T

### 002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

Any person aggrieved by any final agency action will be entitled to judicial review pursuant to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, IDAPA 20.01.01, and Title 47, Chapter 16, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Associated By-Products or By-Product:** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Any mineral or minerals (exclusive of oil, hydrocarbon gas, and helium) that are found in solution or developed in association with geothermal resources; or (7-1-21)T

**b.** Demineralized or mineralized water. (7-1-21)T

**02. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its designee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Casual Exploration.** Casual exploration means entry and/or exploration that does not appreciably disturb or damage the land or resources thereon. Casual exploration includes, but is not limited to, geochemical and/or geophysical exploration techniques, sampling with hand tools, and entry using wheeled vehicles for transportation to conduct such exploration. (7-1-21)T

**04. Completion.** A well is considered to be completed thirty (30) days after drilling operations have ceased and the drill rig is removed from the premises or thirty (30) days after the initial production or injection test has been completed, whichever occurs last. (7-1-21)T

**05. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands or its designee. (7-1-21)T

**06. Director.** The director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his designee. (7-1-21)T

**07. Direct Use.** The use of geothermal resources for direct applications, including, but not limited to, road surface heating, resorts, hot spring bathing and spas, space heating of buildings, recreation, greenhouse warming, aquaculture, or industrial applications where geothermal heat is used in place of other energy inputs. (7-1-21)T

**08. Electrical Generation.** The use of geothermal resources to either directly generate electricity or to heat a secondary fluid and use it to generate electricity. (7-1-21)T

**09. Field.** A geographic area overlying a geothermal system with one (1) or more geothermal reservoirs or pool, including any porous, permeable geologic layer, that may be formed along one (1) fault or fracture, or a series of connected faults or fractures. (7-1-21)T

**10. Geothermal Resources.** The natural heat energy of the earth, the energy, in whatever form, that may be found in any position and at any depth below the surface of the earth present in, resulting from, or created by,

or that may be extracted from such natural heat, and all minerals in solution or other products obtained from the material medium of any geothermal resource. When used without restriction, it includes associated by-products.

(7-1-21)T

11. **Lease.** A lease covering the geothermal resources and associated by-products in state lands. (7-1-21)T
12. **Lessee.** The person to whom a geothermal lease has been issued and his successor in interest or assignee. It also means any agent of the Lessee or an operator holding authority by or through the Lessee. (7-1-21)T
13. **Market Value.** The most probable price at a specified date, in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which the property or commodity should bring in a competitive and open market under all conditions requisite to a fair sale, the buyer and seller each acting prudently and knowledgeably, and assuming the price is not affected by undue stimulus. (7-1-21)T
14. **Motorized Earth-Moving Equipment.** Backhoes, bulldozers, front-loaders, trenchers, core drills, drill rigs, power augers, and other similar equipment. (7-1-21)T
15. **Navigable Water Courses.** The state owned beds of active lakes, rivers and streams that do not include formerly submerged lands where the state retains ownership. (7-1-21)T
16. **Operator.** The person having control or management of operations on the leased lands or a portion thereof. The operator may be the Lessee, designated operator, or agent of the Lessee, or holder of rights under an approved operating agreement. (7-1-21)T
17. **Overriding Royalty.** An interest in the geothermal resource produced at the surface free of any cost of production. It is a royalty in addition to the royalty reserved to the state. (7-1-21)T
18. **Person.** Any natural person, corporation, association, partnership, or other entity recognized and authorized to do business in Idaho, receiver, trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, fiduciary, or other representatives of any kind, and includes any government or any political subdivision of any agency thereof. The masculine gender, in referring to a person, includes the feminine and the neuter genders. (7-1-21)T
19. **Record Title.** The publicly recorded lease that is the evidence of right that a person has to the possession of the leased property. (7-1-21)T
20. **Reservoir or Pool.** A porous, permeable geologic layer containing geothermal resources. (7-1-21)T
21. **Shut In.** To close the valves at the wellhead so that the well stops flowing or producing. Also describes a well on which the valves have been closed. (7-1-21)T
22. **State Lands.** Without limitation, lands in which the title to the mineral rights are owned by the state of Idaho and are under the jurisdiction and control of the Board or under the jurisdiction and control of any other state body or agency, having been obtained from any source and by any means whatsoever, including the beds of navigable waters of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T
23. **Waste.** Any physical loss of geothermal resources including, but not limited to: (7-1-21)T
  - a. Underground loss of geothermal resources resulting from inefficient, excessive, or improper use, or dissipation of geothermal energy, or of any geothermal resource pool, reservoir, or other source; or the locating, spacing, constructing, equipping, operating, or producing of any well in a manner that results, or tends to result in, reducing the quantity of geothermal energy to be recovered from any geothermal area in the state; (7-1-21)T
  - b. The inefficient above-ground transporting and storage of geothermal energy; and the locating, spacing, equipping, operating, or producing of any well or injection well in a manner causing or tending to cause unnecessary or excessive surface loss or destruction of geothermal energy; the escape into the open air from a well of

steam or hot water in excess of what is reasonably necessary in the efficient development or production of a well. (7-1-21)T

**011. ABBREVIATIONS.**

**01. IDWR.** Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**012. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS AND LESSEES.**

Any person legally competent to contract may submit an application to lease state land provided such person is not then in default of any contract with the state of Idaho or any department or agency thereof. (7-1-21)T

**021. LEASE AWARD THROUGH AUCTION.**

If more than one (1) application is received for geothermal development on the same parcel of land, a lease auction will be held. (7-1-21)T

**022. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. TERM.**

**01. Lease Term.** All leases may be for a term of up to forty-nine (49) years from the effective date of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**02. Diligence in Utilization.** Lessee will use due diligence to market or utilize geothermal resources in paying quantities. If leased land is capable of producing geothermal resources in paying quantities, but production is shut-in, the lease will continue in force upon payment of rentals for the duration of the lease term or two (2) years after shut-in, whichever is shorter. If the Department determines that the Lessee is proceeding diligently to acquire a contract to sell or to utilize the production or is progressing with installations needed for production, the lease may continue in force for one (1) additional year if rental payments are kept current. The Department will continue to review a shut-in lease every year until production and payment of royalties takes place, or the lease is terminated for Lessee's lack of due diligence or surrendered by the Lessee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Yearly Reporting.** A report of all exploration, development, and production activities must be submitted to the Department at the close of each lease year. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. RENTALS.**

**01. Advance Annual Rental.** Lessee will pay to the Department in advance each year an annual rental. The annual rental for the first year of the term will be due and payable and will be received by the Department, together with a lease agreement executed by Lessee within thirty (30) days of the date of notice of approval or award. Second year and subsequent rental payments must be received by the Department on or before the anniversary date of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**02. Amount.** Annual rentals will be set by the Board through competitive bidding, negotiation, fixed amounts, formulas, or some other method of valuation that a prudent investor might reasonably apply to establish such rental amounts. (7-1-21)T

**036. ROYALTIES.**

**01. Royalty Payments.** The Lessee will cause to be paid to the Department royalties on the value of geothermal production from the leased premises. The royalty rate will be established by the Board based on the market value of the geothermal resources produced from the lands under lease. The royalties specified in geothermal leases will be fixed in any manner by the Board, including but not limited to competitive bidding, negotiation, fixed amounts, or formulas. Royalty rates may be adjusted through the term of the lease in order to keep pace with market

values. When leases are issued, the following guidelines will be used for royalty rates not subject to competitive bidding: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A royalty of between five percent (5%) and twenty percent (20%) of the amount or value of geothermal resources, or any other form of heat or energy excluding electrical power generation, derived from production under the lease and sold or utilized by the Lessee or reasonably susceptible to sale or utilization by the Lessee; (7-1-21)T

**b.** A royalty of between two percent (2%) and fifteen percent (15%) of the amount or value of any associated by-product derived from production under the lease and sold or utilized or reasonably susceptible of sale or utilization by the Lessee, including commercially demineralized water. (7-1-21)T

**c.** A royalty of between two percent (2%) and five percent (5%) of gross receipts for sale of electrical power. (7-1-21)T

**02. Calculation of Value.** The value of geothermal production from the leased premises for the purpose of computing royalties is based on a total of the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The total consideration accruing to the Lessee from the sale of geothermal resources to another party in an arms-length transaction; and (7-1-21)T

**b.** The value of the end product attributable to the geothermal resource produced from a particular lease where geothermal resources are not sold by the Lessee before being utilized, but are instead directly used in manufacturing power production, or other industrial activity; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** The value of all renewable energy credits or similar incentives based on a proportionate share of the leased lands in the entire project area qualifying for the credits. (7-1-21)T

**03. Due Date.** Royalties will be due and payable monthly to the Department on or before the last day of the calendar month following the month in which the geothermal resources and/or their associated by-products are produced and utilized or sold. (7-1-21)T

**04. Utilization of Geothermal Resources.** The Lessee must file with the Department within thirty (30) days after execution a copy of any contract for the utilization of geothermal resources from the lease. Reports of sales or utilization by Lessee and royalty for each productive lease must be filed each month once production begins, even though production may be intermittent, unless otherwise authorized by the Department. Total volumes of geothermal resources produced and utilized or sold, including associated by-products, the value of production, and the royalty due the state of Idaho must be shown. This report is due on or before the last day of the month following the month in which production was obtained and sold or utilized, together with the royalties due the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**05. Measurement.** The Lessee will measure or gauge all production in accordance with methods approved by the Department. The quantity and quality of all production will be determined in accordance with the standard practices, procedures and specifications generally used in industry. All measuring equipment must be tested consistent with industry practice and, if found defective, the Department will determine the quantity and quality of production from the best evidence available. (7-1-21)T

**06. By-Product Testing.** The Lessee will periodically furnish the Department the results of periodic tests showing the content of by-products in the produced geothermal resources. Such tests will be taken as specified by the Department and by the method of testing approved by him, except that tests not consistent with industry practices will be conducted at the expense of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**07. Commingling.** The Department may authorize a Lessee to commingle production from wells on his State lease(s) with production from non-state lands. Department approval of commingling will not be unreasonably withheld, and will consider the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The operator's economic necessity of commingling; (7-1-21)T



- b. The type of geothermal use proposed for the commingled waters; and (7-1-21)T
- c. Sufficient measurement and accounting of all the commingled waters to ensure that the Department is appropriately compensated by royalties. (7-1-21)T

**037. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. SIZE OF A LEASABLE TRACT.**

**01. Surface Area.** Geothermal leases are not limited in surface area. The Board will determine the surface area of a lease after consultation with other state agencies and prospective Lessees. The probable extent of a geothermal reservoir, the surface area needed for a viable project, and other relevant factors will be used to help determine lease surface area. (7-1-21)T

**02. Navigable Water Courses.** Geothermal resources leases may be issued for state lands underlying navigable water courses in Idaho. Such lands are considered “state lands” and will be leased in accordance with these rules. Operations in the beds of navigable water courses will not be authorized except in necessary circumstances and then only with express written approval of the Board upon such conditions and security as the Department deems appropriate. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. LAND SURFACE USE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.**

**01. Use and Occupancy. (7-1-21)T**

a. Lessee will be entitled to use and occupy only so much of the surface of the leased lands as may be required for all purposes reasonably incident to exploration for, drilling for, production and marketing or geothermal resources and associated by-products produced from the leased lands, including the right to construct and maintain thereon all works, buildings, plants, waterway, roads, communication lines, pipelines, reservoirs, tanks, pumping stations or other structures necessary to the full enjoyment and development thereof, consistent with a plan of operations and amendments thereto, as approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

b. Uses occurring on the leased area related to exploration, development, production, or marketing of geothermal resources and associated by-products produced from off-lease lands may require the Lessee to pay additional rent. (7-1-21)T

**02. Supervision.** Uses of state lands within the jurisdiction and control of the Board are subject to the supervision of the Department. Other state lands are subject to the supervision of the appropriate state agency consistent with these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Distance from Residence.** No well may be drilled within two hundred (200) feet of any house or barn on the premises, without the written consent of the Department and its surface Lessees, grantees or contract purchasers. (7-1-21)T

**04. Disposal of Leased Land.** The Board reserves the right to sell or otherwise dispose of the surface of the lands embraced with a lease, insofar as said surface is not necessary for the use of the Lessee in the exploration, development and production of the geothermal resources and associated by-products, but any sale of surface rights made subsequent to execution of a lease will be subject to all the terms and provisions of that lease during the life thereof. (7-1-21)T

**05. Damage.** Lessee must pay to the Board, its surface Lessees or grantees or contract purchasers, for any damage done to the surface of said lands and improvements thereon, including without limitation growing crops, by reason of Lessee’s operations. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 053. (RESERVED)**

**054. EXPLORATION UNDER THE LEASE.**

**01. Diligent Exploration.** Lessees must perform diligent exploration and development activities in the first five (5) years of the initial lease term or as otherwise extended by lease provision. Diligent exploration includes seismic, gravity, and other geophysical surveys, geothermometry studies, drilling temperature gradient wells, or similar activities that seek to determine the presence or extent of geothermal resources. This exploration may occur off-lease if it is being done on the same geothermal field. Failure to perform diligent exploration as described may result in lease cancellation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Casual Exploration.** At any time after formal approval by the Board of a lease application, Lessee may enter upon the leased lands for casual exploration or inspection without notice to the department. As an express condition of an application to lease and of the right of casual inspection without notice, Lessee agrees to the indemnity conditions provided in Section 102 of these rules without a formally executed lease. (7-1-21)T

**03. Plan Required.** Lessee must submit a Research and Analysis Plan to the Department before any exploration using motorized equipment or before otherwise engaging in operations that may lead to an appreciable disturbance or damage to lands, timber, other resources, or improvements on or adjacent to the leased lands. The proposed activities may not start until the Department approves the plan and the applicable preconditions in Sections 100 and 101 of these rules have been satisfied. The plan of operations may be amended as needed with Department approval. The plan includes all items that the Department deems necessary or useful in managing the geothermal resources including, but not limited to, the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A narrative statement describing the proposed measures to be taken for protection of the environment, including, but not limited to the prevention or control of: (7-1-21)T

i. Fires; (7-1-21)T

ii. Soil loss and erosion; (7-1-21)T

iii. Pollution of surface and ground waters; (7-1-21)T

iv. Damage to fish and wildlife or other natural resources; (7-1-21)T

v. Air and noise pollution; and (7-1-21)T

vi. Hazards to public health and safety during lease activities. (7-1-21)T

**b.** All pertinent information or data that the department may require to support the plan of operations for the utilization of geothermal resources and the protection of the environment; (7-1-21)T

**055. DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION UNDER THE LEASE.**

**01. Diligent Development of Lease and Production.** Lessee must develop the geothermal resources on their lease area and start production within the first ten (10) years of the initial lease term or as otherwise extended by lease provision. Development of the lease area requires wells to be drilled and other necessary infrastructure to be built. Production on the lease area means that geothermal fluids are being used and royalties are being paid to the state. Failure to develop the lease and start production as described may result in lease cancellation unless the Lessee applies to the Department for an extension and the extension is granted. (7-1-21)T

**02. Best Practices.** All operations will conform to the best practice and engineering principles in use in the industry. Operations must be conducted in such a manner as to protect the natural resources on the leased lands, including without limitation geothermal resources, and to result in the maximum ultimate recovery of geothermal resources with a minimum of waste, and be consistent with the principles of the use of the land for other purposes and of the protection of the environment. Lessee must promptly remove from the leased lands or store, in an orderly manner, all scraps or other materials not in use and not reasonably incident to the operation. (7-1-21)T

**03. Plans Required.** Prior to development, Lessee must submit a Development Plan, Operating Plan,

and Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan for the leased lands. All plans must be approved by the Department, in writing, prior to Lessee beginning a phase of the lease in which those plans are performed or as otherwise required by the lease. All required plans must include all items that the Department deems necessary or useful in managing the geothermal resources, including, but not limited to, those items referred to in Paragraphs 054.03.a. and 054.03.b. of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Waste and Damage.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Lessee must take all reasonable precautions to prevent the following: (7-1-21)T

i. Waste; (7-1-21)T

ii. Damage to other natural resources; (7-1-21)T

iii. Injury or damage to persons, real or personal property; and (7-1-21)T

iv. Any environmental pollution or damages that may constitute a violation of state or federal laws. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Department may inspect Lessee's operations and issue such orders as are necessary to accomplish the purposes in Paragraph 055.04.a. Any significant effect on the environment created by the Lessee's operations or failure to comply with environmental standards must be reported to the Department by Lessee within twenty-four (24) hours and confirmed in writing within thirty (30) days. (7-1-21)T

**05. Notice of Production.** Lessee must notify the department within sixty (60) days before any geothermal resources are used or removed for commercial purposes. (7-1-21)T

**06. Amendments.** The plan of operations must be amended by the Lessee for the Department's approval to reflect changes in operations on the leased lands, including the installation of works, buildings, plants or structures for the production, marketing or utilization of geothermal resources. (7-1-21)T

**056. WASTE PREVENTION, DRILLING AND PRODUCTION OBLIGATIONS.**

**01. Waste.** All leases are subject to the condition that the Lessee will, in conducting his exploration, development and producing operations, use all reasonable precautions to prevent waste of geothermal resources and other natural resources found or developed in the leased lands. (7-1-21)T

**02. Diligence.** The Lessee must, subject to the right to surrender the lease, diligently drill and produce, or unitize such wells as are necessary to protect the Board from loss by reason of production on other properties. (7-1-21)T

**03. Prevention of Waste Through Reinjection.** Geothermal Lessees must return geothermal waters to the geothermal aquifer in a manner that supports geothermal development. (7-1-21)T

**04. Additional Requirements.** The selection of the types and weights of drilling fluids and provisions for controlling fluid temperatures, blowout preventers and other surface control equipment and materials, casing and cementing programs, etc., to be used must be based on sound engineering principles and must take into account apparent geothermal gradients, depths and pressures of the various formations to be penetrated and other pertinent geologic and engineering data and information about the area. In addition, the Lessee must do the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Take all necessary precautions to keep all wells under control at all times; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Utilize trained and competent personnel; (7-1-21)T

**c.** Utilize properly maintained equipment and materials; and (7-1-21)T

- d. Use operating practices that ensure the safety of life and property. (7-1-21)T

**05. Unused Wells.** Except as provided in Subsection 070.02 of these rules, the Lessee must promptly plug and abandon any well on the leased land that is not used or useful in conformity with regulations promulgated by the IDWR or its successor agency. No production well will be abandoned until its lack of capacity for further profitable production of geothermal resources has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Department and the Department has been given an opportunity to either acquire the well permit or assign it to another party. A producible well may be abandoned only after receipt of written approval by the Department. Equipment will be removed, and premises at the well site will be restored as near as reasonably possible to its original condition immediately after plugging operations are completed on any well except as otherwise authorized by the Department. Drilling equipment must not be removed from any suspended drilling well without taking adequate measures to close the well and protect subsurface resources. Upon failure of Lessee to comply with any requirements under this rule, the Department is authorized to cause the work to be performed at the expense of the Lessee and the surety. (7-1-21)T

**057. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. EXPLORATION AND OPERATION RECORDS, CONFIDENTIALITY.**

**01. Drilling Records.** Lessee must keep or cause to be kept and filed with the IDWR such careful and accurate well drilling records as are now or may hereafter be required by that Department. Lessee must file with the Department such production records and exploration evidence as required by Sections 030, 036, and 055 of these rules, which records will be subject to inspection by the public at the offices of the Department during regular business hours under such conditions as the Department deems appropriate, subject, however, to exemptions from disclosure as set forth in Section 74107, Idaho Code. As an express condition of the lease, the Department may inspect and copy well drilling records filed with the IDWR at any time after the records are filed. (7-1-21)T

**02. Continuing Obligations.** Unless Lessee is specifically released in writing by the Department of all or any portion of its obligations under the lease upon the assignment, surrender, termination or expiration of the lease, Lessee's obligations under this rule will continue beyond assignment, surrender, termination or expiration of the lease. Lessee must, within thirty (30) days after assignment, surrender, termination or expiration or such additional time as the Department may grant, file all outstanding data and records required by this rule with the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Well Logs.** The confidentiality of well logs is limited to one year from well completion as stated in Section 42-4010(b), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 064. (RESERVED)**

**065. LESSEE'S RECORDS, RIGHT OF INSPECTION BY DEPARTMENT.**

Lessee will permit the Department to examine during reasonable business hours all books, records and other documents and matters pertaining to operations under a lease, in Lessee's custody or control, and to make copies of and extracts therefrom. (7-1-21)T

**066. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. WATER RIGHTS.**

**01. Water Rights.** Lessee must comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations regarding the appropriation of public waters of Idaho to beneficial uses. The establishment of any new water rights on state lands must be by and for the Lessor and no claim thereto may be made by the Lessee. Such water rights will attach to and become appurtenant to the state lands, and the Lessor will be the owner thereof. (7-1-21)T

**02. Potable Water Discovery.** All leases issued under these rules will be subject to the condition that, where the Lessee finds only potable water of no commercial value as a geothermal resource in any well drilled for exploration or production of geothermal resources, and when the water is of such quality and quantity as to be valuable and usable for agricultural, domestic, or other purpose, the Board, or where appropriate, the surface Lessee, grantee or contract purchaser, will have the right to acquire the well with whatever casing is installed in the well at the

fair market value of the casing, and upon the assumption of all future liabilities and responsibilities for the well, with the approval of the director of the IDWR. (7-1-21)T

**071. -- 074. (RESERVED)**

**075. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Prior Written Approval.** In order for Lessee to effect an assignment, Lessee must, prior to the consummation of an effective sale, transfer or assignment of the lease between Lessee and its proposed assignee, provide to the Department certain information about the proposed assignment, including identification of the proposed assignee and general terms of the proposed assignment on assignment application forms provided by the Department. Any proposed total or partial assignment of a lease must be preapproved in writing by the Department prior to any proposed sale, transfer or assignment of the lease is consummated between Lessee and the proposed assignee. Approval will not be unreasonably withheld. Following the Department's written preapproval of the proposed assignee and general terms of the proposed assignment, Lessee and assignee may consummate any such sale, transfer or assignment of Lessee's leasehold interest in the lease. The consummation of any assignment agreement by the Lessee without the Department's prior written preapproval constitutes a default of the lease, and such sale, transfer or assignment may be rejected in the Department's sole discretion; and, such assignment will only be effective if the default is expressly waived in writing by the Department. In order for an assignment of Lessee's interest in the lease to be acceptable for approval by the Department, the consummated sale, transfer or assignment must include provisions wherein Lessee has sold, transferred or assigned to the assignee any and all interest that Lessee has in the lease together with any and all interest Lessee has in any and all improvements located upon the leased premises, and assignee must assume all liabilities of Lessee under the lease together with ownership of all improvements owned by Lessee. An assignment between Lessee and its assignee will only take effect following the Department's final written approval of the assignment following receipt of copies of the final, consummated sale, transfer or assignment agreement between Lessee and assignee. (7-1-21)T

**02. Full or Partial.** A lease may be assigned as to all or part of the acreage included therein to any person qualified to hold a state lease, provided that neither the assigned nor the retained part created by the assignment contains less than forty (40) acres. No undivided interest in a lease of less than ten percent (10%) may be created by assignment. (7-1-21)T

**03. Overriding Royalty Disclosure.** Overriding royalty interests created by an assignment are subject to the requirements in Section 080 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Responsibility.** In an assignment of a partial or complete interest in all of the lands in a lease, the assignor and its surety continue to be responsible for performance of any and all obligations under the lease until such time as the Department, in writing, releases Lessee and its surety from obligations arising under the lease after the Department accepts any such assignment and provides a release of any or all obligations in writing. After the effective date of any assignment, the assignee and its surety will be bound by the terms of the lease to the same extent as if the assignee were the original Lessee, any conditions in the assignment to the contrary notwithstanding. (7-1-21)T

**05. Segregation of Assignment.** An assignment of all or any portion of Lessee's record title of the complete interest in a portion of the lands in a lease must clearly identify and segregate the assigned and retained portions. After the effective date, the assignor will be released and discharged from any obligations thereafter accruing with respect to the assigned portion of the leased lands. Such segregated leases continue in full force and effect for the primary term of the original lease or as further extended pursuant to the terms of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**06. Joint Principal.** Where an assignment does not segregate the record title to the lease, the assignee, if the assignment so provides, may become a joint principal on the bond with the assignor. The application must also be accompanied by a consent of assignor's surety to remain bound under the bond of record, if the bond, by its terms, does not contain such consent. If a party to the assignment has previously furnished a statewide bond, no additional showing by such party is necessary as to the bond requirement. (7-1-21)T

**07. Application.** The application for approval of an assignment must be on forms approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**08. Denial.** If the Lessee is in default of the lease at the time of a request for assignment approval, the Department may, at its sole discretion, reject any proposed assignment until the lease is brought into full compliance. The approval of an assignment of lease in good standing will not be unreasonably withheld provided such consent of the Department is requested and obtained prior to any assignment. (7-1-21)T

**076. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. OVERRIDING ROYALTY INTERESTS.**

**01. Statements.** An overriding royalty interest, or any similar interest whereby an agreement is made to pay a percentage based on production, must be disclosed at the time of assignment or transfer by filing a statement of such interest with the Department. Assignees must meet the requirements of Section 021 of these rules. All assignments of overriding royalty interests without a working interest and otherwise not contemplated by Section 075 of these rules, must be filed with the Department within ninety (90) days from the date of execution. (7-1-21)T

**02. Maximum Amount.** No overriding royalty on the production of geothermal resources created by an assignment contemplated by Section 075 of these rules or otherwise will exceed five percent (5%) nor will an overriding royalty, when added to overriding royalties previously created, exceed five percent (5%). (7-1-21)T

**03. Conformance with Rules.** The creation of an overriding royalty interest that does not conform to the requirements of this rule is be deemed a violation of the lease terms, unless the agreement creating overriding royalties provides for a prorated reduction of all overriding royalties so that the aggregate rate of overriding royalties does not exceed five percent (5%). (7-1-21)T

**04. Director's Authority.** In addition to the foregoing limitations, any agreement to create or any assignment creating royalties or payments out of production from the leased lands is subject to the authority of the Director, after notice and hearing, to require the proper parties thereto to suspend or modify such royalties or payments out of production in such manner as may be reasonable when and during such periods of time as they may constitute an undue economic burden upon the reasonable operations of such lease. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 084. (RESERVED)**

**085. UNIT OR COOPERATIVE PLANS OF DEVELOPMENT OR OPERATION.**

**01. IDWR Approval.** Nothing in this rule will excuse the parties to a unit agreement from procuring the approval of the IDWR pursuant to Section 42-4013, Idaho Code, if approval is required. (7-1-21)T

**02. Unit Plan.** For the purpose of conserving the natural resources of any geothermal pool, field or like area, Lessees under lease issued by the Board are authorized, with the written consent of the Department, to commit the state lands to unit, cooperative or other plans of development or operation with other state lands, federal lands, privately-owned lands or Indian lands. Departmental consent will not be unreasonably withheld. Applications to unitize, or a copy of the application filed with IDWR, will be filed with the Department who will certify whether such plan is necessary or advisable in the public interest. The Department may require whatever documents or data that the Department deems necessary in its reasonable discretion. To implement such unitization, the Board may with the consent of its Lessees modify and change any and all terms of leases issued by it that are committed to such unit, cooperative or other plans of development or operations. (7-1-21)T

**03. Contents.** The agreement must describe the separate tracts comprising the unit, disclose the apportionment of the production of royalties and costs to the several parties, and the name of the operator, and must contain adequate provisions for the protection of the interests of all parties, including the state of Idaho. The agreement should be signed by or in behalf of all interested necessary parties before being submitted to the Department. It will be effective only after approval by the Department. The unit operator must be a person as defined by these rules and must be approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Lease Modification.** Any modification of an approved agreement will require approval of the Department under procedures similar to those cited in Subsection 085.02 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**05. Term.** At the sole discretion of the Department, the term of any leases included in any cooperative or unit plan of development or operation may be extended for the term of such unit or cooperative agreement, but in no event beyond that time provided in Subsection 030.01 of these rules. Rentals or royalties on leases so extended may be reassessed for such extended term of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**06. Continuation of Lease.** Any lease that will be eliminated from any such cooperative or unit plan of development or operation, or any lease that will be in effect at the termination of any such cooperative or unit plan of development or operation, unless relinquished, will continue in effect for the term of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**07. Evidence of Agreement.** Before issuance of a lease for lands within an approved unit agreement, the lease applicant or successful bidder will be required to file evidence that they have entered into an agreement with the unit operator for the development and operation of the lands in a lease if issued to him under and pursuant to the terms and provisions of the approved unit agreement, or a statement giving satisfactory reasons for the failure to enter into such agreement. If such statement is acceptable, the lease applicant or successful bidder will be permitted to operate independently, but will be required to perform his operations in a manner that the Department deems to be consistent with the unit operations. (7-1-21)T

**086. -- 094. (RESERVED)**

**095. SURRENDER, TERMINATION, EXPIRATION OF LEASE.**

**01. Procedure.** A lease, or any surveyed subdivision of the area covered by such lease, may be surrendered by the record title holder by filing a written relinquishment in the office of the Department, on a form furnished by the Department, provided that a partial relinquishment does not reduce the remaining acreage in the lease to less than forty (40) acres. The minimum acreage provision of this section may be waived by the Department where the Department finds such exception is justified on the basis of exploratory and development data derived from activity on the leasehold. The relinquishment must: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Describe the lands to be relinquished; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Include a statement as to whether the relinquished lands had been disturbed and, if so, whether they were restored as prescribed by the terms of the lease; and (7-1-21)T

**c.** State whether wells had been drilled on the lands and, if so, whether they have been plugged and abandoned pursuant to the rules of the IDWR. (7-1-21)T

**02. Continuing Obligations.** A relinquishment takes effect on the date it is filed, subject to the continued obligation of the Lessee and his surety: (7-1-21)T

**a.** To make payments of all accrued rentals and royalties; (7-1-21)T

**b.** To place all wells on the land to be relinquished in condition for suspension of operations or abandonment; (7-1-21)T

**c.** To restore the surface resources in accordance with these rules and the terms of the lease; and (7-1-21)T

**d.** To comply with all other environmental stipulations provided for by these rules or lease. (7-1-21)T

**03. Failure to Pay Rental or Royalty.** The Director may terminate a lease for failure to pay rentals or royalties thirty (30) days after mailing a notice of delinquent payment. However, if the time for payment falls upon any day in which the office of the Department is not open, payment received on the next official working day will be deemed to be timely. The termination of the lease for failure to pay the rental will be noted on the official records of the Department. Upon termination the lands included in such lease may become subject to leasing as provided by these rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Termination for Cause.** A lease may be terminated by the Department for any violation of these rules, or the lease terms, sixty (60) days after notice of the violation has been given to Lessee by personal service or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address of record last appearing in the files of the Department, unless:

(7-1-21)T

a. The violation has been corrected; or

(7-1-21)T

b. The violation is one that cannot be corrected within the notice period and the Lessee has in good faith commenced within the notice period to correct the violation and thereafter proceeds diligently to complete the correction.

(7-1-21)T

**05. Equipment Removal.** Prior to the expiration of the lease, or the earlier termination or surrender thereof pursuant to this rule, and provided the Lessee is not in default, the Lessee will have the privilege at any time during the term of the lease to remove from the leased premises any materials, tools, appliances, machinery, structures, and equipment other than improvements needed for producing wells. Any materials, tools, appliances, machinery, structures and equipment subject to removal, but not removed prior to any termination of the lease or any extension thereof that may be granted because of adverse climatic conditions during that period, will, at the option of the Department, become property of the state of Idaho, but the Lessee must remove any or all such property where so directed by the Department.

(7-1-21)T

**06. Surrender After Termination.** Upon the expiration or termination of a lease, the Lessee will quietly and peaceably surrender possession of the premises to the state, and if the Lessee is surrendering the leased premises or any portion thereof, the Lessee must deliver to the state a good and sufficient release on a form furnished by the Department.

(7-1-21)T

**096. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

## **100. BOND REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Minimum Bond.** Prior to initiation of operations using motorized earth-moving equipment Lessee must furnish a bond. This bond will be in favor of the state of Idaho, conditioned on the payment of all damages to the land surface and all improvements thereon, including without limitation crops on the lands, whether or not the lands under this lease have been sold or leased by the Board for any other purpose; conditioned also upon compliance by Lessee of his obligations under this lease and these rules. The Department may require a new bond in a greater amount at any time after operations have begun, upon a finding that such action is reasonably necessary to protect state resources.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Statewide Bond.** In lieu of the aforementioned bonds, Lessee may furnish a good and sufficient "statewide" bond conditioned as in Subsection 100.01. This bond will cover all Lessee's leases and operations carried on under all geothermal resource leases issued and outstanding to Lessee by the Board at any given time during the period when the "statewide" bond is in effect. The amount of such bond will be equal to the total of the requirements of the separate bonds being combined into a single bond.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Period of Liability.** The period of liability of any bond will not be terminated until all lease terms and conditions have been fulfilled and the bond is released in writing by the Department.

(7-1-21)T

**04. Operator Bond.** In the event suit is filed to enforce the terms of any bond furnished by an operator in which the Lessee (if a different person) is not a named party, the Department may, in its sole discretion, join the Lessee as a party to such suit.

(7-1-21)T

## **101. LIABILITY INSURANCE.**

**01. Liability Insurance Required.** The Department will require the Lessee to purchase and maintain suitable insurance for the duration of the lease prior to entry upon the leased lands for other than casual exploration or inspection as contemplated by Subsection 054.02 of these rules.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Insurance Certificate Required.** No work under this lease will commence prior to the



Department's receipt of a certificate, signed by a licensed insurance agent, evidencing existence of insurance as required above. Further, such certificate must reflect that no change or cancellation in such coverage will become effective until after the Department receives written notice of such change or cancellation. (7-1-21)T

**102. -- 104. (RESERVED)**

**105. TITLE.**

The state of Idaho does not warrant title to the leased lands or the geothermal resources and associated by-products that may be discovered thereon; the lease is issued only under such title as the state of Idaho may have as of the effective date of the lease or thereafter acquire. If the interest owned by the state in the leased lands includes less than the entire interest in the geothermal resources and associated by-products for which royalty is payable, then the royalties provided for in the lease will be paid to the state only in the proportion that its interest bears to said whole and undivided interest in said geothermal resources and associated by-products for which royalty is payable; provided, however, that the state is not liable for any damages sustained by the Lessee, nor is the Lessee entitled to or may claim any refund of rentals or royalties therefore paid to the state in the event that the state does not own title to said geothermal resources and associated by-products, or if its title thereto is less than whole and entire. (7-1-21)T

**106. -- 110. (RESERVED)**

**111. TAXES.**

Lessee must pay, when due, all taxes and assessments of any kind lawfully assessed and levied against Lessee's interests or operations under the laws of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**112. RENTAL NOTICES.**

Advance notice of rental due is usually sent to the Lessee by the Department, but failure to receive such notices does not act to relieve the Lessee from the payment of the rental and the lease will be in default if such payment is not made as provided in these rules. (7-1-21)T

**113. OUTSTANDING LEASES.**

No right to seek, obtain or use geothermal resources has passed or will pass with any existing or future license, permit or lease of state lands, including without limitation, mineral leases and oil and gas development leases, except upon the issuance of a geothermal resources lease. (7-1-21)T

**114. -- 119. (RESERVED)**

**120. FEES.**

The following fees apply: (7-1-21)T

**01. Non-Refundable Application Fee for Lease.** Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per application. (7-1-21)T

**02. Application Fee for Approval of Assignment.** One hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per lease involved in the assignment. (7-1-21)T

**03. Late Payment Fee.** The greater of the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Twenty-five dollars (\$25); or (7-1-21)T

**b.** One percent (1%) per month (or portion thereof) on the unpaid balance. (7-1-21)T

**121. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

## 20.03.16 – RULES GOVERNING OIL AND GAS LEASING ON IDAHO STATE LANDS

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This Chapter is adopted under the legal authorities of Sections 58-104(1), 58-104(6), 58-104(9), 58-105, and 58-127, Idaho Code; Section 58-307, Idaho Code; Title 47, Chapter 7, Idaho Code; Title 47, Chapter 8, Idaho Code; and Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.16, “Rules Governing Oil and Gas Leasing on Idaho State Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules apply to the exploration and extraction of oil and gas resources situated in state-owned mineral lands. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Laws.** In addition to these rules, the lessee must comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations. The violation of any applicable law, rule or regulation constitutes a breach of any lease issued in accordance with these rules. (7-1-21)T

### 002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

**01. Appeal to Board.** All decisions of the Director are appealable to the Board. An aggrieved party desiring to take such an appeal must, within thirty (30) days after notice of the Director’s decision, file with the Director a written notice of appeal setting forth the basis for the appeal. (7-1-21)T

**02. Hearing.** The Board will hear the appeal at the earliest practical time or in its discretion appoint a hearing officer to hear the appeal, within sixty (60) days after filing of the notice of appeal. The hearing officer will make findings and conclusions that the Board may accept, reject or modify. The decision of the Board after hearing or upon a ruling concerning the hearing officer’s findings and conclusions is final. (7-1-21)T

**03. Judicial Review.** Judicial review of the final decision of the Board will be in accord with the Administrative Procedure Act, Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, by filing a petition in the district court in Ada County, or the county where the Board heard the appeal and made its final decision, within thirty (30) days after notice of the Board’s decision. Service of the Board’s decision may be by personal service or by certified mail to the lessee. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

**01. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its authorized representative, or where appropriate, the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**02. Commission.** The Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. (7-1-21)T

**03. Collateral Surety Bond and Corporate Surety Bond.** See Subsections 080.04.a. and 080.04.b. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**05. Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**06. Discretion.** Exercising authority to make a decision, choice or judgment without being arbitrary, capricious or illegal. (7-1-21)T

**07. Exploration.** Activities related to the various geological and geophysical methods used to detect and determine the existence and extent of hydrocarbon deposits. (7-1-21)T

**08. Final Board Approval.** Approval of a lease occurs after the lease is signed by the Governor, the Secretary of State and the Director on behalf of the Board after approval of the lease by a majority of the Board. All approved leases must first be signed by the Lessee and then by the above-entitled state officials. (7-1-21)T

- 09. Lease.** A written agreement between the Department and a person containing the terms and conditions upon which the Person will be authorized to use state lands. (7-1-21)T
- 10. Legal Subdivision.** See Subsection 071.04. (7-1-21)T
- 11. Lessee.** The person to whom a lease has been issued and his successor in interest or assignee(s). More than one (1) person may be entered as an applicant on the application form but only one (1) person shall be designated in the application for lease or assignment as the lessee of record with sole responsibility for the lease under these rules. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Lessor.** The Board on behalf of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Motorized Exploration Equipment.** The equipment used in exploration that may appreciably disturb or damage the land or resources thereon as defined in Section 47-703(a), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
- 14. Natural Gas Plant Liquids.** Hydrocarbon compounds in raw gas that are separated as liquids at gas processing plants, fractionating plants, and cycling plants. Includes ethane, liquefied petroleum gases (propane and the butanes), and pentanes plus any heavier hydrocarbon compounds. Component products may be fractionated or mixed. (7-1-21)T
- 15. Oil and Gas.** Oil and gas means oil or gas, or both. (7-1-21)T
- 16. Person.** (7-1-21)T
- a.** An individual of legal age; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Any firm, association or corporation that is qualified to do business in the state of Idaho; (7-1-21)T
- c.** Or any public agency or governmental unit, including without limitation, municipalities. (7-1-21)T
- 17. Production in Paying Quantities.** That gross income from oil and/or gas produced and saved (after deduction of taxes and royalty) that exceeds the cost of operation. (7-1-21)T
- 18. State Lands.** Lands, including the beds of navigable waters within Idaho in which the title to mineral rights is owned by the state of Idaho, that are under the jurisdiction and control of the Board or any other state agency. (7-1-21)T
- 19. Tract.** An expanse of land representing the surface expression of the underlying mineral estate, which includes oil and gas rights owned by the State, that: (7-1-21)T
- a.** May be identified by its public land survey system of rectangular surveys that subdivides and describes land in the United States in the public domain and is regulated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Is of no particular size; (7-1-21)T
- c.** Is a maximum size of six hundred forty (640) acres or one section, unless otherwise determined by the Director; (7-1-21)T
- d.** May be irregular in form; (7-1-21)T
- e.** Is contiguous; (7-1-21)T
- f.** May lie in more than one township or one section; (7-1-21)T
- g.** May have a boundary defined entirely or in part by natural monuments such as streams, divides, or straight lines connecting prominent features of topography; (7-1-21)T

- h.** May include the mineral estate beneath navigable waters of the State; and (7-1-21)T
- i.** May be combined with other tracts to form a lease. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 014. (RESERVED)**

**015. CONTROL OF STATE LANDS.**

The Director will regulate and supervise pursuant to law and these rules all state lands within the custody and control of the Board. State lands subject to the custody and control of other state agencies will be regulated and supervised by the respective agency in accord with state laws and rules; provided that any lease for oil and gas thereon complies with these rules. (7-1-21)T

**016. WITHDRAWAL OF LANDS.**

At any time prior to final Board approval of a lease, the Board reserves the right to withdraw state lands entirely from oil and gas leasing if consistent with its constitutional and statutory duties and in the state's best interests. (7-1-21)T

**017. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS AND LESSEES.**

Any person who is not then in default of any contract with the state of Idaho or any department or agency thereof is a qualified applicant and lessee. No member of the Board or employee of the Department may take or hold such lease. (7-1-21)T

**021. EXPLORATION.**

**01. Written Permit Required.** Any appreciable surface disturbing activity, including, but not limited to, motorized exploration on state lands is prohibited except by written permit for exploration for a period of time as determined by the Director. This permit is in addition to any permit required by the Commission. (7-1-21)T

**02. Permit Conditions.** The permit will contain such conditions as the Director determines will protect the existing surface uses and resources of the state. The permit applicant must pay in advance the fee required by Section 120. (7-1-21)T

**022. LEASE ACQUISITION PROCESS.**

**01. Acquiring a Lease.** A lease may be acquired for the exclusive right and privilege to explore for and produce oil and gas by oral auction, online auction, or such other method of competitive bidding authorized by the Board, in its discretion, determined to be in the best interest of the state, and will be awarded to the winning bidder at close of auction. The winning bidder at auction will be issued the lease by the Department on the first day of the month following Final Board Approval. The Board and Department reserve the right to reject any or all nominations or bids, and expressly disclaim any liability for inconvenience or loss caused by errors that may occur concerning lease offerings. (7-1-21)T

**02. Lease Provisions. (7-1-21)T**

**a. Advance Annual Rental.** The Lessee must pay to the state of Idaho an advance annual rental for each lease of three dollars (\$3) per acre with a minimum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per lease. (7-1-21)T

**b. Diligent Drilling.** Diligent and continuous drilling operations means no delay or cessation of drilling for a period greater than one hundred twenty (120) days, unless extended in writing by the Director. The Director must receive a written request for an extension at least ten (10) days prior to the expiration of the one hundred twenty (120) day period. (7-1-21)T

**c. Notification at End of Lease Period.** The Lessee must notify the Director in writing prior to the expiration of the final year of his lease that drilling or reworking operations has commenced and will extend beyond the expiration date of the lease. Advance Annual Rental, in the amount required by Section 022 for any additional and

each succeeding year, must be received by the Department prior to the expiration date and entitles the Lessee to hold the lease only as long as drilling or rework operations are pursued in accord with these rules. There will be no refund of unused rental. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Abandonment. During any additional or succeeding year of any lease, cessation of production for a period of six (6) months is considered as abandonment. The lease will then automatically terminate at its next anniversary date unless the Director determines that such cessation of production is justified or the well meets the requirements of a shut in well under Subsection 022.02.e. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Suspension of Production. The Director may grant a suspension of production not to exceed one (1) year upon a written application showing that the lessee is unable to market oil or gas from a well located on the leased premises capable of oil and gas production in paying quantities due to a lack of suitable production facilities or a suitable market for the oil or gas and such conditions are outside the reasonable control of lessee and the lease is not being otherwise maintained in force and effect. If such well is shut in and the Director approves the application for suspension of production requirements prior to the expiration or termination of the lease, then the lease will be extended in accordance with the terms of Section 47-801, Idaho Code, for a period of one (1) year if the lessee timely submits an application in a form approved by the Director and, upon approval of said application, pays a shut-in royalty in the amount equal to double the annual rental provided for by these rules for each well capable of producing oil or gas in paying quantities. The lessee must remit the shut-in royalty payment while the lease is otherwise maintained in force and effect. Payment of shut-in royalty after the expiration or other termination of the lease will not revive or extend the lease. The Lessee may request continuation of this suspension of production, provided such request is received in writing by the Director at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the period of suspension. (7-1-21)T

**03. Nominating a Tract for Auction.** A tract may be nominated for auction either by application to the Department at least ninety (90) days prior to a Department-defined close of auction date, or by Department nomination at least ninety (90) days prior to a Department- defined close of auction date. Any qualified person may nominate a tract for lease auction by submitting a nomination to the Department, and paying the nomination fee in an amount determined by the Board, during regular business hours on the Department nomination form. Each nominated tract must be a maximum size of six hundred forty (640) acres or one section. The nominating person may propose that multiple tracts be included in a single lease. Each nomination for a tract for auction is deemed an offer by the nominating person to lease the tract for the advance annual rental amount as defined in Subsection 022.02 above. (7-1-21)T

**04. Withdrawing a Tract for Auction.** Any person nominating a tract for auction may withdraw their nomination if a request for such withdrawal is received by the Department at least ten (10) business days prior to the opening date of auction. The nomination fee will not be refunded. (7-1-21)T

**05. Auction Conditions.** The Department will determine the conditions associated with the auction including, but not limited to, the following: when or if a tract will be offered for auction; whether the tract is to be removed from the auction; whether multiple tracts will be combined in a single lease at the discretion of the Department; and any disclaimers, additional information, and any other such terms and conditions associated with the auction of the tracts. Any such terms and conditions, disclaimers, and additional information will be posted on the Department's website. (7-1-21)T

**06. Lease Information for Auction.** For each lease to be auctioned, the Department will provide on the website the following: a lease number designated by the Department; the legal description; the lease length; the number of acres; a minimum bid per acre; a lease template; any lease stipulations; any other lease information; a specific date designated for the beginning and ending dates that a bidder may conduct due diligence; a specific date designated for the opening of auction; and a close of auction date. A notice of lease auction will be published at least once per week for the four (4) consecutive weeks prior to the date of auction in a newspaper in general circulation in the county in which the nominated lease is located and in a newspaper in general circulation in Ada County. (7-1-21)T

**07. Auction Procedure.** The Department will determine the procedures associated with the auction, including, but not limited to place of auction, time of auction, and bidder registration procedure. Additional auction procedures are as follows. (7-1-21)T

- a.** Bid Increments. The minimum bid increment is one dollar (\$1). (7-1-21)T
- b.** Winning Bid. At close of auction, the winning bid for a Lessee is the number of dollars bid multiplied by the number of acres in the lease, with fractions of an acre rounded up to the next whole acre. If, at close of auction, a bid for a lease has not been submitted by a bidder, then the lease will be awarded to the nominating applicant. The entry of a bid constitutes an enforceable contractual obligation. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Amount Due. The amount due for a lease is the winning bid, plus the first year's annual rental amount as per Subsection 022.02, plus the nomination fee. If the winning bid was submitted by the nominator of the tract(s), then the nomination fee will already have been submitted to the Department and will not be included in the amount due. The nominator will be refunded the nomination fee if they are not the winning bidder. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Transfer of Funds. Unless otherwise required in the notice of auction, the winning bidder for each lease has five (5) full business days after close of auction to complete the transfer of funds to the Department. Failure of the winning bidder to transfer funds within the period specified constitutes a breach of contract, and the state may pursue any action or remedy at law or in equity against the winning bidder. (7-1-21)T
- 08. Execution of Lease.** The completed lease will be executed by the winning bidder within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing after close of auction, or if personally delivered to the applicant or his agent by the Department, within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt. An individual who executes a lease on behalf of another Person must submit a power of attorney outlining such delegated authority. (7-1-21)T

**023. -- 044. (RESERVED)**

**045. ROYALTIES.**

- 01. Royalty Payments.** Unless otherwise specified by the Board, the lessee will pay to the state of Idaho in money or in kind to the state at its option a royalty of no less than twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) of the oil and/or gas or natural gas plant liquids produced and saved. The lessee will make payments in cash unless written instructions for payment in kind are received from the state. Royalty is due on all production from the leased premises except that consumed for the direct operation of the producing wells and that lost through no fault of the lessee. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Royalty Not Reduced.** Where royalties are paid in cash, costs of marketing, transporting and processing oil and/or gas or natural gas plant liquids or all of them produced are borne entirely by the lessee, and such cost will not reduce the lessor's royalty directly or indirectly. If the Director elects to take royalty in kind, the state will reimburse the lessee for reasonable additional storage and transportation costs. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Oil, Gas, and Natural Gas Plant Liquids Royalty Calculation and Reporting.** All royalty owed to the lessor hereunder and not paid in kind at the election of the lessor will be paid to the lessor in the following manner: (7-1-21)T
- a.** Payment of royalty on production of oil is due and must be received by the lessor on or before the 65th day after the month of production; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Payment of royalty on production of gas and natural gas plant liquids is due and must be received by the lessor on or before the 95th day after the month of production; (7-1-21)T
- c.** All royalty payments must be completed in the form and manner approved by the Department including, but not limited to, the gross amount and disposition of all oil, gas, and natural gas plant liquids produced and the market value of the oil, gas, and natural gas plant liquids; (7-1-21)T
- d.** Lessee must maintain, and make available to the lessor upon request, copies of all documents, records or reports confirming the gross production, disposition and market value, including gas meter readings, pipeline receipts, gas line receipts and other checks or memoranda of the amount produced and put into pipelines, tanks, or pools and gas lines or gas storage, and any other reports or records that the lessor may require to verify the

gross production, disposition and market value; and (7-1-21)T

e. Each royalty payment must be accompanied by a check stub, schedule, summary or other remittance advice showing, by the assigned lessor lease number, the amount of royalty being paid on each lease. (7-1-21)T

**04. Overriding Royalty.** All assignments of overriding royalty without a working interest made directly by the lessee and not included with an assignment of lease must be filed with the Department with the processing fee within ninety (90) days from the date of execution; provided that it is the lessee's responsibility, and not the Department's, to process such assignments by third parties. Any assignment that creates an overriding royalty exceeds the royalty previously payable to the state by greater than five percent (5%), is deemed a violation of the terms of the lease unless such an assignment expressly provides that the obligation to pay such excess overriding royalty is suspended when the average production of oil per well per day, averaged on a monthly basis, is fifteen (15) barrels or less. (7-1-21)T

**046. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. LAND USE, SURFACE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.**

**01. Use and Occupancy.** Notwithstanding other leases for other uses of state lands, the lessee is entitled to use and occupy as much of the surface of the leased lands as may be required for all purposes reasonably incident to exploration, drilling and production and marketing of oil and gas produced from the leased land, including the right to construct and maintain all works, buildings, plants, waterways, roads, communication lines, pipelines, reservoirs, tanks pumping stations or other structures necessary to full enjoyment and development; provided that lessee's operation does not unreasonably interfere with or endanger operations under any lease, license, claim, permit or other authorized, lawful use. (7-1-21)T

**02. Prevention of Injury or Damage.** The lessee, its assignees, agents, and/or contractors must take all reasonable precautions to prevent injury or damage to persons, real and personal property and to prevent waste or damage to the oil, gas and other surface and subsurface natural resources and the surrounding environment including but not limited to, vegetation, livestock, fish and wildlife and their natural habitat, streams, rivers, lakes, timber, forest and agricultural resources. The Lessee, his assignees, agents and/or contractors will compensate the Board, his surface lessees, grantees or contract purchasers for any damage resulting by reason of their operations or any damage resulting from their failure to take all reasonable precautions to prevent injury or damage to persons, real and personal property and to prevent waste or damage to the oil, gas and other surface and subsurface natural resources and surrounding environment as set forth above. The lessee, its assignees, agents and/or contractors must comply with all environmental laws, rules and regulations as they pertain to its operation. (7-1-21)T

**03. Blowout or Spill.** The lessee must report to the Director any blowout, fire, uncontrolled venting, or oil spill on the leased land within twenty-four (24) hours and confirm this report in writing within ten (10) days. (7-1-21)T

**04. Fences.** The lessee may not at any time fence any watering place upon leased lands where it is the only accessible and feasible watering place upon the lands within a radius of one (1) mile, without first having secured the written consent of the Director. (7-1-21)T

**05. Timber Removal.** The lessee may not unreasonably interfere with the removal of timber purchased prior or subsequent to the issuance of an oil and gas lease. The lessee may remove any timber required for ingress or egress or necessary for operations. The lessee must pay for any timber cut or removed on a current stumpage price basis as determined by the Director, and proceeds therefrom accrue to the state agency that has custody and control over the leased lands. (7-1-21)T

**06. Potable Water Discovery.** If the lessee finds only potable water in any well drilled for exploration or production of oil and gas, and the water is of such quality and quantity as to be valuable and usable for agricultural, domestic, or other purposes, the Board may acquire the well with whatever casing is installed in the well at the fair market value of the casing upon the assumption by its surface lessee, grantee, or contract purchaser of all future liabilities and responsibilities for the well, with the approval of the commission and in compliance with Section 058;

provided that the surface lessee, grantee, or contract purchaser also complies with applicable laws and rules of the Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**07. Reclamation.** The lessee must reclaim all state lands disturbed by its exploration and operations at least consistent with previous use by the surface owner, including segregating and protecting topsoil and regrading to approximate previous contour. If substantial removal of topsoil has occurred as determined by the Director, the lessee will replace the topsoil and revegetate to the extent necessary to minimize erosion. (7-1-21)T

**08. Entry by Director.** The Director is permitted at all reasonable times to go in and upon the leased lands and premises to inspect the operations and the products obtained and to post any lawful notice. The Director may at any time require that reasonable tests, surveys, samples, etc., be taken in accord with his instruction, without cost to the state of Idaho, to assure compliance with these rules. The Director may at any reasonable time inspect and copy at his own expense all of lessee's books and records pertaining to a lease under these rules. Upon failure of lessee to take timely, corrective measures ordered by the Director or the Board or the commission, the Director may shut down lessee's operations if he determines they are unsafe or are causing or may cause waste or pollution to oil, gas or other resources; or the Director may terminate the lease and cause damage or unsafe conditions to be repaired or corrected at the expense of the lessee and forfeiture of bond in accordance with these rules. (7-1-21)T

**09. Other Uses.** Subject to Subsection 050.01, the Director may issue leases for other uses of state lands leased under these rules. All lessees have the right of reasonable ingress and egress at all times during the term of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**10. Disposal of Leased Lands.** The Board reserves the right to sell or otherwise dispose of the surface of the leased lands; provided that any sale of surface rights made subsequent to execution of the lease is subject to all terms and provisions of the oil and gas lease during its life including extensions and continuations under Section 040. (7-1-21)T

**051. DILIGENT EXPLORATION REQUIRED.**

The lessee must perform diligent exploration during the entire term of a lease. Diligent exploration means that the lessee provides continuing efforts as a reasonably prudent operator toward achieving production, including, without limitation, performing geological and geophysical surveys and/or the drilling of a test well. (7-1-21)T

**052. -- 054. (RESERVED)**

**055. OPERATIONS UNDER THE LEASE.**

**01. Best Practices.** The lessee will at all times conduct exploration, development, drilling and all operations as a reasonably prudent operator and conform to the best practice and engineering principles in use in the oil and gas industry. (7-1-21)T

**02. Compliance with Rules.** The lessee will comply with all rules of the oil and gas commission, including amendments promulgated pursuant to Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, and any violations of the commission's rules or other applicable state laws and rules may constitute a violation of the lease under these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Designation of Operator.** In all cases where operations are not conducted by the lessee but are to be conducted under authority of an approved operating agreement, assignment or other arrangement, a designation of operator must be submitted to the Director prior to commencement of operations. Such a designation authorizes the operator or his local representative to act for the lessee and to sign any papers or reports required under these rules. The lessee must immediately report to the Director all changes of address and termination of the authority of the operator. (7-1-21)T

**04. Legal Representative.** When required by the Director, the lessee must designate a local representative empowered to receive service of civil or criminal process and notices and orders of the Director issued pursuant to these rules. (7-1-21)T

**05. Diligence.** The lessee will, subject to the right to surrender the lease, diligently drill and produce



such wells as are necessary to protect the Board from loss by reason of production on other properties, or with the consent of the Director, compensate the Board for failure to drill and produce any such well. All wells under lease must be drilled, maintained and operated to produce the maximum amount of oil and/or gas that can be secured without injury to the well. (7-1-21)T

**06. Loss Through Waste or Failure to Produce.** The Director will determine the value of production accruing to the Board where there is loss through waste or failure to drill and produce protection wells on the leased lands and the compensation due to the Board as reimbursement for such loss. Payment for such losses must be made within sixty (60) days after the date of billing. The value of production resulting from a loss through waste or failure to take corrective measures to protect a well is calculated at ninety percent (90%) of the last year's actual production royalty or a minimum royalty of five dollars (\$5) per acre or fraction thereof, whichever is greater. (7-1-21)T

**07. By-Products.** Where production, use or conversion of oil and gas under a lease, is susceptible of producing a valuable by-product or by-products, including, without limitation, commercially demineralized water, carbon dioxide or helium, the lessee must submit to the Director all available information concerning the potential by-product. The Department may conduct tests or studies at its expense and may issue reasonable orders to produce and preserve such by-product. (7-1-21)T

**08. Geothermal Information.** Prior to abandoning any well, the lessee must submit to the Director all available information concerning geothermal resource potential. The Department may conduct tests or studies at its expense prior to the abandoning of any well to determine geothermal resource potential. Except as provided in Subsection 040.05, the lessee must promptly plug and abandon any well on the leased land that is not used or useful, in accord with these rules and the rules of the commission, and any applicable rules and regulations of the Department of Water Resources. When drilling in a known geothermal resources area, the applicant may need a geothermal resource well permit from the Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T

**056. WATER RIGHTS.**

The lessee will comply with all state laws and rules regulating the appropriation of water rights. No water rights developed or obtained by the lessee in conjunction with operations under a lease may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred without written approval of the Director. Upon surrender, termination or expiration of the lease, the lessee must take all actions required by the Director to assign to the Board all water rights, including applications and permits, subject to applicable laws regarding the transfer or assignment of permits to appropriate water. (7-1-21)T

**057. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. ASSIGNMENTS.**

**01. Prior Written Approval.** No lease assignment is valid until approved in writing by the Director, and no assignment takes effect until the first day of the month following its approval. (7-1-21)T

**02. Qualified Assignee.** A lease may be assigned to any person qualified to hold a state lease, provided that in the event an assignment partitions leased lands between two (2) or more persons, neither the assigned nor the retained part created by the assignment may contain less than forty (40) acres or a government lot, whichever is less. (7-1-21)T

**03. Responsibilities.** In an assignment of the complete interest of the leasehold, the assignor and his surety continue to comply with the lease and these rules until the effective date of the assignment. After the effective date of any assignment, the assignee and his surety are bound by the lease and these rules to the same extent as if the assignee were the original lessee, notwithstanding any conditions in the assignment to the contrary; however, the assignor-lessee remains liable for rentals and royalties due and damages accruing prior to the effective date of the assignment. (7-1-21)T

**04. Segregation of Assignment.** If an assignment partitions leased lands between two (2) or more persons, it must clearly segregate the assigned and retained portions of the leasehold. Resulting segregated leases continue in full force and effect for the balance of the ten-year term of the original lease or as further extended pursuant to these rules. (7-1-21)T

**05. Joint Principal.** Where an assignment does not segregate the record title to the lease, the assignee, if the assignment so provides, may become a joint principal on the bond with the assignor. The application must be accompanied by a consent of assignor's surety to remain bound under the bond of record, if the bond by its terms does not contain such consent. If a party to the assignment has previously furnished a statewide bond, no additional showing by such party is necessary as to the bond requirement. (7-1-21)T

**06. Form of Assignment.** An assignment is a valid legal instrument, properly executed and acknowledged, setting forth the number of the lease, a legal description of the land involved, the name and address of the assignee, the interest transferred and the consideration. A fully executed copy of the instrument of assignment must be filed with the application for approval pursuant to Subsection 060.07. An assignment may affect or concern more than one (1) lease. (7-1-21)T

**07. Application.** The application for approval of an assignment must be submitted in duplicate on forms of the Department or exact copies of such forms. The "lessee/assignee of record" must be designated in accordance with Subsection 010.11. If payments out of production are reserved, a statement must be submitted stating the amount, method of payment, and other pertinent items. The statement must be filed with the Department no later than fifteen (15) days after the filing of the application for approval. (7-1-21)T

**08. Denial.** The Director may deny an application for assignment if the lessee or the assignee is delinquent in payment of rentals or royalties or otherwise has violated these rules. (7-1-21)T

**09. Fee.** All applications for approval of assignment must be accompanied by the fee required by Section 120. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. SURRENDER - RELINQUISHMENT.**

**01. Procedure.** The lessee may surrender its lease or any surveyed subdivision of the area covered by such lease, by filing a written relinquishment with the Department, provided that a partial relinquishment does not reduce the remaining acreage in the lease to less than forty (40) acres or a government lot, whichever is less. The Director may waive the minimum acreage provision of this rule if he finds it is justified on the basis of exploratory and development data derived from activity on the leasehold. (7-1-21)T

**02. Effective Date.** A relinquishment takes effect thirty (30) days after it is received by the Department. Thereafter the lessee is relieved of liability under these rules except for the continued obligation of the lessee and his surety to:

- a.** Make payments of all accrued rentals and royalties; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Place all wells on the land to be relinquished in condition for suspension of operations or abandonment; (7-1-21)T
- c.** Comply with all rules of the commission for plugging of abandoned wells; (7-1-21)T
- d.** Comply with applicable laws and rules of the Department of Water Resources; and (7-1-21)T
- e.** Reclaim the surface and natural resources in accord with these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Partial Surrender.** In the event of a partial surrender of the land covered by such lease, the annual rental thereafter payable will be reduced proportionately. (7-1-21)T

**071. TERMINATION - CANCELLATION OF LEASE.**

**01. Cause.** Except as otherwise provided in these rules, the Director may terminate the lease for any substantial violation of these rules, the lease, or the rules of the commission, ninety (90) days after notice of the violation has been given to lessee by personal service or by certified mail to the lessee, unless: (7-1-21)T

a. The violation has been corrected; or (7-1-21)T

b. The violation is one that cannot be corrected within the notice period and the lessee has in good faith commenced within the notice period to correct the violation and proceeds diligently to complete corrective action within a time period set by the Director. If sent by certified mail, such notice will be deemed served upon mailing. (7-1-21)T

**02. Surrender After Termination.** Upon the expiration or termination of the lease, the lessee will quietly and peaceably surrender possession of the premises to the state. Thereafter, lessee's obligations under these rules that have accrued prior to the date of expiration or termination continue in full force and effect. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Wells.** Default by the lessee in the performance of any of the conditions or provisions of the lease concerning a well or wells on any legal subdivision of the leasehold do not affect the right of the lessee to continue the possession or operation of any other well or wells, situated upon any other legal subdivision of the leasehold. The term "legal subdivision" as herein used means a subdivision as established by the United States land survey that most nearly approximates in size the area allocated to one well under any approved well spacing program; provided that if no special program has been approved, "legal subdivision" means the parcel upon which such well is located, but in any event not less than forty (40) acres surrounding such well. Where such a default involving one (1) or more wells results in cancellation, and the lessee has other wells on the lease not in default, such cancellation will result in the division of the defaulting acreage from the lease and resultant reduction in the size of the lease held by the lessee. (7-1-21)T

**04. Equipment Removal.** Upon the expiration of the lease, or its earlier termination or surrender pursuant to these rules, the lessee must, within a period of ninety (90) days, remove from the premises all materials, tools, appliances, machinery, structures. Equipment subject to removal but not removed within the ninety (90) day period or any extension that may be granted because of adverse climatic conditions during that period, may, at the option of the Director, become property of the state of Idaho, or the Director may cause the property to be removed at the lessee's expense. (7-1-21)T

**072. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. BOND REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Minimum Bond.** Prior to entry with motorized exploration equipment upon leased lands, the surface of which has been sold or leased, the lessee must submit to the Director a corporate surety bond or collateral bond in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in favor of the state of Idaho conditioned upon the payment of all damages to the surface that result from the lessee's operation. Prior to entry upon the leased land with drilling equipment or prior to commencing any construction in preparation for drilling upon leased lands, the lessee must submit to the Director a corporate security bond or collateral bond in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) in favor of the state of Idaho bond will be conditioned upon compliance with the lease, these rules, the removal of all materials, etc. per Subsection 071.04, and the payment of all damages to the land surface and all improvements thereon, including crops, which result from the lessee's operation, regardless of whether the lands under this lease have been sold or leased by the Board for any other purpose. This bond is in addition to the drilling bond pursuant to commission rules. This rule notwithstanding, the oil and gas lessee may be required on a case-by-case basis to post a bond in excess of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to protect a surface lessee's or surface owner's interests pursuant to Section 47-708, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Statewide Bond.** In lieu of the aforementioned bonds, the lessee may furnish a good and sufficient "statewide" bond conditioned as above in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in favor of the state of Idaho to cover all lessee's leases and operations carried on under these rules. (7-1-21)T

**03. Period of Liability.** The period of liability of any bond is not be terminated until all obligations under the lease and these rules have been fulfilled and the bond is released in writing by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**04. Form of Performance Bond.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Corporate surety bond means an indemnity agreement executed by or for the lessee and a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Idaho on an oil and gas lease bond form supplied by the Department conditioned in accord with Subsection 080.01, and payable to the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Collateral bond means an indemnity agreement executed by or for the lessee and payable to the state of Idaho, pledging cash deposits, negotiable bonds of the United States, state or municipalities, or negotiable certificates of deposit of any bank doing business in the United States. Collateral bonds are subject to the following conditions: The Department obtains possession and deposits such with the state treasurer. The Department will value collateral at its current market value, not face value. Certificates of deposit are made payable to the "State of Idaho or the lessee." Amount of an individual certificate may not exceed the maximum amount insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or their successors. Banks issuing such certificates waive all rights of set-off or liens that they have of may have against such certificates. Any such certificates are automatically renewable. The certificate of deposit must be of sufficient amount to ensure that the Department would be able to liquidate such certificates prior to maturity, upon forfeiture, for the amount of the required bond including any penalty for early withdrawal. (7-1-21)T

**05. Bond Cancellation.** Any surety company or indemnitor canceling a bond must give the Department at least sixty-days' (60) notice prior to cancellation. The Department will not release a surety or indemnitor from liability under existing bonds until the lessee has submitted to the Department an acceptable replacement bond. Such replacement bond must cover any liability accrued against the bonded principal on the lease covered by the previous bond. (7-1-21)T

**06. Surety License.** If the license to do business in Idaho of any surety is suspended or revoked, the lessee must find a substitute for such surety within thirty (30) days after notice by the Department. If the lessee fails to secure a substitute surety, he must cease operation upon the lease. The substitute surety must be licensed to do business in Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**07. Form.** All bonds furnished must be on the Department bond form or exact copy of it. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 089. (RESERVED)**

**090. UNIT OR COOPERATIVE PLANS OF DEVELOPMENT OR OPERATION.**

**01. Unit Plan.** For the purpose of properly conserving the natural resources of any oil and gas pool, field or like area, the lessee may, with the written consent of the Director, commit the leased lands to a unit, cooperative or other plan of development or operation with other state, federal, Indian, or privately-owned lands. (7-1-21)T

**02. Contents.** An agreement to unitize must: describe the separate tracts comprising the unit; disclose the apportionment of the production of royalties and costs to the several parties; the name of the operation; and contain adequate provisions for the protection of the interests of all parties, including the state. The agreement must: be signed by or in behalf of those persons or entities having effective control of the geologic structure; submitted to the Director with the application to unitize; and effective only after approval by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**03. Interested Parties.** The owners of any right, title or interest in the oil and gas resources to be developed or operated under an agreement may be regarded as interested parties to a proposed unitization agreement. Signature of a party with only an overriding royalty interest in unnecessary. (7-1-21)T

**04. Collective Bond.** In lieu of separate bonds for each lease committed to a unit agreement, the unit operator may furnish and maintain a collective corporate surety bond or a collateral bond conditioned upon faithful performance of the duties and obligations of the agreement, the lease subject to the agreement and these rules. The liability under the bond will be for such amount the Director determines to be adequate to protect the interests of the state. If the unit operator is changed, a new bond or consent of surety to the change in principal under the existing bond must be filed within thirty (30) days of assignment. (7-1-21)T

**05. Lease Modification.** The terms of any lease included in any cooperative or unit plan of development or operation may be modified by the Director with approval of the lessee, except that a unit agreement

must have final approval by the Director for a state cooperative plan or the final approval by the secretary of interior for a federal cooperative plan prior to extending any lease into its eleventh year and each year thereafter. A lease so extended expires two (2) years after the unit plan expires provided the lessee continues to pay the annual rental as outlined in Subsection 041.03. (7-1-21)T

**06. Rentals.** Rentals and royalties on leases so extended are at the rates specified in these rules. Advanced rental must be paid on or before the extended lease's anniversary date. Any unused portion of annual rental will not be refunded. (7-1-21)T

**07. Evidence of Agreement.** Before issuance of a lease for lands within an approved unit agreement, the lease applicant must file with the Department evidence that he has entered into an agreement with the unit operator for the development and operation of the lands in a lease, or a statement giving satisfactory reasons for the failure to enter into such agreement. If such statement is acceptable, the applicant will be permitted to operate independently but be required to perform its operations in a manner that the Director deems to be consistent with the unit operations. (7-1-21)T

**08. Segregation Prohibited.** A lease may not be segregated if any part thereof is included in a cooperative plan until the pool or field has been defined. Once defined, those areas outside the unit area or pool boundary can be surrendered as provided in Section 070. (7-1-21)T

**091. -- 094. (RESERVED)**

**095. LIABILITY INSURANCE; SPECIAL ENDORSEMENTS.**

**01. Liability Insurance Required.** Prior to entry upon the leased lands for any reason other than casual exploration or inspection pursuant to Section 021, the lessee must secure and maintain during the term of this lease, public liability, property damage, and products liability insurance in the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for injury or death for each occurrence; in the aggregate sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for injury or death; and in the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for damages to property and products damages caused by any occupancy, use, operations of any other activity on leased lands carried on by the lessee, its assigns, agents, operators or contractors. The lessee must insure against explosion, blow out, collapse, fire, oil spill and underground hazards and submit evidence of such insurance to the Director. If the land surface and improvements thereon covered by the lease have been sold or leased by the state of Idaho, the owner or lessee of the surface rights and improvements will be an additional named insured. The state of Idaho is a named insured in all instances. This policy or policies of liability insurance must contain the following special endorsement:

“The state of Idaho, the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners, the Director of the Department of Lands, the Department of Lands, (or other state agency exercising custody and control over the lands), and (herein insert name of owner or lessee of surface rights, if applicable) and the officers, employees and agents of each and every of the foregoing are additional insureds under the terms of this policy: Provided, however, these additional insureds shall not be insured hereunder for any primary negligence or misconduct on their part, but such additional insureds shall be insured hereunder for secondary negligence or misconduct, which shall be limited to failure to discover and cause to be corrected the negligence or misconduct of the lessee, its agents, operators or contractors. This insurance policy shall not be canceled without thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Idaho Department of Lands. None of the foregoing additional insureds is liable for the payment of premiums or assessments of this policy.”

No cancellation provision in any insurance policy is in derogation of the continuous duty of the lessee to furnish insurance during the term of this lease. Such policy or policies must be underwritten to the satisfaction of the Director. A signed complete certificate of insurance, with the endorsement required by this paragraph, must be submitted to the Director prior to entry upon the leased land with motorized exploration equipment after award of a lease and may be required prior to such entry under Rule 021. (7-1-21)T

**02. Certificate of Insurance.** At least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of any such policy, a signed complete certificate of insurance, with the endorsement required by Subsection 095.01, showing that such insurance coverage has been renewed or extended, must be filed with the Director. (7-1-21)T

**096. HOLD HARMLESS.**

The state of Idaho, the Board, the Director, the Department, and any other state agency that may have custody or control of the leased lands, and the owner of the surface rights and improvements, if not the state of Idaho, or state lessee of surface rights, if there be one, the officers, agents and employees of each of the foregoing, are free from any and all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of death or injury to any person or damage of property of any kind whatsoever, caused by a negligent or otherwise wrongful act or omission of the lessee, its assigns, agents, operators, employees or contractors; and lessee covenants and agrees to indemnify and to save harmless the state of Idaho, the Board, the Director, the Department, or other state agency, or the lessee of surface rights if there be one, and their officers, agents, and employees from all liabilities, charges, expense, including attorney fees, claims, suits or losses caused by a negligent or otherwise wrongful act or omission of the lessee, its assigns, agents, operators, employees or contractors. The lessee's signature to a lease under these rules constitutes express agreement to this rule. (7-1-21)T

**097. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. TITLE.**

The state of Idaho does not warrant title to the leased lands or the oil and gas resources that may be discovered thereon; the lease is issued only under such title as the state of Idaho may have as of the effective date of the lease or thereafter acquires. (7-1-21)T

**101. IMPOSSIBILITY OF PERFORMANCE.**

Whenever, as a result of any act of God, or law, order or regulation of any governmental agency, it becomes impossible for the lessee to perform or to comply with any obligation under the lease or these rules, other than payment of rentals or royalties, the Director in his discretion, may by written order excuse lessee from damages or forfeiture of the lease, and the lessee's obligations may be suspended and the term of the lease may be extended provided that the Director finds that good cause exists. (7-1-21)T

**102. TAXES.**

The lessee pays, when due, all taxes and assessments of any kind lawfully assessed and levied against the lessee's interest or operations under the laws of the state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**103. -- 119. (RESERVED)**

**120. FEES.**

**01. Exploration Permit.** One hundred dollars (\$100) per linear mile or a minimum of one hundred dollars (\$100) per section. (7-1-21)T

**02. Nonrefundable Nomination Fee.** The nomination fee is set by the Board at a minimum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per tract. (7-1-21)T

**03. Processing Fee.** The processing fee is set by the Board at a minimum of one hundred dollars (\$100) per each document. (7-1-21)T

**04. Fee Adjustment.** The Board may annually adjust these fees without formal rulemaking procedures. (7-1-21)T

**121. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.03.17 – RULES GOVERNING LEASES ON STATE-OWNED SUBMERGED  
LANDS AND FORMERLY SUBMERGED LANDS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

This Chapter is adopted under the legal authorities of Title 58, Chapter 1, Idaho Code, Sections 58-104(6), 58-104(9), and 58-105; Title 58, Chapter 3, Idaho Code, Sections 58-304 through 58-312; Title 58, Chapter 6, Idaho Code; Title 58, Chapter 12; and Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.03.17, “Rules Governing Leases on State-Owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules govern the issuance of leases on state-owned submerged lands. (7-1-21)T

**a.** These rules also apply to state-owned islands raised from submerged lands, or filled submerged lands, or other formerly submerged lands that are no longer covered by water at any time during an ordinary year. (7-1-21)T

**b.** While the State asserts the right to issue leases for all encroachments, navigational or non-navigational, upon, in or above the beds or waters of navigable lakes and rivers, nothing in these rules may be construed to vest in the state of Idaho any property, right or claim of such right to any private lands lying above the natural or ordinary high water mark of any navigable lake or river. (7-1-21)T

**002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

Any person aggrieved by any final decision or order of the Board is entitled to judicial review pursuant to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.01.01, “Rules of Practice and Procedure Before the State Board of Land Commissioners.” (7-1-21)T

**003. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Artificial High Water Mark.** The high water elevation above the natural or ordinary high water mark resulting from construction of man-made dams or control works and impressing a new and higher vegetation line. (7-1-21)T

**02. Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its designee. (7-1-21)T

**03. Commercial Marina.** A commercial navigational encroachment whose primary purpose is to provide moorage for rental or for free to the general public. (7-1-21)T

**04. Commercial Navigational Encroachment.** A navigational encroachment used for commercial purposes. (7-1-21)T

**05. Community Dock.** A structure that provides private moorage for more than two (2) adjacent littoral owners, or other littoral owners possessing a littoral common area with littoral rights including, but not limited to, homeowners’ associations. No public access is required for a community dock. (7-1-21)T

**06. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands or its designee. (7-1-21)T

**07. Director.** The director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his designee. (7-1-21)T

**08. Dock Surface Area.** Includes docks, slips, piers, and ramps and is calculated in square feet. Dock surface area does not include pilings, submerged anchors, or undecked breakwaters. (7-1-21)T

**09. Encroachments in Aid of Navigation.** Includes docks, piers, jet ski and boat lifts, buoys, pilings, breakwaters, boat ramps, channels or basins, and other facilities used to support water craft and moorage on, in, or above the beds or waters of a navigable lake, river or stream. The term “encroachments in aid of navigation” may be used interchangeably herein with the term “navigational encroachments.” (7-1-21)T

**10. Encroachments Not in Aid of Navigation.** Includes all other encroachments on, in, or above the beds or waters of a navigable lake, river or stream, including landfills, bridges, utility and power lines, or other

structures not constructed primarily for use in aid of navigation. It also includes float homes and floating toys. The term “encroachments not in aid of navigation” may be used interchangeably herein with the term “non-navigational encroachments.” (7-1-21)T

**11. Formerly Submerged Lands.** The beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams that have either been filled or subsequently became uplands because of human activities including construction of dikes, berms, and seawalls. Also included are islands that have been created on submerged lands through natural processes or human activities since statehood, July 3, 1890. (7-1-21)T

**12. Market Value.** The most probable price at a specified date, in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which the property should bring in a competitive and open market under all conditions requisite to a fair sale, the buyer and seller each acting prudently and knowledgeably, and assuming the price is not affected by undue stimulus. (7-1-21)T

**13. Natural or Ordinary High Water Mark.** The line that the water impresses upon the soil by covering it for a sufficient period of time to deprive the soil of its vegetation and destroy its value for agricultural purposes. If, however, the soil, configuration of the surface, or vegetation has been altered by man’s activity, the ordinary high water mark is located where it would have been if the alteration had not occurred. (7-1-21)T

**14. Person.** A partnership, association, corporation, natural person, or entity qualified to do business in the state of Idaho and any federal, state, tribal, or municipal unit of government. (7-1-21)T

**15. Riparian or Littoral Rights.** The rights of owners or lessees of land adjacent to navigable lakes, rivers or streams to maintain their adjacency to the lake, river, or stream and to make use of their rights as riparian or littoral owners or lessees in building or using aids to navigation but does not include any right to make any consumptive use of the waters. (7-1-21)T

**16. Single-Family Dock.** A structure providing noncommercial moorage that serves one (1) waterfront owner whose waterfront footage is no less than twenty-five (25) feet. (7-1-21)T

**17. Submerged Lands.** The state-owned beds of navigable lakes, rivers, and streams below the natural or ordinary high water marks. (7-1-21)T

**18. Two-Family Dock.** A structure providing noncommercial moorage that serves two (2) adjacent waterfront owners having a combined waterfront footage of no less than fifty (50) feet. Usually the structure is located on the common littoral property line. (7-1-21)T

**19. Upland.** The land bordering on navigable lakes, rivers, and streams. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. APPLICABILITY.**

Leases are required for all encroachments on, in, or over state-owned submerged land except: (7-1-21)T

**01. Single -Family or Two-Family Docks.** Single-family or two-family docks that were constructed on or before July 1, 1993, that occupy less than eleven hundred (1,100) square feet of dock surface area lakeward of the ordinary high water mark, and for which all required permits and approvals have been obtained. (7-1-21)T

**02. Single-Family Docks.** Single-family docks that were constructed after July 1, 1993, that occupy less than seven hundred (700) square feet of dock surface area lakeward of the ordinary high water mark, and for which all required permits and approvals have been obtained. (7-1-21)T

**03. Two-Family Docks.** Two-family docks that were constructed after July 1, 1993, that occupy less than eleven hundred (1,100) square feet of dock surface area lakeward of the ordinary high water mark, and for which all required permits and approvals have been obtained. (7-1-21)T

**04. Encroachments Free to the Public.** Encroachments in aid of navigation for which the complete



use is offered free to the public.

(7-1-21)T

**05. Temporary Permits or Easements.** Uses or encroachments that are customarily authorized by temporary permits or easements, such as roads, railroads, overhead utility lines, submerged cables, and pipelines. Information on easements can be found in IDAPA 20.03.09, “Easements on State-Owned Submerged Lands and Formerly Submerged Lands.”

(7-1-21)T

**021. -- 024. (RESERVED)**

**025. POLICY.**

**01. Policy of the State of Idaho.** It is the policy of the state of Idaho to regulate and control the use and disposition of lands in the beds of navigable lakes, rivers and streams to the natural or ordinary high water mark thereof, so as to provide for their commercial, navigational, recreational or other public use; provided that the Board will take no action in derogation of or seeking to interfere with the riparian or littoral rights of the owners of upland property abutting or adjoining such lands.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Director May Grant Leases.** The Director may grant leases for uses that are in the public interest and consistent with these rules.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Requests or Inquiries Regarding Navigability.** The State owns the beds of all lakes, rivers, and streams that were navigable in fact at statehood. The Department will respond to requests or inquiries as to which lakes, rivers, and streams are deemed navigable in fact. Additional information about streams deemed navigable by the State of Idaho is available from the Department.

(7-1-21)T

**04. Stream Channel Alteration Permit or Encroachment Permit.** Issuance of a lease is contingent upon the applicant obtaining a stream channel alteration permit if required by the Idaho Department of Water Resources, pursuant to Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, or an encroachment permit if required by the Department pursuant to the Lake Protection Act, Title 58, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, and compliance with local planning and zoning regulations if applicable.

(7-1-21)T

**05. Other Permits and Licenses.** Issuance of a lease does not relieve an applicant from acquiring other permits and licenses that are required by law.

(7-1-21)T

**06. Submerged Lands Lease Required Upon Notification.** All persons using submerged lands in a manner that requires a submerged land lease must obtain such a lease from the Director when notified to do so.

(7-1-21)T

**07. Term of Lease, Renewal of Lease.** Leases are issued for a term of ten (10) years or as determined by the Board. Leases may be renewed for additional periods to be determined by the Department based upon satisfactory performance during the present term. Renewals will be processed with a minimum of procedural requirements and will not be denied except in the most unusual circumstances or noncompliance with the terms and conditions of the previous lease. Lease renewals are initiated by the Department.

(7-1-21)T

**08. Director’s Authorization to Issue and Renew Leases.** The Director is authorized to issue and renew leases for the use of submerged lands in accordance with these rules.

(7-1-21)T

**09. Rights Granted.** The lease grants only such rights as are specified in the lease. The right to use the submerged or formerly submerged lands for all other purposes that do not interfere with the rights authorized in the lease remains with the state.

(7-1-21)T

**10. Rules Applicable to All Existing and Proposed Uses and Encroachments.** These rules apply to all existing and proposed uses and encroachments, whether or not authorized by permit under the Lake Protection Act, Title 58, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, or the Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code. These rules provide that a lease may be required in addition to existing permits. See Section 020 of these rules for information about exceptions to lease requirements.

(7-1-21)T

**11. Waiver of Lease Requirements.** The Director may, in his discretion, waive lease requirements for single-family or two-family dock encroachments whose dock surface areas exceed square footages described in Subsections 020.01 through 020.03 of these rules when the additional dock surface area square footage is necessary to gain or maintain access to water of sufficient depth to sustain dock use for water craft customarily in use on that particular lake. (7-1-21)T

**12. Private Moorage at Commercial Marinas.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** This Subsection (025.12) does not apply to community docks. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Private moorage at commercial marinas is allowed as long as the requirements of IDAPA 20.03.04, “Rules for the Regulation of Beds, Waters, and Airspace Over Navigable Lakes in the State of Idaho,” Subsection 015.03 are met. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The sale, lease, or rental of private moorage is in no way an encumbrance on any underlying public trust land. All transactions related to private moorage are subject to the limitations of the associated submerged lands lease. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Acquisition of private moorage must be documented with a disclosure that the transaction does not convey public trust lands and only conveys the right to use the designated portion of the marina. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The Department will make no policy regarding the cost of private moorage and the resolution of disputes between the involved parties. (7-1-21)T

**026. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. LEASE APPLICATION, FEE, AND PROCEDURE.**

**01. Fee.** The lease application fee is one hundred fifty dollars (\$150). (7-1-21)T

**02. Fee Is Required.** A lease application and nonrefundable fee is required for new and existing encroachments. A lease application fee is required for leases that are renewed upon expiration. (7-1-21)T

**03. Application to Lease and Fee.** The lease application and fee must be submitted with the information from Subsections 030.03.a. through 030.03.c., in sufficient detail for the Department to determine an appropriate lease rate based on numbers of slips, square footage, or other permit information: (7-1-21)T

**a.** A letter of request stating the purpose of the lease. (7-1-21)T

**b.** A scale drawing of the proposed lease area with plans detailing all intended improvements, including reference to the nearest known property corner(s). An encroachment permit may satisfy this requirement. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The permit number of each existing applicable encroachment permit. (7-1-21)T

**04. Submittal of Application to Lease and Fee.** The lease application and fee must be filed in the local office of the Department or the Director’s office. (7-1-21)T

**05. Notification of Approval or Denial.** The applicant will be notified in writing if the lease application is approved or denied. The applicant will also be notified of any additional requirements. (7-1-21)T

**06. Request for Reconsideration.** Any applicant aggrieved with the Director’s determination of rent or denial of a lease application may request reconsideration by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 034. (RESERVED)**

**035. RENTAL.**

The rental rate policy for submerged land leases is set by the Board. This policy is available on the Department website at <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/>. (7-1-21)T

**01. Standardized Rental Rates.** The Board sets standard submerged land lease rental rates for common uses such as commercial marinas, community docks, floathomes, restaurants, and retail stores. Rental rates for commercial marinas and other uses that produce revenue for the lessee will commonly be calculated as a percentage of gross receipts, however, other methods may be used as determined appropriate by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Nonstandard Rental Rates.** The Board directs the Department to use a percentage of market value or gross receipts, or other methods determined appropriate by the Board, as the submerged lands lease rental rate for uses that are uncommon, especially for non-navigational encroachments. (7-1-21)T

**036. YEARLY REPORTING.**

**01. Annual Report.** Lessees must provide an annual report to the Department that includes: (7-1-21)T

- a.** A schedule of moorage rental rates, including moorage sizes and types. (7-1-21)T
- b.** The number and size of all public boat and float home moorages. (7-1-21)T
- c.** The number and size of all private boat and float home moorages. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Current proof of insurance that is required by the lease. (7-1-21)T

**02. Failure to Report.** Failure to provide the annual report information is a violation of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**037. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. LATE PAYMENT, EXTENSIONS OF PAYMENT.**

**01. Penalty for Late Payment of Rent.** Rent not paid by the due date is considered late. A penalty, calculated from the day after which payment was due, will be added to the rent. The penalty will be determined by the Board for the first month or any portion thereof and one percent (1%) of the rent due, including penalty, per month thereafter. (7-1-21)T

**02. Extension in Time for Payment of Rent.** An extension in time in which to submit payment of rent may be granted for commercial submerged lands leases only. Such extensions may not exceed two (2) successive years, as required by Title 58, Chapter 3, Idaho Code, Section 58-305. (7-1-21)T

**03. Request for Extension in Time for Payment of Rent.** Lessees must request extensions on forms supplied by the lessor and pay an extension fee to be determined by the Board. The lessee must also provide a statement from his banker or accountant verifying that money is not available for the payment of rent. (7-1-21)T

**04. Interest Rate for Extension in Time for Payment of Rent.** If an extension is granted, rent plus interest at a rate established by the Board will be due no later than October 1 of the rent year. Specifically, interest will be the average monthly rate for conventional mortgages as quoted in the Federal Reserve Statistical Report; the rate to be rounded downward to the nearest one quarter percent (1/4%) on the tenth of each month following the release of data. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 044. (RESERVED)**

**045. APPRAISAL PROCEDURES.**

Appraisals may be used to determine the market value of adjacent uplands for calculating submerged lease rental rates. (7-1-21)T

**01. Appraisal.** An appraisal will either be performed by qualified Department staff or an independent

contract appraisal. Any appraisal must be under the control of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**02. Cost of Appraisal.** The appraisal costs are the actual cost for Department personnel plus transportation, including per diem and administrative overhead, or the bid amount for the contract appraiser. An itemized statement of these costs will be provided to the applicant. The cost of the appraisal is in addition to those costs outlined in Section 035 of these rules and is billed separately from the application fee and rent. (7-1-21)T

**046. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. LEASE MODIFICATION OR AMENDMENT.**

**01. Encroachment Amendment.** A lease modification or amendment must first be permitted through an amendment to the lake encroachment permit or stream alteration permit, if needed. (7-1-21)T

**02. Modification of Existing Lease.** Modification or amendment of an existing lease will be processed in the same manner as a new lease application, but no fee will be required. Modification or amendment includes change of use, location, size or scope of the lease site, but does not include ordinary maintenance, repair or replacement of existing structures or facilities. (7-1-21)T

**03. Modification of Interior Facilities.** If the proposed changes to a facility do not require a new encroachment permit, a lease modification may still be needed as described in Subsection 050.02 of these rules. The lessee must give written notice to the Department at least ten (10) days in advance of making such changes. The Department will determine if a lease modification is needed due to the proposed changes. When requested, the lessee must also furnish one (1) set of as-built plans to the Department within thirty (30) days following completion of changes. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 054. (RESERVED)**

**055. ASSIGNMENTS, ASSIGNMENT FEE.**

**01. Assignment of Lease.** Leases may be assigned upon approval of the Director provided that the lease conforms with Subsection 025.02 and all other provisions of these rules. The assignor and assignee must complete the Department's standard assignment form and forward it to any Department office. (7-1-21)T

**02. Assignment Fee.** The assignment fee is one hundred fifty dollars (\$150). (7-1-21)T

**03. Permit Assignment.** The encroachment permit/stream alteration permit pertinent to a lease must be assigned to a purchaser simultaneously with a lease assignment. A lease assignment will not be approved unless the permit is assigned. (7-1-21)T

**04. Approval Required for Assignment.** An assignment is not valid until it has been approved by the Director. (7-1-21)T

**056. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. CANCELLATION AND ADDITIONAL REMEDIES.**

**01. Cancellation of Lease for Violation of Terms.** Any violation of the terms of the lease by the lessee, including non-payment of rent or any violation by lessee of any rule now in force or hereafter adopted by the Board may subject the lease to cancellation. The lessee will be provided written notification of any violation. The letter will specify the violation, corrective action necessary, and specify a reasonable time to make the correction. If the corrective action is not taken within the specified reasonable period of time, the Department will notify the lessee of cancellation of the lease; provided, however, that the notice is provided to lessee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such cancellation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Reinstatement of Lease.** A lease may be reinstated within ninety (90) days after cancellation for non-payment by paying the rental, plus interest, and a reinstatement fee to be determined by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**03. Cancellation of Lease for Use Other Than Intended Purpose.** A lease not used for the purpose for which it was granted may be canceled. The Department will notify the lessee in writing of any proposed cancellation. The lessee has thirty (30) days to reply in writing to the Department to show cause why the lease should not be canceled. Within sixty (60) days, the Department will notify the lessee in writing as to the Department's decision concerning cancellation. The lessee has thirty (30) days to appeal an adverse decision to the Director.

(7-1-21)T

**04. Removal of Improvements Upon Cancellation.** Upon cancellation, the Director will provide the lessee with a specific amount of time, not to exceed six (6) months from the date of final notice, to remove any facilities and improvements. Failure to remove any facilities or structures within such time period established by the Director will be deemed a trespass on submerged or formerly submerged lands.

(7-1-21)T

**05. Additional Remedies Available.** In addition to termination of the lease for the material default of the lessee, the lease may provide for other remedies to non-monetary breach of the lease including, but not limited to:

(7-1-21)T

- a. Civil penalties as determined by the Board and to be collected as additional rent; (7-1-21)T
- b. The reasonable costs of remedial action undertaken by the Department as a result of the lessee's failure to perform a requirement of the lease. These costs will be collected as additional rent; and (7-1-21)T
- c. Such other remedies as the Board deems appropriate. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 064. (RESERVED)**

**065. BOND.**

**01. Bond Requirement Determined by Director.** Bonds may be required for commercial navigational, community dock, and nonnavigational leases. The need for bond will be at the discretion of the Director who will consider the potential for abandonment of the facility, harm to state-owned submerged land and water resources, the personal and real property of adjacent upland owners and the personal and real property owned by the encroachment owner that is appurtenant to and supportive of the encroachment.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Performance Bond.** In the event a bond is necessary, the lessee must submit a performance bond in favor of the state of Idaho and in a format acceptable to the Director before a lease is issued. Acceptable bonds include surety, collateral, and letters of credit. The amount of bond is the estimated cost of restoration as established by the Director in consultation with the lease applicant on a case by case basis. To determine restoration costs, the Director may consider the potential for damage to land, to improvements, and the cost of structure removal.

(7-1-21)T

**066. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY.**

A lessee will indemnify and hold harmless the lessors, its departments, agencies and employees for any and all claims, actions, damages, costs, and expenses that may arise by reason of lessee's occupation of the leased premises, or the occupation of the leased premises by any of the lessee's agents, or by any person occupying the same with the lessee's permission.

(7-1-21)T

**071. -- 074. (RESERVED)**

**075. OTHER RULES AND LAWS.**

The lessee will comply with all applicable state, federal, and local rules and laws insofar as they affect the use of the lands described in the lease.

(7-1-21)T

**076. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. BINDING ON HEIRS.**

All of the terms, covenants, and conditions in a state lease are binding upon the heirs, executors, and assigns of the lessee. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 084. (RESERVED)**

**085. CIVIL RIGHTS.**

The lessee may not discriminate against any person on the basis of such person's race, creed, color, sex, national origin or handicap. (7-1-21)T

**086. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

**20.04.02 – RULES PERTAINING TO THE IDAHO FORESTRY ACT  
AND FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION LAWS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

These rules are adopted pursuant to the rulemaking authority granted in Sections 38-132 and 38-402, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.04.02, “Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules implement the provisions of the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws. (7-1-21)T

**002. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

Unless otherwise required by context, as used in these rules: (7-1-21)T

**01. Agreement.** The Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement (Department of Lands Form 715) required by Section 38-122, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Contract Area.** The legal description of the land given on the agreement. (7-1-21)T

**03. Contractor.** The person who enters into the Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T

**05. Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his authorized representative. (7-1-21)T

**06. District.** A designated forest protective district. (7-1-21)T

**07. Fire Line.** A line dug to mineral soil which is intended to control a fire. (7-1-21)T

**08. Fire Warden.** A duly appointed fire warden or deputy. (7-1-21)T

**09. Fuel.** Any slash or woody debris that will contribute to the spread or intensity of a wildfire. (7-1-21)T

**10. Fuel Break.** An area in which all slash and dead woody debris have been removed or piled and burned. (7-1-21)T

**11. Hazard Reduction.** The burning or physical reduction of fire hazards by treatment in a manner that will reduce the intensity and/or spread of a wildfire after treatment is completed. (7-1-21)T

**12. Initial Purchaser or Purchaser.** The first person, company, partnership, corporation or association of whatever nature who purchases a forest product after it is harvested. (7-1-21)T

**13. Operational Period.** A standard twelve (12) hour fire control shift. (7-1-21)T

**14. Slash or Slashing.** Brush, severed limbs, poles, tops and/or other waste material incident to such cutting or to the clearing of land, which are four (4) inches and under in diameter. However, for the purpose of these rules and to correspond with standard fire classifications, slash will only include material less than or equal to three (3) inches in diameter. (7-1-21)T

**15. Slash Load.** Slash resulting from timber harvesting that has occurred under a current agreement, exclusive of natural mortality. (7-1-21)T

**16. State.** The state of Idaho. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-FIRE HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.**

**01. Contents.** A Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement must be obtained by anyone who conducts an operation involving the harvesting of forest products or potential forest products. Such Agreement provides the option of entering into a contract as provided in Section 38-404, Idaho Code or posting of a cash or surety bond to the State. The Certificate of Compliance required by Section 38-122, Idaho Code, must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 715 -- "Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement." (7-1-21)T

**02. Period of Time.** The period set forth within the Agreement is based upon such considerations as the size of the contract area, the volume of the timber to be harvested or the silvicultural objectives of the landowner. However, in no case may a single Agreement exceed a period of twenty four (24) months unless the contractor and the fire warden mutually agree upon a plan for the timely abatement of the hazard during a period that may exceed twenty four (24) months. (7-1-21)T

**03. Extensions.** If the contractor cannot meet the standard required to obtain a clearance within the period specified above, the contractor may apply to the fire warden for an extension. The application must be in writing, received at the district office thirty (30) working days before the Agreement expires, and show good reason other than financial hardship, why an extension should be given. The fire warden will acknowledge receipt of the request prior to the expiration of the Agreement. (7-1-21)T

**04. Responsibility.** The contractor named in the Agreement will be responsible for managing the fire hazard created by the harvesting and will receive the clearance if the slash treatment meets standards, or will carry the liability for suppressing wildfire for five (5) full years following the expiration of the Agreement. (7-1-21)T

**031. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. ADDENDUM TO CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-FIRE HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.**

In those instances where a contractor indicates an intent to accomplish only the piling portion of the total slash hazard reduction job, an addendum to the Agreement must be executed specifying precisely the portion of slash withholding money that will be refunded. The addendum must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 715.1 -- "Addendum to Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement." (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. BOND.**

**01. Amount of Bond.** The bond specified in Section 38-122 and Section 38-404, Idaho Code, must be in the amount of four dollars (\$4) per thousand board feet (MBF), or equivalent measure as shown in Table I below, of forest products harvested, and may take the form of cash, surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit. Surety bonds must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 707 - "Bond." (7-1-21)T

**02. Rates.** Rates and amounts listed in Table I will be used as a minimum in calculating hazard reduction bonds for products cut from all state and private lands in Idaho.

| TABLE I             |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| PRODUCT             | BOND RATE  |
| (1) MBF Measurement |            |
| All Products        | \$4.00 MBF |
| OR                  |            |



| TABLE I   |             |
|---|-------------|
| PRODUCT   | BOND RATE   |
| (2) Other Measurement   |             |
| Green pulp, stud timber, etc.                                     | \$2.00 Cord |
| Lineal Foot Measure   |             |
| Utility poles and pilings, all species                            | \$.014 LF   |
| Stulls, corral poles, cellar timbers,<br>fence rails, round posts | \$.01 LF    |
| Piece Measure   |             |
| 100 inch bolt material  | \$.08 ea.   |
| Split posts   | \$.02 ea.   |
| Tree stakes   | \$.02 ea.   |
| Shake boards  | \$.02 ea.   |
| Ton Measurement   |             |
| Green or Dead Pulp, Chips, etc.                                   | \$.70 Ton   |

(7-1-21)T

**03. Exceeding Minimum Bond.** The minimum bond rate will only be exceeded when the landowner or operator requests that higher rate to accomplish additional hazard reduction. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. CONTRACTS WITH FOREST LANDOWNERS OR OPERATORS.**

Forest landowners and operators who engage in timber harvesting operations may enter into an optional Agreement with the Director as provided in Section 38-404, Idaho Code. Under the terms of such an optional Agreement, the Director may assume all responsibility for the management and reduction of fire hazards to be created in return for a stipulated amount to be paid to the Director by the landowner or operator. Such optional Agreement must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 720 -- "Contract for Management, Reduction and/or Removal of Fire Hazards Created by the Harvesting of Timber Within the State of Idaho," or Department of Lands Form No 725 - "Contract for Management of Fire Hazards Created By the Harvesting of Timber Within the State of Idaho." (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. CASH BOND RELEASE.**

Contractors who elect under Section 38-122, Idaho Code, to have hazard reduction money withheld, but who do not intend to dispose of the hazard themselves, must release the withheld monies to the Director of the Department of Lands. Such release must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 761 -- "Release of Cash Bond Withheld to Assure Slash Disposal." (7-1-21)T

**071. -- 079. (RESERVED)**

**080. ADDED PROTECTION IN LIEU OF HAZARD REDUCTION.**

As provided in Section 38-401, Idaho Code, fire hazard management methods may include or be limited to the taking of additional protective measures in lieu of actual disposal of the slash hazard. Any funds coming into district hazard management accounts through contract, cash bond release or forfeiture, may be used for added protection provided that the expenditure meets specifications outlined in Section 38-401, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**081. -- 089. (RESERVED)**

**090. PURCHASER REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Initial Purchaser.** Initial purchasers of forest products, in accordance with Section 38-122, Idaho Code, must withhold and remit to the State slash management monies as appropriate for the slash management option chosen by the contractor. Such option must be clearly identified on the purchaser's copy of the Agreement. Slash monies withheld in any one (1) calendar month must be remitted to the Director on or before the end of the next calendar month. Such remittance must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 740 -- "Hazard Reduction Payment Record." (7-1-21)T

**02. Duty of Initial Purchaser.** Initial purchasers of forest products must make certain that all contractors from whom they purchase forest products have obtained a proper Agreement. (7-1-21)T

**091. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. INJUNCTION AGAINST FURTHER CUTTING.**

Any person who cuts timber or other forest products of any kind, without having first secured an Agreement in accordance with Section 38-122, Idaho Code, may be enjoined from continuing such cutting and will be required to immediately dispose of all slash created. If the person responsible fails to properly dispose of the slash within thirty (30) days after being notified to do so, the State may dispose of the slash and such costs of disposal, plus twenty percent (20%) as a penalty, may be collected as a prior lien against the products harvested. (7-1-21)T

**101. -- 109. (RESERVED)**

**110. BURNING OF SLASH.**

**01. Permits.** Any burning operation conducted for the purpose of hazard reduction must be in accordance with the law requiring burning permits during the closed fire season. Persons conducting burning operations must have sufficient men, tools and equipment on hand to immediately stop the uncontrolled spread of any fire. Burning operations must be planned, prepared and executed in such a manner that forest resources are not damaged and air quality standards are met. (7-1-21)T

**02. Burn Plan.** Burning of specifically designated blocks or areas of forest land for any purpose must be conducted in accordance with a prescribed burn plan approved by the fire warden in whose area of responsibility the burn occurs. (7-1-21)T

**111. -- 119. (RESERVED)**

**120. STANDARDS -- TREATMENT OF HAZARDS.**

**01. Purpose.** To provide standards for hazard reduction and the release of liability for the contractor who is working under a valid Agreement with the State. (7-1-21)T

**02. Reduction of Total Hazard Points.** The contractor must reduce the total hazard points charged against the contract area to five (5) points or less (see Table II) on or before the expiration date on the Agreement in order to receive a refund of slash monies withheld (less three (3) percent for the fire suppression fund, ref. Rule150) or, to clear any demands that might be made against the surety bond and to receive a release of liability against any fires that start on or pass through the contract area.

| <b>TABLE II - HAZARD CHARACTERISTICS AND OFFSET SLASH LOAD MAXIMUM 20 POINTS</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>RATING (POINTS)</b>   | <b>ADJECTIVE DESCRIPTION</b>  |
| LOW (0-5)  | Associated with low harvest volumes per acre such as; selection cutting, light commercial thinning, sanitation/salvage operations, tree length skidding with tops and limbs and little or no breakage. Slash is broken up; slash is in many islands over the operating area.  |
| MODERATE (6-10)  | Operation types similar to those listed above except that harvest volume per acre is higher or utilization standards are lower, or timber has higher proportion of unusable top and crown (commonly associated with partial cutting in second growth stands of mixed timber). Most diameter limit cutting falls in this category. Slash is distributed with some clear or very light areas intermingled with heavy islands of slash over the operating area, slash is not continuous. |
| HIGH (11-15)   | Usually associated with regeneration harvest methods such as shelterwood, seed tree and most clearcuts, or any partial cut with a high harvest volume per acre. Slash is nearly continuous through the operating area frequently with heavier islands intermingled with light continuous slash.   |
| EXTREME (16-20)  | Any operation with very high cut volume, and/or low utilization standards, and/or many slashed or broken stems. Slash is continuous over the operating area with few light areas.   |
| <b>TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS</b>  |   |
| LOW (0-5)  | Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials not to exceed 3.0 tons/acre.   |
| MODERATE (6-10)  | Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials greater than 3.0 tons/acre but less than 6.0 tons/acre.  |
| HIGH (11-15)   | Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials greater than 6.0 tons/acre but less than 12.0 tons/acre.   |
| EXTREME (16-20)  | Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials exceeds 12.0 tons/acre.  |

Slash loads can be determined by using any standard photo series appropriate for the habitat type represented by the contract area, or by using USDA Forest Service General Technical Report INT-16, 1974 (HANDBOOK FOR INVENTORYING DOWNED WOODY MATERIAL). If the contractor insists upon the latter, sampling intensity will be one (1) point per two (2) acres through the area in question. The inventory cost is paid by the contractor. All slash made available as a result of the current harvest will be included in the inventory except that slash that has been piled and will be burned by the contractor before the expiration date on the Agreement or such extensions granted by the fire warden.

| <b>SITE FACTORS - MAXIMUM 10 POINTS</b> |                      |              |              |              |              |               |
|---|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>ASPECT</b>                           | <b>PERCENT SLOPE</b> |              |              |              |              |               |
|   | <b>0-10</b>          | <b>11-20</b> | <b>21-30</b> | <b>31-40</b> | <b>41-50</b> | <b>&gt;50</b> |
| N-NE                                    | 0                    | 0            | 1            | 2            | 4            | 5             |
| E,NW                                    | 0                    | 0            | 1            | 3            | 6            | 7             |
| W,SE                                    | 0                    | 1            | 2            | 5            | 8            | 9             |
| S-SW                                    | 1                    | 2            | 4            | 7            | 9            | 10            |

| <b>UNIT SIZE - MAXIMUM 5 POINTS</b> |               |               |                |                |                |                |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>ACRES</b>                        | <b>&lt;40</b> | <b>40-160</b> | <b>161-320</b> | <b>321-480</b> | <b>481-640</b> | <b>&gt;640</b> |
| <b>PT VALUE</b>                     | 0             | 1             | 2              | 3              | 4              | 5              |

| <b>OTHER FACTORS - MAXIMUM 7 POINTS</b>   |            |
|---|------------|
| Pre-existing slash from operations in the past five years   | 0-2        |
| Proximity to structures, highways and recreational areas (e.g., parks, established campgrounds, etc). | Add Points |
| 330 feet  | 5          |
| 660 feet  | 4          |
| 990 feet  | 3          |
| 1320 feet   | 2          |
| 2640 feet   | 1          |

In applying offset points to large, complex contract areas, or contract areas with highly variable hazard characteristics, hazard offset techniques must first be applied toward that portion of the contract area which will do the most to reduce the hazard by optimizing fire control effects.

| <b>HAZARD OFFSETS</b>   |   |      |
|---|---|------|
| <b>ALL POINTS ARE DEDUCTIONS</b>  |   |      |
| <b>DISPOSAL</b>   | Piling and Burning, Broadcast Burning, etc. | 0-42 |
| <p>If disposal reduces slash load in the contract area to &lt;3 tons, deduct hazard points to five (5) or less. If disposal does not reduce slash load to that level, points should be assigned as a proportion of the area treated. For example, if twenty-five percent (25%) of the area is dozer piled and the piles burned, but the slash load in the contract area still exceeds three (3) tons, twenty-five percent (25%) of the total points charged against the job should be deducted. However, if the disposal effectively isolates the untreated portion of the slash, or is otherwise placed to optimize fire control effects the proportion of points deducted may be increased to an amount to be determined by the district fire warden.</p> |   |      |
| <b>MODIFICATION:</b>  | Chipping                                    | 0-42 |
|   | Crushing                                    | 0-20 |
|   | Lopping                                     | 0-10 |
| <p>Lopping standards: All material less than three (3) inches in diameter will be cut so that it does not extend more than twenty (20) inches of the mean height above the ground. In addition, all boles greater than three (3) inches in diameter intersecting another bole will be completely severed.</p> <p>Assign points as a proportion of the contract area treated.</p>  |   |      |
| <b>ISOLATION</b>  | Fuel Breaks                                 | 0-20 |

| <b>HAZARD OFFSETS</b>   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>ALL POINTS ARE DEDUCTIONS</b>  |     |
| <p>To qualify as a fuel break, all slash and available fuels (Ref. Subsection 010.10) must be removed, or piled and burned, or treated sufficiently to prevent a fire from carrying through the area, for a minimum width of one chain (66 feet). In addition, the breaks must be placed to take advantage of terrain, manmade or natural barriers and to provide for optimum fire control effect.</p>  |     |
| Fire Lines  | 0-5 |
| <p>All vegetative material must be removed to expose mineral soil. Minimum width of dozer line must be the width of the dozer blade with all dirt pushed in one direction and all vegetative debris to the other. Handlines must be eighteen (18) inches wide; additionally all fuels must be cleared for eight (8) feet. Lines must be tied to an anchor point except that they are not required to be built through a riparian management zone. In addition, the lines must be placed to take advantage of terrain, manmade or natural barriers, and to provide for optimum fire control effect. Maximum points allowed only if combined with an approved fuel break.</p> |     |

| <b>ASSIGNING POINTS FOR ISOLATION</b>  |                        |                       |             |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| <b>Isolation techniques will usually be used to break the area into subunits or isolate the area from adjacent stands. Hazard offsets can be deducted for both if, in the opinion of the fire warden, both objectives are met and the total isolation points do not exceed 25 offset points.</b> |                        |                       |             |
| <b>ACTIVITY</b>  | <b>FUEL BREAK ONLY</b> | <b>FIRE LINE ONLY</b> | <b>BOTH</b> |
| Isolates contract area into subunits:  |                        |                       |             |
| A. Partial isolation or incomplete units   | 1-5                    | 1                     | 1-6         |
| B. Complete isolation of area into 1 to 2 subunits   | 6-10                   | 2                     | 6-12        |
| C. Complete isolation of area into 3 to 5 subunits   | 11-15                  | 3                     | 11-18       |
| D. Complete isolation of area into 6 or more subunits  | 16-20                  | 4                     | 16-25       |
| OR   |                        |                       |             |
| Isolates contract area from adjacent stands:   |                        |                       |             |
| A. One third of the contract area boundary isolated  | 1-5                    | 1                     | 1-6         |
| B. Two thirds of the contract area boundary isolated   | 6-10                   | 2                     | 6-12        |
| C. Entire contract area boundary isolated  | 11-15                  | 3                     | 11-18       |
| ACCESS CONTROL   | 0-2                    |                       |             |
| Locked gate system controls access on all secondary roads with slash treated on main road  |                        |                       | 1           |
| Locked gate system controls all road access into unit  |                        |                       | 2           |
| AVAILABILITY OF WATER  |                        |                       | 0-3         |
| The water supply must provide water availability for engines within one road mile of operating area or within three air miles for helicopter bucket use. The water supply must be sufficient to supply 10,000 gallons in an operational period during the fire season.                           |                        |                       |             |
| Water supply for engine only or helicopter only (capacity 10,000 gallons during fire season).  |                        |                       | 1           |

| ASSIGNING POINTS FOR ISOLATION  |                 |                |      |
|---|-----------------|----------------|------|
| Isolation techniques will usually be used to break the area into subunits or isolate the area from adjacent stands. Hazard offsets can be deducted for both if, in the opinion of the fire warden, both objectives are met and the total isolation points do not exceed 25 offset points. |                 |                |      |
| ACTIVITY  | FUEL BREAK ONLY | FIRE LINE ONLY | BOTH |
| Water supply for engine and helicopter (capacity 10,000 gallons) or; for engine or helicopter and which replenishes itself every operational period.  |                 |                | 2    |
| Water supply for engine and helicopter which replenishes itself every operational period.   |                 |                | 3    |

(7-1-21)T

121. -- 129. (RESERVED)

130. LIABILITY.

**01. State Liability.** With the exception of cases of negligence on the part of the landowner, operator or their agents, liability for the cost of suppressing fires that originate on or pass through a slashing area remains with the State if one of the following alternatives is executed by the contractor: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The contract area is covered by a Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement and all hazard money payments are current or a proper bond is in place. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The contractor treats the slash in accordance with the standards outlined in the Section 120, Table II within the time period specified on the Agreement or approved extensions. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The landowner or operator elects to enter into a contract with the State for management of the slash and liability of fire suppression costs in accordance with Section 38-404, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Contractor Liability.** Should the contractor choose not to treat the slash or not enter into a contract with the State in accordance with Subsection 130.01, the contractor, in addition to forfeiting any applicable bond, is liable for fire suppression costs for all fires that originate on or pass through the contractor's slashing area. The contractor retains the full liability for five (5) years from the time the Agreement or any extension thereof expires, unless a clearance has been issued. (7-1-21)T

**03. Failure to Treat.** Any contractor who fails to treat the fire hazard as outlined in Subsection 130.02, is liable for the actual costs of suppressing any wildfire that may occur on or pass through the area covered by the Agreement for an amount up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). If the same wildfire occurs on or passes through several areas covered by separate agreements or if several Agreements cover the same area, the contractor is liable for the actual cost of suppression up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If a wildfire occurs on or passes through an area covered by separate Agreements with different contractors, the actual cost of suppression up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will be shared by the contractors prorated on acreage included in their Agreements. (7-1-21)T

**04. Fees.** Upon payment of the fees set forth in Table III, the State will assume liability for the cost of suppressing fires that originate on or pass through the contract area.

| TABLE III - ADDITIONAL FEE TO TRANSFER LIABILITY BY HAZARD POINTS |            |
|---|------------|
| POINTS  | RATE       |
| 6-10  | \$1.00/MBF |
| 11-20   | \$2.00/MBF |
| 21-30   | \$3.00/MBF |
| >30   | \$4.00/MBF |

Additional fee rates for measurement other than board foot measurement are available upon request from any Department of Lands office. (7-1-21)T

**05. Additional Fee.** If the contractor is unable to reduce the hazard points on a contract area to the standards required for a clearance, but has completed some hazard reduction work, that contractor can discharge the remainder of his hazard obligation by returning a portion of his bond to the district and paying an additional fee to transfer liability. Use the following formula: [One minus (the acceptable hazard point or five, divided by the residual, or untreated hazard points)] multiply that ratio times the slash rate. This dollar amount should be multiplied by the total volume removed from the contract area. Add to that the additional fee to transfer liability (for the untreated hazard points, from Table III) times the total volume. When this amount is paid to the State the contract area can be cleared. Which can also be expressed as:

$$(1-(5/U)) * B * V + (A*V) = \text{Formula to transfer liability for a partially completed job.}$$

Where:

U = Untreated or residual hazard points

B = Bond rate (usually \$4.00 MBF) Ref. Section 050, Table I

A = Additional fee to transfer liability, Table III

V = Total volume removed from the contract areas

(7-1-21)T

**131. -- 139. (RESERVED)**

**140. CERTIFICATE OF CLEARANCE.**

The Certificate of Clearance is the instrument used to certify that hazard reduction has been accomplished, a contract entered into with the Director to ensure hazard management, or an additional fee has been paid. Anyone who has been issued an Agreement for the cutting of any forest product or potential forest product and who has met standards outlined in Section 120, or has made payment for hazard reduction under a contract with the Director, as provided in Section 38-404, Idaho Code, or has paid an additional fee in accordance with Section 38-122, Idaho Code, must apply in writing to the Director for a Certificate of Clearance. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of such written request for a Certificate of Clearance, the Director will cause the area covered by the request to be inspected. If it is found that the fire hazard has been properly disposed of, the Director will issue a Certificate of Clearance. The Certificate of Clearance must be substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 760 - "Certificate of Clearance."

(7-1-21)T

**141. -- 149. (RESERVED)**

**150. FIRE SUPPRESSION AND FOREST PRACTICES ASSESSMENT.**

**01. Withholding.** An amount of three percent (3%) of the slash management rate (twelve cents (\$.12)/MBF) will be withheld from all slash management monies received and dedicated to suppression of wildfires on forest lands. For harvest from private land, an additional amount not to exceed three percent (3%) of the slash

management rate (twelve cents (\$.12)/MBF) can be withheld from slash management monies received and will be dedicated to Forest Practices support on forest lands. (7-1-21)T

**02. Assessment Costs.** Fire suppression assessment costs on operations covered by surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit or other form of bond is paid at the rate specified in Subsection 150.01. (7-1-21)T

**151. -- 159. (RESERVED)**

**160. PRELOGGING CONFERENCE AND AGREEMENT.**

Prelogging conferences and hazard reduction agreements are encouraged, however, the hazard reduction agreement will be canceled or modified if significant operational changes occur during the harvesting of forest products or potential forest products. (7-1-21)T

**161. -- 999. (RESERVED)**



## 20.06.01 – RULES OF THE IDAHO BOARD OF SCALING PRACTICES

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

In accordance with Section 38-1208, Idaho Code, the Board has the power to adopt and amend rules. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. **Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.06.01, “Rules of the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices.” (7-1-21)T

02. **Scope.** These rules constitute the levy of assessment, payment for logging and hauling, licensing standards and renewals, method of scaling forest products for commercial purposes, check scaling operations, and informal hearings. (7-1-21)T

### 002. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

01. **Incorporated Document.** The “Idaho Log Scaling Manual,” 2008 Edition, published by the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices is herein incorporated by reference. (7-1-21)T

02. **Availability of Referenced Documents.** The “Idaho Log Scaling Manual,” 2008 Edition, is available on the Board’s website at <http://www.ibsp.idaho.gov/>. (7-1-21)T

### 003. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

01. **Board.** The Idaho Board of Scaling Practices. (7-1-21)T

02. **Check Scaling.** The comparison of scaling practices between a Board-appointed check scaler and any other scaler. (7-1-21)T

03. **Combination Log.** Any multiple-segment log involving more than one (1) product classification. (7-1-21)T

04. **Complaint.** A written statement alleging a violation of the Idaho Scaling Law, Title 38, Chapter 12, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

05. **Complainant.** A person or entity who submits a complaint to the Board. (7-1-21)T

06. **Cubic Volume.** A log rule that uses cubic feet as its basic unit of measure, determined on the basis of a mathematical formula. (7-1-21)T

07. **Decimal “C.”** A log rule that uses tens of board feet as its basic unit of measure; one (1) decimal “C” equals ten (10) board feet. The Idaho Scribner decimal “C” volumes as listed in the Appendix of the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual.” (7-1-21)T

08. **Gross Scale.** The log rule volume of timber products before deductions are made for defects. (7-1-21)T

09. **Informal Hearing.** Any hearing before the Board of Scaling Practices, as opposed to a formal hearing before a hearing officer designated by the Board. (7-1-21)T

10. **Log Brands.** A unique symbol or mark placed on or in forest products for the purpose of identifying ownership. (7-1-21)T

11. **Net Scale.** The remaining log rule volume of timber products after deductions are made for defects, based on the product classification that is used. (7-1-21)T

12. **Official Seal.** An official seal of the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices is hereby adopted. The seal must be round, of a diameter of at least one and one-half inches (1-1/2”), and so constructed that it may readily be imprinted on paper. (7-1-21)T

13. **Prize Logs.** As described in Section 38-809, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**14. Product Classification.** Classification as sawlog, pulp log, or cedar products log for purposes of net scale determination or check scaling. (7-1-21)T

**15. Purchaser.** The principal individual, partnership, or corporation entitled to ownership at the first determination of scale for forest products harvested in Idaho. Purchaser also includes the owner of the timber as provided in Section 38-1209(b), Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**16. Requested Check Scale.** A check scale performed pursuant to Section 820 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**17. Relicense Check Scale.** A check scale requested and scheduled in advance, by a licensed scaler, for purposes of license renewal. (7-1-21)T

**18. Routine Check Scale.** A check scale that is not a relicense, temporary permit, or requested check scale. (7-1-21)T

**19. Respondent.** The person or entity accused of violating the Idaho Scaling Law, Title 38, Chapter 12, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**20. Temporary Permit Check Scale.** A check scale performed pursuant to provisions of Section 240 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**21. Written Scaling Specifications.** A written document provided to the scaler that states the information necessary to scale logs in accordance with a contractual scaling agreement. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. ASSESSMENT.**

In accordance with provisions of Section 38-1209, Idaho Code, the Board is authorized and directed to levy an assessment. (7-1-21)T

**01. Purchaser.** The purchaser, as defined in Subsection 010.15, pays the assessment levied by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Assessment.** The assessment must be transmitted to the Board on or before the twentieth (20th) day of each month for all timber harvested during the previous month. Forms provided by the Board must be completed and submitted with the assessment. (7-1-21)T

**03. Weight.** On forest products harvested and purchased solely on the basis of weight, no levy of assessment is applicable. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. LOG BRANDS.**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 38-808, Idaho Code, the Board is responsible for approval and registration of all log brands. (7-1-21)T

**01. Applications.** All applications for log brands or renewals must be submitted and approved prior to use. (7-1-21)T

**02. Fees.** Log brand registration, renewal, and transfer of ownership fees are twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each log brand. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. PRIZE LOGS.**

In accordance with provisions of Section 38-809, Idaho Code, the Board is responsible for the disposition of prize logs. (7-1-21)T

**071. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. PAYMENT FOR LOGGING OR HAULING.**

Provisions of Section 38-1220(b), Idaho Code, govern payment for logging or hauling. (7-1-21)T

**01. Gross Scale Determination.** Gross scale is determined by the methodology stated in Chapter Two (2) of the "Idaho Log Scaling Manual." (7-1-21)T

**02. Compliance with Gross Scale Determination.** Notwithstanding the methodology criteria contained in the "Idaho Log Scaling Manual," compliance will be determined to have been met when check scale results on gross scale comparisons are within allowable standards of variation as provided in these rules. (7-1-21)T

**101. -- 199. (RESERVED)**

**200. LICENSES.**

**01. Application Form.** Application for a scaling license is made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Revocation or Suspension for Incompetency.** If check scale results on three (3) occasions in any twelve (12) month period are found unacceptable based on standards of variation established under Section 810, the scaler's license may be revoked or suspended as provided in Section 38-1218, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**201. -- 219. (RESERVED)**

**220. APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATE.**

**01. General.** Is issued at no charge to those individuals with no previous scaling experience who wish to practice scaling techniques in view of becoming a licensed scaler. (7-1-21)T

**02. Procedure to Obtain Certificate.** After submitting the application form, a candidate will be required to take the written examination. Upon passing the written examination, the Apprenticeship Certificate will then be issued. (7-1-21)T

**03. Regulations Governing Use of Certificate.** The apprentice is authorized to scale only under the direct supervision of a licensed scaler. The scale determined by the apprentice will, under no circumstances, be used as the sole basis for payment. (7-1-21)T

**221. -- 239. (RESERVED)**

**240. TEMPORARY PERMIT.**

**01. General.** Is issued for a period of time, not to exceed three (3) months, to individuals with previous scaling experience who need to scale for commercial purposes. (7-1-21)T

**02. Procedure to Obtain.** Submit the application form; remit the required twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee; submit a letter from the employer requesting the temporary permit and identifying where the permittee would be scaling; take and pass the written portion of the scaler's examination, and demonstrate practical scaling abilities in the form of an acceptable check scale. (7-1-21)T

**03. Regulations Governing Use of Temporary Permit.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Permits expire the date of the next practical examination in the area or three (3) months from the date of issuance, whichever comes first. The scale determined by the holder of a temporary permit may be used as a

basis for payment. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Should the holder of a temporary permit fail to appear to take the practical portion of the scaler's examination after being notified in writing of the time and place of said examination, the temporary permit will be canceled. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Temporary permits will not be issued to applicants or relicenses who have failed the practical examination two (2) or more times until thirty (30) days following the individual's last exam failure. (7-1-21)T

**241. -- 259. (RESERVED)**

**260. SPECIALTY LICENSE.**

**01. General.** Is issued to handle situations where the applicant would not be required to possess the exacting skills needed to scale sawlogs. (7-1-21)T

**02. Procedure to Obtain.** Submit the application form, remit the required twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee, submit a letter from the employer describing scaling that would justify the issuance of a specialty license. and successfully complete the examination as may be devised by the Board. (7-1-21)T

**03. Regulations Governing Use of Specialty License.** The holder is only allowed to scale the products specified on the individual's license. (7-1-21)T

**261. -- 279. (RESERVED)**

**280. STANDARD LICENSE.**

**01. General.** Is issued to individuals who demonstrate competency in scaling principles and techniques. (7-1-21)T

**02. Procedure to Obtain.** Submit the application form, remit the required twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee, and take and pass the examination as described under Section 300. (7-1-21)T

**03. Regulations Governing Use of Standard License.** The holder is qualified to scale all species and products. (7-1-21)T

**281. -- 299. (RESERVED)**

**300. STANDARD LICENSE EXAMINATION.**

To be taken by all persons applying for the standard license. (7-1-21)T

**01. Written Examination.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Will be based upon Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of the "Idaho Log Scaling Manual." (7-1-21)T

**b.** Any score of seventy percent (70%) or better is a passing grade. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The written test must be taken and passed before the practical examination can be attempted. (7-1-21)T

**02. Practical Examination.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The practical examination for a scaler's license will consist of scaling a minimum of not less than two hundred (200) logs with a net decimal "C" scale determination for sawlogs of not less than twenty thousand (20,000) board feet, or not less than fifteen thousand (15,000) board feet in the southeast Idaho area. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The logs will first be scaled by three (3) qualified check scalers, except the southeast Idaho area

will be two (2) or more qualified check scalers, and the agreed-upon results will be the basis for grading the examination. (7-1-21)T

c. To obtain a passing grade, a scaler must be within allowable limits of variation in the following categories:

| CATEGORY            |   | ALLOWABLE VARIATION                 |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Gross Volume</b> | For logs in round form                        | +/- 2.0%                            |
|                     | For logs in fractional or slab form           | +/- 5.0%                            |
| <b>Net Volume</b>   | Check scale percent of defect on logs checked |                                     |
|                     | Up to 10                                      | +/- 2.0%                            |
|                     | 10.1 to 15                                    | +/- 3.0%                            |
|                     | 15.1 to 20                                    | +/- 0.2% for each percent of defect |
|                     | Over 20                                       | +/- 5.0%                            |
|                     | Species identification errors                 | 3.0%                                |

(7-1-21)T

**301. -- 399. (RESERVED)**

**400. RENEWAL OF STANDARD AND SPECIALTY LICENSES.**

For scalers who hold "Standard" and "Specialty" licenses, the process for renewal will consist of the following. (7-1-21)T

**01. To Renew a License by the Expiration Date.** Receive an acceptable check scale performed by a Board check scaler and pay renewal fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25). (7-1-21)T

**02. To Renew a License Within Two Years After The Expiration Date:** (7-1-21)T

a. Request and receive an acceptable check scale performed by a Board check scaler. When the check scale is unacceptable, the individual is required to reapply for the standard license. (7-1-21)T

b. Pay renewal fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25). (7-1-21)T

**03. To Renew a License More Than Two Years After The Expiration Date.** An individual is required to reapply for the standard license. (7-1-21)T

**04. Option to a Check Scale for Standard License Renewal.** A practical examination successfully completed may be used in-lieu-of a check scale for renewal. (7-1-21)T

**05. Option to a Check Scale for Specialty License Renewal.** An examination as may be devised by the Board may be used in-lieu-of a check scale for renewal of specialty licenses. (7-1-21)T

**401. -- 499. (RESERVED)**

**500. METHOD OF SCALING FOREST PRODUCTS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.**

**01. Scribner Decimal "C".** Log scaling by the Scribner decimal "C" method must be made according to scaling practices and procedures described in the "Idaho Log Scaling Manual" and Sections 501 through 504 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Cubic Volume.** Log scaling by a cubic volume method must be made according to scaling practices and procedures agreed upon in writing between parties to a scaling agreement. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Scaling Methods.** Log scaling by any method other than Scribner decimal “C” or cubic volume will be considered and determined by the Board upon written request. (7-1-21)T

**501. GROSS VOLUME CONVERSIONS.**

**01. Conversion to Gross Decimal “C” or Gross Cubic Volume.** Gross volume measurement determined in a manner other than decimal “C” or cubic volume will be converted to an equivalent decimal “C” or cubic volume gross scale. (7-1-21)T

**02. Conversion Factors.** Measurement procedures and converting factors described in the Special Situations Measurement section, Chapter Two (2) of the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual,” may be used to express decimal “C” board foot equivalents. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Conversion Factors.** Measurement procedures and converting factors not listed in the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual” will be considered and determined by the Board upon written request. (7-1-21)T

**502. GENERAL SCALING REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Written Scaling Specifications.** At any scaling site, licensed scalers will be provided with a written document that states the information necessary to scale logs in accordance with a contractual scaling agreement. (7-1-21)T

**02. Recording Measurements on Scale Tickets.** For each log scaled, scalers must record a combination of data from which both gross and net volume can be derived. This data includes scaling length and scaling diameter(s). (7-1-21)T

**03. Load Identification.** Scalers must ensure that all loads are readily identifiable upon completion of scaling. (7-1-21)T

**503. GROSS DECIMAL “C” SCALE DETERMINATION.**

Contractual scaling agreements relating to determination of Scribner decimal “C” gross scale may not establish any scaling requirement that differs from those stated in the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual” except for a minimum top diameter that may be smaller than five and fifty-one hundredths inches (5.51”) actual measure. Licensed scalers will be provided with written scaling specifications that denote any minimum top diameter that is smaller than five and fifty-one hundredths inches (5.51”) actual measure. (7-1-21)T

**504. NET DECIMAL “C” SCALE DETERMINATION.**

Contractual scaling agreements relating to determination of Scribner decimal “C” net scale may establish scaling requirements that differ from those stated in the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual.” Licensed scalers will be provided with written scaling specifications that clearly describe any changes in net scale scaling practices. (7-1-21)T

**505. -- 799. (RESERVED)**

**800. CHECK SCALING PROCEDURES.**

**01. Valid Check Scale.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Check scaling requires a minimum of fifty (50) logs containing a decimal “C” gross scale of at least ten thousand (10,000) board feet. When other methods of measurement are used, the check scaler will investigate the situation and determine the most logical method of check scaling. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Check scaling will be performed without scaler’s knowledge, when possible. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Check scales are performed only on logs that are in the same position as presented to the scaler. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Check scales will not be performed if the logs are not spread adequately enough, in the check scaler's discretion, to allow for accurate scaling. If these conditions arise, the check scaler makes a written report describing the conditions and surrounding circumstances. The Board will make a decision as to the disposition of these conditions and direct the check scaler accordingly. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The check scaler must use the written scaling specifications that have been provided to the scaler. In the absence or omission of written scaling specifications, logs will be check scaled according to scaling methodology stated within the "Idaho Log Scaling Manual." (7-1-21)T

**02. Cooperative Scaling.** Cooperative scaling involves two (2) scalers, using different scaling specifications, working together to determine the log scale volume. In these instances, each scaler is individually responsible for the scale recorded. (7-1-21)T

**03. Team Scaling.** Team scaling is two (2) scalers, using the same scaling specifications, working together to determine the log scale volume. In these instances, both scalers are responsible for the scale recorded, except that if one (1) of the individuals is an apprentice scaler, the licensed scaler is responsible for the scale recorded. (7-1-21)T

**04. Holding Check Scale Log Loads.** All log loads involved in an unacceptable check scale will be held at the point of the check scale until such time as the logs have been reviewed with the scaler, or for a period up to forty-eight (48) hours. (7-1-21)T

**a.** During this period the load(s) may not be moved or tampered with in any way. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Board's check scaler will mark all loads that must be held, and notify the scaler and landing supervisors respectively. (7-1-21)T

**801. -- 809. (RESERVED)**

**810. CHECK SCALING STANDARDS OF VARIATION.**

**01. Allowable Limits of Variation.** To determine a check scale as acceptable or unacceptable for Board consideration, and when the method of measurement is the Coconino Scribner decimal C log rule, a scaler must be within allowable limits of variation in the following categories:

| CATEGORY            |   | ALLOWABLE VARIATION                        |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>Gross Volume</b> | For logs in round form                        | +/- 2.0 percent                            |
|                     | For logs in fractional or slab form           | +/- 5.0 percent                            |
| <b>Net Volume</b>   | Check scale percent of defect on logs checked |  |
|                     | Sawlogs                                       |  |
|                     | Up to 10                                      | +/- 2.0 percent                            |
|                     | 10.1 to 15                                    | +/- 3.0 percent                            |
|                     | 15.1 to 20                                    | +/- 0.2 percent for each percent of defect |
|                     | Over 20                                       | +/- 5.0 percent                            |
|                     | Pulp Logs                                     | +/- 5.0 percent                            |
|                     | Cedar Product Logs                            | +/- 8.0 percent                            |
|                     | Species Identification Errors                 | 3.0 percent                                |
|                     | Product Classification Errors                 | 3.0 percent                                |

(7-1-21)T

**02. Combination Logs.** For purposes of determining product classification errors, combination logs are counted as one-half (1/2), one-third (1/3), one-fourth (1/4) -- depending on the number of scaling segments -- to arrive at a piece or log count variation. Combination logs will be considered only when provided for in a contractual scaling agreement or written scaling specifications. (7-1-21)T

**03. Check Scales Involving Multiple Variations.** Some check scales will involve more than one (1) parameter of variation. The overall allowable limit of variation to determine acceptability or unacceptability of the total gross or net scales is determined by the following formula:

|  |
|--|
| $OAV = \frac{(a \times E) + (b \times E) + (c \times F)}{(D + E + F)}$ |
| OAV = overall allowable percentage variation                           |
| A = allowable percentage variation for gross/net sawlog scale          |
| B = allowable percentage variation for gross/net pulp log scale        |
| C = allowable percentage variation for gross/net cedar products scale  |
| D = check scaler's gross/net sawlog scale                              |
| E = check scaler's gross/net pulp log scale                            |
| F = check scaler's gross/net cedar products log scale                  |

(7-1-21)T

**811. -- 819. (RESERVED)**

**820. REQUESTED CHECK SCALE.**

A check scale may be performed upon request of any individual, company, or corporation. (7-1-21)T

**01. Submission of Request.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The request must be in writing and approved by the Board's executive director. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The request must be made by a party directly affected and involve disputes on scaling. (7-1-21)T

**02. Cost of a Requested Check Scale.** The fee is two hundred dollars (\$200) for each day, or part of a day, that the check scaler is scaling the logs. (7-1-21)T

**821. -- 829. (RESERVED)**

**830. CHECK SCALE REPORT.**

**01. Check Scale Results.** The check scaler will make a report of his findings to the Board. (7-1-21)T

**02. Persons Entitled to a Copy of the Check Scale Report.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Persons directly affected and entitled to a copy of the check scale report on temporary permits and relicensure check scales are the scaler and the scaler's employer(s). (7-1-21)T

**b.** Persons directly affected and entitled to a copy of the check scale report on routine and requested check scales include the scaler, the scaler's employer(s), the scaler's supervisor(s), the logging contractor(s), or other persons directly affected by the check scale report as determined by the Board's executive director. (7-1-21)T

**831. -- 909. (RESERVED)**

**910. INFORMAL HEARINGS -- SCOPE AND AUTHORITY.**



Sections 910 through 980 apply to all informal hearings before the Board. These rules are adopted pursuant to Sections 38-1208 and 67-5201, et seq., Idaho Code, and are intended to facilitate the Board in executing its duties and responsibilities under Title 38, Chapter 12, Idaho Code. These rules are construed to effectuate the intent of the legislature in adopting the Idaho Scaling Law in a reasonable, fair and expeditious manner. (7-1-21)T

**911. -- 919. (RESERVED)**

**920. COMPLAINTS.**

- 01. Submittal of Complaint.** Is submitted in writing in the name of the primary complainant. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Contents of Complaint.** Must state: (7-1-21)T
- a.** The name and address of the person or entity actually aggrieved; (7-1-21)T
- b.** A short and plain statement of the nature of the complaint, including the location and date of the alleged violation; (7-1-21)T
- c.** The complainant's notarized signature; (7-1-21)T
- d.** The complainant must submit written or documentary evidence in support of the alleged violation; and (7-1-21)T
- e.** In the case of a gross scale complaint, which alleges violations of Section 38-1220(b), Idaho Code, the complainant must also provide a readable copy of the contract, payment slips, and scale tickets for each transaction involved in the alleged complaint. (7-1-21)T

**921. -- 929. (RESERVED).**

**930. RESPONSE TO COMPLAINT.**

- 01. Response.** The respondent must submit to the Board a written response to the allegations of the complaint, with supporting evidence, within thirty (30) days after receiving a copy of the same from the Board. The Board will presume that the respondent received such complaint and evidence within three (3) days after mailing by the Board, unless the respondent submits evidence to the contrary to the Board. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Consideration of Complaint.** The Board will consider a complaint in its next meeting following the timely response of the respondent or the respondent's failure to respond within the time limit of Subsection 930.01. (7-1-21)T

**931. ACCESS TO RECORDS.**

The Board will provide to the respondent or his counsel a copy of the complaint and any supporting evidence to which the respondent does not have access, at the earliest date after the Board has received the same. The Board will provide the complainant or his counsel a copy of any answer or response and supporting evidence thereof to which the complainant does not have access, at the earliest date after the Board has received the same. (7-1-21)T

**932. -- 939. (RESERVED).**

**940. CONDUCT OF INFORMAL HEARINGS.**

- 01. Hearing Procedure.** The chairman of the Board will minimize, where possible, the use or application of formal court rules of procedure and evidence in the spirit of an informal hearing consistent with the intent of these rules, fairness to the parties, and the interests of justice. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Statements.** The complainant and the respondent may make a brief statement concerning the allegation(s) and may introduce new evidence in support of or in opposition to the allegation(s). Statements must be

concise, specific, relevant to the allegation(s), and limited to ten (10) minutes per party, unless the specific allegation(s) as determined by the chairman clearly requires greater time to address the same. (7-1-21)T

**03. Questions Directed to the Board.** All questions at the hearing are directed to the Board. The Board will consider written or oral questions from the complainant or respondent at the hearing or take such questions under advisement. (7-1-21)T

**04. Questions Asked by the Board.** Only the Board may ask questions of the complainant or respondent and may call witnesses. (7-1-21)T

**05. Representation by Counsel.** The complainant and the respondent may be represented by counsel. (7-1-21)T

**941. -- 949. (RESERVED)**

**950. TIME FOR BOARD DETERMINATION.**

After submission of the complaint and supporting documentation for evidence in accord with Section 930, and after an informal hearing on a complaint wherein the parties have had opportunity to respond to these allegations and to present testimony, documentation, or other evidence thereon in accord with Section 940, the Board may thereafter make its determination or take the matter under advisement and reach its determination within thirty (30) days. (7-1-21)T

**951. -- 959. (RESERVED).**

**960. FINAL DETERMINATION.**

The Board's determination is final, subject to appeal pursuant to Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**961. -- 969. (RESERVED).**

**970. BOARD ACTION UPON DETERMINATION OF PROBABLE VIOLATION.**

In the event that the Board determines that the complaint and supporting evidence indicate a probable violation of the Idaho Scaling Law, the Board will, within thirty (30) days after that determination, transmit the complaint and supporting documentation to the prosecutor of the county where the violation occurred. (7-1-21)T

**971. -- 999. (RESERVED).**

**20.07.02 – RULES GOVERNING CONSERVATION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS  
IN THE STATE OF IDAHO**

**SUBCHAPTER A – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

This Chapter is adopted under the legal authorities of Title 47, Chapter 3, Idaho Code; and Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.07.02, “Rules Governing Conservation of Oil and Natural Gas in the State of Idaho.” (7-1-21)T

**02. Scope.** These rules apply to the exploration and extraction of any and all crude oil and natural gas resources in the state of Idaho, not including biogas, manufactured gas, or landfill gas, regardless of ownership. (7-1-21)T

**03. Other Laws.** Owners or operators engaged in the exploration and extraction of crude oil and natural gas resources will comply with all applicable laws and rules of the state of Idaho including, but not limited to the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Idaho water quality standards and waste water treatment requirements established in Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code; IDAPA 58.01.02, “Water Quality Standards”; IDAPA 58.01.16, “Wastewater Rules”; and IDAPA 58.01.11, “Ground Water Quality Rule,” administered by the IDEQ. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Idaho air quality standards established in Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code and IDAPA 58.01.01 “Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho,” administered by the IDEQ. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Requirements and procedures for hazardous and solid waste management, as established in Title 39, Chapter 44, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated thereunder including IDAPA 58.01.05, “Rules and Standards for Hazardous Waste”; IDAPA 58.01.06, “Solid Waste Management Rules”; and IDAPA 58.01.10, “Rules Regulating the Disposal of Radioactive Materials Not Regulated Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, As Amended,” administered by the IDEQ. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Idaho Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated thereunder including IDAPA 37.03.07, “Stream Channel Alteration Rules,” administered by the IDWR. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Injection Well Act, Title 42, Chapter 39, Idaho Code and rules promulgated thereunder including IDAPA 37.03.03, “Rules and Minimum Standards for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells,” administered by the IDWR. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Department of Water Resources – Water Resource Board Act, Title 42, Chapter 17, Idaho Code and rules promulgated thereunder including IDAPA 37.03.06, “Safety of Dams Rules,” administered by the IDWR. (7-1-21)T

**002. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

Any person aggrieved by any final decision or order of the Commission shall be entitled to judicial review pursuant to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code, Title 47, Chapter 3, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 20.07.01, “Rules of Practice and Procedure before the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.” (7-1-21)T

**003. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.**

The following documents are incorporated by reference into these rules: (7-1-21)T

**01. API Bulletin E3, Well Abandonment and Inactive Well Practices for U.S. Exploration and Production Operations, Environmental Guidance Document.** 1st Edition, January 1993 and Reaffirmed June 2000 available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**02. API SPEC 5CT, Specifications for Casing and Tubing.** The 8th edition dated July, 1, 2005 and the amendments dated March, 31, 2006 and April, 7, 2006 are available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**03. API SPEC 10a, Specification for Cements and Materials for Well Cementing.** The 24th Edition

dated December, 2010 is available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**04. ASTM D698-07e1, Standard Test Methods for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort (12,400 ft-lbf/ft<sup>3</sup> (600 kN-m/m<sup>3</sup>)).** 2007 revision. Available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**05. ASTM D1250-08, Standard Guide for Use of the Petroleum Measurement Tables.** 2008 revision. Available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**06. ASTM D1557-09, Standard Test Methods for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Modified Effort (56,000 ft-lbf/ft<sup>3</sup> (2,700 kN-m/m<sup>3</sup>)).** 2009 revision. Available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103. (7-1-21)T

**07. EPA SW-846 Method 9090A, Compatibility Test for Wastes and Membrane Liners.** Revision 1, July 1992. Available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103 and this website: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/testmethods/sw846/pdfs/9090a.pdf>. (7-1-21)T

**08. OSHA Standard 1910.1200 (Hazard Communication).** Last revised 1996. Available at the office of the Idaho Department of Lands at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 103 and this website: [http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=standards&p\\_id=10099](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=standards&p_id=10099). (7-1-21)T

**004. -- 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Act.** The Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Act, Title 47, Chapter 3, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**02. Active Well.** A permitted well used for production, disposal, or injection that is not idled for more than twenty-four (24) continuous months. (7-1-21)T

**03. Barrel.** Forty-two (42) U. S. gallons at sixty (60) Degrees F at atmospheric pressure. (7-1-21)T

**04. Blowout.** An unplanned sudden or violent escape of fluids from a well. (7-1-21)T

**05. Blowout Preventer.** A casinghead control equipped with special gates or rams that can be closed and sealed around the drill pipe, or that otherwise completely closes the top of the casing. (7-1-21)T

**06. Bonus Payment.** Monetary consideration that is paid by the lessee to the lessor for the execution of an oil and gas lease. (7-1-21)T

**07. Casing Pressure.** The pressure within the casing or between the casing, tubing, or drill pipe. (7-1-21)T

**08. Casinghead.** A metal flange attached to the top of the conductor pipe that is the primary interface for the diverter system during drilling out for surface casing. (7-1-21)T

**09. Casinghead Gas.** Any gas or vapor, or both, indigenous to an oil stratum and produced from such stratum with oil. (7-1-21)T

**10. Common Source of Supply.** The geographical area or horizon definitely separated from any other such area or horizon and which contains, or from competent evidence appears to contain, a common accumulation of oil or gas or both. Any oil or gas field or part thereof which comprises and includes any area which is underlaid, or which from geological or other scientific data or experiments or from drilling operations or other evidence appears to be underlaid by a common pool or accumulation of oil or gas or both oil and gas. (7-1-21)T

**11. Completion.** An oil well is considered completed when the first new oil is produced through

wellhead equipment into lease tanks from the ultimate producing interval after the production casing has been run. A gas well is considered completed when the well is capable of producing gas through wellhead equipment from the ultimate producing zone after the production casing has been run. (7-1-21)T

**12. Conductor Pipe.** The first and largest diameter string of casing to be installed in a well. This casing extends from land surface to a depth great enough to keep surface waters from entering and loose earth from falling in the hole and to provide anchorage for the diverter system prior to setting surface casing. (7-1-21)T

**13. Cubic Foot of Gas.** The volume of gas contained in one (1) cubic foot of space at a standard pressure base and a standard temperature base. The standard pressure base shall be fourteen and seventy-three hundredths (14.73) pounds per square inch absolute and the standard temperature base shall be sixty (60) Degrees F. (7-1-21)T

**14. Day.** A period of twenty-four (24) consecutive hours from 8 a.m. one day to 8 a.m. the following day. (7-1-21)T

**15. Development.** Any work that actively promotes bringing in production. (7-1-21)T

**16. Director.** The head of the Idaho Department of Lands and secretary to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, or his designee. (7-1-21)T

**17. Drilling Logs.** The recorded description of the lithologic sequence encountered in drilling a well, and any electric, gamma ray, geophysical, or other logging done in the hole. (7-1-21)T

**18. Fresh Water.** All surface waters and those ground waters that are used, or may be used in the future, for drinking water, agriculture, aquaculture, or industrial purposes other than oil and gas development. The possibility of future use is based on hydrogeologic conditions, water quality, future land use activities, and social/economic considerations. (7-1-21)T

**19. Gas-Oil Ratio.** The volume of gas produced in standard cubic feet to each barrel of oil or condensate produced concurrently during any stated period. (7-1-21)T

**20. Gas Processing Facility.** A facility that conditions liquids or gas by compression, dehydration, refrigeration, or by other means. (7-1-21)T

**21. Gas Well.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** A well that produces primarily natural gas; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Any well capable of producing gas in commercial quantities and also producing oil from the same common source of supply but not in commercial quantities; or (7-1-21)T

**c.** Any well classed as a gas well by the Commission for any reason. (7-1-21)T

**22. Geophysical or Seismic Operations.** Any geophysical method performed on the surface of the land utilizing certain instruments operating under the laws of physics respecting vibration or sound to determine conditions below the surface of the earth that may contain oil or gas and is inclusive of, but not limited to, the preliminary line survey, the acquisition of necessary permits, the selection and marking of shot-hole locations, necessary clearing of vegetation, shot-hole drilling, implantation of charge, placement of geophones, detonation and backfill of shot-holes, and vibroseis. (7-1-21)T

**23. Hydraulic Fracturing, or Fracing.** A method of stimulating or increasing the recovery of hydrocarbons by perforating the production casing and injecting fluids or gels into the potential target reservoir at pressures greater than the existing fracture gradient in the target reservoir. (7-1-21)T

**24. Inactive Well.** An unplugged well that has no reported production, disposal, injection, or other permitted activity for a period of greater than twenty-four (24) continuous months, and for which no extension has been granted. (7-1-21)T

25. **Intermediate Casing.** The casing installed within the well to seal intermediate zones above the anticipated bottom hole depth. The casing is generally set in place after the surface casing and before the production casing. (7-1-21)T
26. **Junk.** Debris in a hole that impedes drilling or completion. (7-1-21)T
27. **Lease.** A tract(s) of land that by virtue of an oil and gas lease, fee or mineral ownership, a drilling, pooling or other agreement, a rule, regulation or order of a governmental authority, or otherwise constitutes a single tract or leasehold estate for the purpose of the development or operation thereof for oil or gas or both. (7-1-21)T
28. **Mechanical Integrity Test.** A test designed to determine if there is a significant leak in the casing, tubing, or packer of a well. (7-1-21)T
29. **Oil Well.** Any well capable of primarily producing oil in paying quantities, but not a gas well. (7-1-21)T
30. **Pit.** Any excavated or constructed depression or reservoir used to contain reserve, drilling, well treatment, produced water, or other fluids at the drill site. This does not include enclosed, mobile, or portable tanks used to contain fluids. (7-1-21)T
31. **Pollution.** Constituents of oil, gas, salt water, or other materials used in oil and gas extraction, occurring in fresh water supplies at levels that exceed the standards in IDAPA 58.01.02, "Water Quality Standards," and IDAPA 58.01.11, "Ground Water Quality Rules," as the result of the drilling, casing, treating, operation or plugging of wells. (7-1-21)T
32. **Pressure Maintenance.** The injection of gas, water, or other fluids into oil or gas reservoirs to maintain pressure or retard pressure decline in the reservoir for the purpose of increasing the recovery of oil or other hydrocarbons therefrom. (7-1-21)T
33. **Produced Water.** Water that is produced along with oil or gas. (7-1-21)T
34. **Production Casing.** The casing set across the reservoir interval and within which the primary completion components are installed. (7-1-21)T
35. **Proppant.** Sand or other materials used in hydraulic fracturing to prop open fractures. (7-1-21)T
36. **Release.** Any unauthorized spilling, leaking, emitting, discharging, escaping, leaching, or disposing into soil, ground water, or surface water. (7-1-21)T
37. **Spud.** To start the drilling process by removing rock, dirt, and other sedimentary material with the drill bit. (7-1-21)T
38. **Surface Casing.** The first casing that is run after the conductor pipe to anchor blow out prevention equipment and seals out fresh water zones. (7-1-21)T
39. **Surface Water.** Rivers, streams, lakes, and springs when flowing in their natural channels. (7-1-21)T
40. **Systems Approach.** The disclosure of chemical information by chemical abstract service name only, without disclosing component percentages or chemical relationships. (7-1-21)T
41. **Tank.** A concrete, metal, or plastic stationary vessel used to contain fluids. (7-1-21)T
42. **Tank Battery.** One (1) or more tanks that are connected to receive crude oil, condensate, or produced waters from a well(s) and that serves as the point of collection and disbursement of oil or gas from a well(s). (7-1-21)T

43. **Tank Dike.** An impermeable man-made structure constructed around a tank to contain leakage from the tank. (7-1-21)T
44. **Tubing.** Pipe used inside the production casing to convey oil or gas from the producing interval to the surface. (7-1-21)T
45. **Volatile Organic Compound.** Organic chemical compounds whose composition makes it possible for them to evaporate under normal indoor atmospheric conditions of sixty-eight (68) degrees F and an absolute pressure of fourteen point seven (14.7) psi atmospheric. (7-1-21)T
46. **Waterflooding.** The injection into a reservoir through one (1) or more wells with volumes of water for the purpose of increasing the recovery of oil therefrom. (7-1-21)T
47. **Well Report.** The written record progressively describing the strata, water, oil, or gas encountered in drilling a well with such additional information as to give volumes, pressures, rate of fill-up, water depths, casing strata, casing record, etc., as is usually recorded in normal procedure of drilling; also, it includes electrical radioactivity, or other similar logs run, lithologic description of all cores, and all drill-stem tests, including depth-tested, cushion-used, time tool open, flowing and shut-in pressures and recoveries. (7-1-21)T
48. **Well Site.** The areas that are directly disturbed during the drilling and subsequent operation of, or affected by production facilities directly associated with, any oil well, gas well, or injection well, and its associated well pad. (7-1-21)T
49. **Well Treatment.** Actions performed on a well to acidize, fracture, or stimulate the target reservoir. (7-1-21)T
50. **Wildcat Well.** An exploratory well drilled in an area of unknown subsurface conditions. (7-1-21)T
- 011. ABBREVIATIONS.**
01. **API.** American Petroleum Institute. (7-1-21)T
02. **ASTM.** American Society for Testing and Materials. (7-1-21)T
03. **BBL.** Oilfield Barrel. (7-1-21)T
04. **BOP.** Blowout Preventer. (7-1-21)T
05. **CAS.** Chemical Abstracts Service. (7-1-21)T
06. **EPA.** United States Environmental Protection Agency. (7-1-21)T
07. **F.** Fahrenheit. (7-1-21)T
08. **GPS.** Global Positioning System. (7-1-21)T
09. **HDPE.** High Density Polyethylene. (7-1-21)T
10. **IDAPA.** Idaho Administrative Procedure Act. (7-1-21)T
11. **IDEQ.** Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (7-1-21)T
12. **IDWR.** Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-21)T
13. **MCF.** One thousand cubic foot. (7-1-21)T

- 14. **MSDS.** Material Safety Data Sheet. (7-1-21)T
- 15. **OSHA.** Occupational Safety & Health Administration. (7-1-21)T
- 16. **PSI.** Pounds per Square Inch. (7-1-21)T
- 17. **PVC.** Polyvinyl Chloride. (7-1-21)T

**012. -- 014. (RESERVED)**

**015. PROTECTION OF CORRELATIVE RIGHTS.**

The Commission and the Department should afford a reasonable opportunity to each person entitled thereto to recover or receive the oil or gas in such person's tract(s) or the equivalent thereof, without being required to drill unnecessary wells or to incur other unnecessary expense to recover or receive such oil or gas or its equivalent.

(7-1-21)T

**016. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. APPLICABILITY.**

**01. Oil and Gas Development.** These rules apply to oil and gas development and carry out the Commission's duty to prevent waste, protect correlative rights, and prevent pollution of fresh water supplies through activities authorized by these rules.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Exclusions.** These rules do not apply to the exploration and development of other mineral resources covered by Title 47, Chapter 13, Idaho Code; Title 47, Chapter 15, Idaho Code; or Title 42, Chapter 40, Idaho Code.

(7-1-21)T

**021. CLASS II INJECTION WELLS.**

Class II injection wells, as described in IDAPA 37.03.03, "Rules and Minimum Standards for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells," are currently not authorized under this rule. Permits for Class II injection wells must be obtained through IDAPA 37.03.03.

(7-1-21)T

**022. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. NOTICES - GENERAL.**

**01. Written Authorization Required.** Any written notice of intention to do work or to change plans previously approved must be filed with the Department, unless otherwise directed, and must be approved before the work is begun. Such approval may be given orally and, if so given, shall thereafter be confirmed by the Department in writing. Written notices may be submitted to the Department by e-mail or facsimile.

(7-1-21)T

**02. Emergency Authorization.** In case of emergency, or a situation where operations might be unduly delayed, any written notice required by these rules and regulations to be given the Department may be given orally or by wire and if approval is obtained, the transaction shall be confirmed in writing, as a matter of record.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Publication of Legal Notices.** Whenever these rules require a legal notice to be published in a newspaper, the notice must be published once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks.

(7-1-21)T

**031. FORMS.**

The Department will adopt such forms of notices, requests, permits, and reports as it may deem advisable or necessary in carrying out the provisions of law and its rules.

(7-1-21)T

**032. ORGANIZATION REPORTS.**

**01. Required Content.** Before any person engages in any activity covered by the statutes and rules of the Commission, that person must file an organization report with the Department. The organization report must



include the following information: (7-1-21)T

- a. The person's name and the type of the business being operated or conducted; (7-1-21)T
- b. The mailing address to which all correspondence from the Department is to be sent; (7-1-21)T
- c. The telephone number(s), facsimile number(s), and e-mail address(es) for which contact by the Department may be made; (7-1-21)T
- d. The names of persons authorized to submit required forms, reports, and other documents to the Department; and (7-1-21)T
- e. If a legal entity, proof the person is authorized to transact business within the state. (7-1-21)T

**02. Updates.** A supplementary report must be filed with the Department within thirty (30) days of any change to facts stated in a previously-filed organization report. (7-1-21)T

**033. DESIGNATION OF AGENT.**

A "Designation of Agent" must be submitted to the Department in a manner and form approved by the Department prior to the commencement of operations. A Designation of Agent(s) will be accepted as authority of agent to fulfill the obligations of the owner and to sign any papers or reports required under these oil and gas operating regulations, and all authorized orders or notices given by the Department when given in the manner hereinafter provided will be deemed service of such orders or notices upon the owner and the lessee. All changes of address and any termination of the agent's authority must be immediately reported in writing to the Department and, in the latter case, the designation of a new agent(s) must be immediately made. If the designated agent(s) is at any time incapacitated for duty or absent from the address provided, the owner must designate in writing a substitute to serve in his or their stead, and in the absence of such owner or of notice of appointment of a substitute then, in such case, notices may be given by the Department by delivering a registered letter to the United States Post Office at Boise, Idaho, directed to the agent(s) at the address shown on the current Designation of Agent on file in the Department's office, and such notice will be deemed service upon the owner and lessee. (7-1-21)T

**034. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Applications submitted under Sections 100, 200, 210, 230 and 330 of these rules will be posted on the Department's website for a fifteen-day (15) written comment period. The Department will also send an electronic copy of the application to the respective county, and city if applicable, where the proposed operation is located. The purpose of the comment period is to receive written comments on whether a proposed application complies with these rules. These comments will be considered by the Department prior to permit approval or denial. Relevant comments will be posted on the Department's website following the comment period. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. ENFORCEMENT.**

The Department enforces these rules pursuant to Section 47-325, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**SUBCHAPTER B – EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**100. GEOPHYSICAL OPERATIONS.**

**01. Permit Required.** Before beginning seismic operations in the state of Idaho, a representative of the client company and the seismic contractor will meet with the staff of the Department, file an application for a permit to conduct seismic operations, and pay an application fee. No seismic operation may be conducted without such a permit. The Department has discretion to waive the requirement of the pre-permit meeting for the client company. The permit for seismic operations may be revoked or suspended or the application for the permit denied by the

Department for failure to comply with the Commission's rules, statutes, and orders. The Department may revoke, suspend, or deny the application for a seismic permit without a hearing; provided that the seismic contractor will be given an opportunity for a hearing at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting. The fact that a permit is revoked or suspended does not excuse the seismic contractor or client company from properly plugging existing seismic holes but does prohibit the person(s) from drilling any more. The application for a permit for seismic operations must include: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The proposed route of the seismic line on a topographic or recent air photo base map at a sufficient scale to show roads, buildings, surface waters, and Section, Township, and Range lines. The map must also show additional area as needed for any alternative routing. The alternative routing must be within at least one-half (1/2) mile of the proposed route. Reapplication must be made if the final route strays from the proposed route and outside the designated alternative routing areas; and (7-1-21)T

**b.** The energy sources proposed to be used for the seismic operation, such as vibroseis, shot holes, surface shot, or others. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The approximate number, depth, and location of the seismic holes and the size of the explosive charges. The application must be accompanied by a map with a scale of one inch equaling two (2) miles that shows the depth and location of the shotholes. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The name and permanent address of the client company the Department may contact about the seismic operation. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The name, permanent address, and phone number of the seismic contractor and his local representative whom the Department may contact about the seismic activity. (7-1-21)T

**f.** The name, phone number, and permanent address of the hole plugging contractor, if different from the seismic contractor. (7-1-21)T

**g.** A detailed description of the hole plugging procedures, and a description of the surface reclamation procedures, if such reclamation is needed. (7-1-21)T

**h.** The anticipated starting date of seismic operations. (7-1-21)T

**i.** The anticipated completion date of seismic operations, and the anticipated date of any required reclamation or hole plugging. (7-1-21)T

**j.** A description of the identifying mark that will be on the hat or nonmetallic plug to be used in the plugging of the seismic hole. (7-1-21)T

**02. Operating Requirements.** All geophysical operations must comply with the following requirements: (7-1-21)T

**a.** All vehicles utilized by the permit holder, or its agents or contractors, shall be clearly identified by signs or markings utilizing letters or numbers, or a combination thereof, a minimum of three (3) inches in height and one-half (1/2) inch wide, indicating the name of such agent. (7-1-21)T

**b.** No seismic source generation from vibroseis, shot holes, surface shot, or other method shall be conducted within two hundred (200) feet of any residence, water well, oil well, gas well, injection well or other structure without having first secured the express written authority of the owner(s) thereof and the permit holder shall be responsible for any resulting damages. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Written authority from the owner of a residence, water well, oil well, gas well, injection well or other structure must also be obtained from the owner(s) if any explosive charge exceeds the maximum allowable charge within the scaled distance below:

| DISTANCE TO STRUCTURE<br>(Feet)*                                       | MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE CHARGE WEIGHTS<br>(Pounds)* |
|--|---|
| 50   | 0.5   |
| 100  | 2.0   |
| 150  | 4.5   |
| 200  | 8.0   |
| 250  | 12.0  |
| 300  | 18.0  |
| 350  | 25.0  |
| * Based upon a charge weight of seventy (70) Foot/Pound <sup>1/2</sup> |   |

(7-1-21)T

**d.** The maximum allowable charge weight is twenty-five (25) pounds, unless the permit holder requests and secures the prior written authorization from the Department. (7-1-21)T

**e.** All seismic sources placed for detonation shall contain additives to accelerate the biodegradation thereof and shall be handled with due care in accordance with industry standards. The cap leads for any seismic sources that fail to detonate shall be buried at least three (3) feet deep. (7-1-21)T

**f.** All vegetation cleared to the ground shall be cleared in a competent and workmanlike manner in the exercise of due care. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Unless otherwise consented to by the surface owner in writing, permit holder shall not cut down any tree measuring six (6) inches or more in diameter, as measured at a height of three (3) feet from the ground surface, unless there are no reasonable alternatives to the removal of such tree(s) available to permit holder. Permit holder shall compensate surface owner the value of all such trees. (7-1-21)T

**h.** All excessive rutting or soil disturbances shall be repaired or restored to the original condition and contour to the extent reasonable, unless otherwise agreed to by the permit holder and the surface owner in writing. (7-1-21)T

**i.** All fences removed shall be replaced, unless otherwise agreed to by the permit holder and the surface owner in writing. (7-1-21)T

**j.** All debris associated with the seismic activity shall be removed and properly disposed. (7-1-21)T

**03. Bond Required.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Before beginning geophysical operations, the geophysical contractor must file and have approved by the Department a bond in the amount of at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The Department may increase this bonding requirement for geophysical contractors based on the amount of potential damage from the contemplated operation. The condition of such bond shall comply with the Act, the rules and orders of the Commission, and orders of the Department. The obligation of the bond shall not be discharged until one (1) year from completion of the survey or until the geophysical contractor has complied with the Oil and Gas Conservation Law, the Commission's rules, and the orders of the Commission and the Department. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Persons or other entities who engage in the plugging of seismic holes and are not a regular full-time employee of the seismic company, owner, or operator shall have posted with the director a surety bond in favor of the Department. Said bond shall be on a form prescribed by the Department and in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). The condition of the bond shall comply with the Oil and Gas Conservation Law and the regulations and

orders of the Commission and the Department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Newspaper Notice.** Before a geophysical contractor conducts the geophysical operation, the contractor shall publish a legal notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the survey will be conducted. The notice shall state the nature and approximate time period of the seismic operations. These requirements do not apply to operations conducted within a well or conducted by aerial surveys. (7-1-21)T

**05. Owner and Occupant Notification.** No entry shall be made by any person to conduct seismic operations, upon the lands where such seismic operations are to be conducted, without the permit holder having first given notice at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to commencement of field seismic operations. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The notice shall be in writing and given either personally or by certified United States mail to the following persons: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Surface owners reflected in the tax records of the counties where the lands are located, at the mailing addresses identified for such surface owners in such records; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Occupants residing on the lands who are not the surface owners, if it can be reasonably ascertained that there are such occupants; and (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Owners or operators of oil and gas wells within the seismic survey area, as reflected in Department records. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The notice shall contain the following: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Name of the person or entity that is conducting the seismic operations; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Proposed location of the seismic operations; and (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Approximate date the person or entity proposes to commence seismic operations. (7-1-21)T

**06. Department Notifications.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The permit holder shall also notify the Department within five (5) business days of the commencement and completion of each seismic operation. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Before beginning geophysical operations other than seismic operations, the geophysical contractor shall file a notice of intention to do so with the Department. Said notice shall describe the geophysical method to be used and be accompanied by a map of a scale of one (1) inch equals two (2) miles showing the location of the project. (7-1-21)T

**07. Reports and Notices Required.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Activity Report. Upon completion of the seismic activity or at thirty (30) day intervals after the work has commenced, whichever occurs first, the seismic contractor shall file with the Department a report of the completion or progress of the seismic project. The final completion report shall be in affidavit form and shall include a seven and one-half (7.5) - or fifteen (15) minute United States Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map (at a scale of one (1) inch equals two thousand (2,000) feet or one (1) inch equals four thousand (4,000) feet that shows section, township, and range) and the location of each survey so that the shotholes and other potential impacts can be easily located. The final completion report shall also include a statement that all work has been performed in compliance with the application for a permit to perform seismic activity, Section 100 of these rules, and permit provisions. Said maps, applications, and reports shall be kept confidential by the Department for a period of one (1) year from the date of receipt, subject to the needs of the Department to use them to enforce these regulations, the Act, and the orders of the Commission or the Department. Also, the owner of the surface of the land may be advised of the location of seismic lines or seismic holes on his land and of the exploration method used. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Plugging Notice. Seismic contractors shall give the Department at least twenty-four (24) hours

advance notice of shothole plugging operations, provided that notice of plugging operations planned for Sunday or Monday may be given on the previous Friday. (7-1-21)T

**08. Client-Contractor Responsibility.** The client company may be held responsible along with the seismic contractor for conducting the operation in compliance with the Commission's rules and orders, the Department's orders, and the Act for the seismic contractor's failure to comply with such rules, statutes, and orders. The hats used in the plugging of seismic holes shall be imprinted with the name of the contractor responsible for the plugging of the hole. (7-1-21)T

**09. Plugging.** Unless the seismic contractor can prove to the satisfaction of the Department that another method will provide better protection to ground water and long-term land stability, seismic shothole operations shall be conducted in the following manner: (7-1-21)T

**a.** When water is used in conjunction with the drilling of seismic shotholes and artesian flow is not encountered at the surface, seismic holes are to be filled with a high grade bentonite/water slurry mixture. Said slurry shall have a density that is at least four percent (4%) greater than the density of fresh water; said slurry shall also have a Marsh funnel viscosity of at least sixty (60) seconds per quart. Density and viscosity are to be measured prior to adding cuttings to the slurry. Cuttings not added to the slurry are to be disposed of in accordance with Paragraph 100.09.f. of this rule. Any other suitable plugging material commonly used in the industry may be substituted for the bentonite/water slurry as long as the physical characteristics of said substitute are at least comparable to those of the bentonite/water slurry. Between November 1 and May 1, coarse ground bentonite approved by the Department shall be used as a plugging material. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The hole will be filled with the slurry from the bottom up to a depth of three (3) feet (three (3) feet below ground level). A nonmetallic plug will be set at this depth of three (3) feet, and the remaining hole will be filled and tamped to the surface with cuttings and native soil. (7-1-21)T

**c.** When drilling with air and nonartesian water is encountered, the hole shall be plugged with the slurry mixture, or coarse ground bentonite, as specified in Paragraph 100.09.a., supra. (7-1-21)T

**d.** When drilling with air only and in completely dry holes, plugging may be accomplished by returning the cuttings to the hole, tamping the returned cuttings to the above-referenced depth of three (3) feet, and setting the permaplug topped with more cuttings and soil as per Paragraph 100.09.b. above. A small mound will be left over the hole for settling allowance. Auger holes twenty (20) feet or less in depth may be plugged in this same manner. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The foregoing seismic holes shall be properly plugged and abandoned as soon as practical after the shot has been fired; however, a shot hole shall not be left unplugged for more than thirty (30) days without approval of the Department. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Any slurry, drilling fluid, or cuttings which are deposited on the surface around the seismic hole will be raked or otherwise spread out to at least within one (1) inch of the surface, so that the growth of the natural grasses or foliage will not be impaired. (7-1-21)T

**g.** The requirements of Paragraphs 100.09.a. through 100.09.f. of this rule may be modified by any reasonable written agreement between the seismic company and the surface owner. (7-1-21)T

**h.** If artesian flow (water flowing at the surface) is encountered in the drilling of any seismic hole, cement will be used to seal off the water flow thereby preventing cross-flow, erosion, and/or contamination of freshwater supplies. Said holes shall be cemented immediately. (7-1-21)T

**i.** After completing the plugging of seismic shot holes and spreading the cuttings as required by this rule, the seismic contractor shall record the GPS location of the seismic hole, and the contractor shall provide the location data to the Department. (7-1-21)T

**10. Forfeiture of Geophysical Exploration Bond.** The Department may forfeit the bond submitted under Subsection 100.03 of this rule upon failure of the owner or operator to conduct the seismic survey and complete

reclamation in conformance with Section 100 of this rule. The owner or operator will be given an opportunity to address compliance issues prior to the Department taking action against the bond. (7-1-21)T

**101. -- 199. (RESERVED)**

**SUBCHAPTER C – DRILLING, WELL TREATMENT, AND PIT PERMITS**

**200. PERMIT TO DRILL, DEEPEN, OR PLUG BACK.**

**01. Permits Required.** Prior to the commencement of operations to drill, deepen, or plug back to any source of supply other than the existing producing horizon, application shall be delivered to the Department of intention to drill, deepen, or plug back any well for oil or gas, and approval obtained. (7-1-21)T

**02. Fees.** An application fee must accompany each application for permit to drill, deepen, or plug back. No service fee is required for a permit to deepen or plug back in a well for which the fee has been paid for permit to drill unless the drilling permit has expired. (7-1-21)T

**03. Time Required to Commence Operations; Term of Permit.** On the first anniversary of the date of issuance of a permit to drill, deepen, or plug back, said permit will expire and be of no further force or effect, unless the work for which the permit was issued has been started. Prior to the anniversary date, the owner or operator may apply for a one-time, six-month extension if work has not started. If conditions have not changed and no changes to the permit are requested, the extension may be approved by the Department. If a permit expires due to the failure to commence operations, then reapplication is required prior to commencing operations. (7-1-21)T

**04. Application.** The Application for Permit to Drill shall include a Department approved form and the following: (7-1-21)T

**a.** An accurate plat showing the location of the proposed well with reference to the nearest lines of an established public survey. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The location of the nearest structure with a water supply, or the nearest water well as shown on the IDWR registry of water rights or well log database. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Information on the type of tools to be used and the proposed logging program. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Proposed total depth to which the well will be drilled, estimated depth to the top of the important geologic markers, and the estimated depth to the top of the target formations. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The proposed casing program, including size and weight thereof, the depth at which each casing type is to be set. (7-1-21)T

**f.** The type and amount of cement to be used, and the intervals cemented. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Information on the drilling plan. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Best management practices to be used for erosion and sediment control. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Plan for interim reclamation of the drill site after the well is completed, and a plan for final reclamation of the drill site following plugging and abandonment of the well. These plans must contain the information needed to implement reclamation as described in Subsection 310.16 and Section 510 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**j.** Applications that include the following actions must also provide the information from the respective Section of these rules: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Well treatments require the submittal of the information in Section 210. (7-1-21)T

- ii. Pit construction and use requires the submittal of the information in Section 230. (7-1-21)T
- iii. Directional or horizontal drilling requires the submittal of the information in Section 330. (7-1-21)T
- k. Any other information which may be required by the Department based on site specific reasons. (7-1-21)T
- 05. Permit Denial.** Applications may be denied for the following reasons: (7-1-21)T
  - a. Application fee was not submitted. (7-1-21)T
  - b. Application is incomplete. (7-1-21)T
  - c. Failure to post required bonds. (7-1-21)T
  - d. Proposed well will result in a waste of oil or gas, a violation of correlative rights, or the pollution of fresh water supplies. (7-1-21)T

**201. MULTIPLE ZONE COMPLETIONS.**

**01. Requirements of the Owner or Operator; Request for Approval.** A multiple zone completion may be approved by the Department upon application by the owner or operator and payment of an application fee, as herein provided. The application shall be accompanied by an exhibit showing the location of wells on applicant's lease and all offset wells on leases, and shall set forth all material facts involved and the manner and method of completion proposed, including a diagrammatic sketch of the mechanical installation of the proposed well. The application fee may not exceed that required by Subsection 200.02 of these rules. Notice of the filing of such application shall be given by the applicant by mailing to each offset operator a notice containing a full description of the proposed completion for which approval is requested, and proof of mailing such notice shall be made by affidavit, which shall be attached to the application showing names and addresses of those to whom notice was mailed. (7-1-21)T

**02. Conditions for Approval; Cause for Hearing.** In the event the Department is in agreement with the application and that no offset operator files a written objection to the application with the Department within fifteen (15) days of the date of the offset operator's receipt of application, the application shall be approved as an amendment to the drilling permit. If any offset operator shall file in writing with the Department an objection to such multiple completion, or if the Department is not in agreement with the application, the matter shall be immediately set for hearing and Notice of Hearing duly given by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Zone Effectiveness; Requirement for Production Testing.** The Department may require such tests as necessary to determine the effectiveness of the segregation of the different productive zones. (7-1-21)T

**04. Commingling Production.** The Department may require that oil or gas from multiple zones be produced through different sets of tubing, if needed to protect correlative rights or to prevent waste. (7-1-21)T

**202. -- 209. (RESERVED)**

**210. WELL TREATMENTS.**

**01. Application Required.** An Application for Permit to Drill required by Section 200 must include any plans for well treatment if they are known before the well is drilled. If well treatments are not covered in the original drilling permit, then an application to amend the permit must be made to the Department with an application fee. Approval by the Department is required prior to the well treatments being implemented. Actions to clean the casing or perforations not in excess of pressures sufficient to overcome the fracture gradient in the surrounding formation are not considered to be well treatments, but operators must notify the Department when such actions occur. Applications for well treatments must include the permit number, well name, well location, as-built description if drilling has been completed, and the following: (7-1-21)T

- a. Depth to perforations or the openhole interval; (7-1-21)T
- b. The source of water or type of base fluid; (7-1-21)T
- c. Additives, meaning any substance or any combination of substances including proppant, having a specified purpose that is combined with base treatment fluid by trade name, if available, and MSDS for each additive; (7-1-21)T
- d. Type of proppant(s); (7-1-21)T
- e. Anticipated percentages by volume and total volumes of base treatment fluid, individual additives, and proppant(s); (7-1-21)T
- f. Estimated pump pressures; (7-1-21)T
- g. Method and timeline for the management, storage, and disposal of well treatment fluids, including anticipated disposal site of treatment fluids or plans for reuse; (7-1-21)T
- h. Size and design of storage pits, if proposed, in conformance with Section 230 of these rules; (7-1-21)T
- i. Information specific to hydraulic fracturing as described in Section 211 of these rules; (7-1-21)T
- j. Summary identifying all water bearing zones from the surface down to the bottom of the well; (7-1-21)T
- k. Fresh water protection plan that describes the proposed site specific measures to protect water quality from activities associated with well treatments. The Department will review this plan in consultation with the IDEQ. The Fresh Water Protection Plan shall include the following information: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Ground water and storm water best management practices; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Statement certifying that the owner or operator is complying with Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) requirements administered by the EPA; (7-1-21)T
  - iii. A preconstruction topographic site map or aerial photos identifying all habitable structures, wells, perennial and intermittent springs, surface waters, and irrigation ditches within one-quarter (1/4) mile of the oil or gas well. The distance or location may be changed based on site specific factors such as horizontal drilling, the expected length of fractures, or lack of suitable water sample locations within one-quarter (1/4) mile; (7-1-21)T
  - iv. A brief description of the structural geology that may influence ground water flow and direction; and (7-1-21)T
  - v. The general hydrogeological characteristics of the treatment area and surrounding land. (7-1-21)T
- l. Certification by the owner or operator that all aspects of the well construction, including the suitability and integrity of the cement used to seal the well, are designed to meet the requirements of proposed well treatments; (7-1-21)T
- m. Affidavit signed by the owner or operator stating that all home owners and water well owners within one-quarter (1/4) mile of the oil or gas well, and all owners of a public drinking water system that have a IDEQ recognized source water assessment or protection area within one-quarter (1/4) mile of the oil or gas well, have been notified of the proposed treatment. If a well deviates from the vertical, these surface distances will be from the entire length of the wellbore from the surface to total depth. The notification will also offer an opportunity to have the owner or operator sample and test the water, at the owner or operator's cost, prior to and after the oil or gas well being treated. Notification shall be by certified mail to the surface owner as identified by the county assessor's records, or to



the well owner as identified on the IDWR registry of water rights or well log database; (7-1-21)T

**n.** Proof of publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the well is located of a legal notice briefly describing the well treatment to be performed. Notice shall also advise all water well or public drinking water system owners, as described in Paragraph 210.01.m. of these rules, of the opportunity to have their water tested at the owner's or operator's cost before and after the well treatment; and (7-1-21)T

**o.** Additional information as required by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**02. Master Drilling/Treatment Plans.** Where multiple stimulation activities will be undertaken for several wells proposed to be drilled in the same field within an area of geologic similarity, approval may be sought from the Department for a comprehensive master drilling/treatment plan containing the information required. The approved master drilling/treatment plan must then be referenced on each individual well's Application for Permit to Drill. (7-1-21)T

**03. Application Denial.** The Department may deny well treatment applications for one (1) or more of the following reasons: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Application does not contain the information in Subsection 210.01 of these rules; (7-1-21)T

**b.** Application fee was not submitted. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Proposed treatment will result in a waste of oil or gas, a violation of correlative rights, or the pollution of fresh water supplies. (7-1-21)T

**04. Time Limit.** If a treatment approved in a drilling permit or amended drilling permit is not started within one (1) year of the approval of the well treatment, the well treatment permit will expire and reapplication will be required prior to conducting the well treatment. Prior to the anniversary date, the owner or operator may apply for a six-month (6) extension. If conditions have not changed, and no changes to the permit are requested, the extension may be approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**05. Inspections.** The Department may conduct inspections prior, during, and after well treatments. (7-1-21)T

**06. Reporting Requirements.** A report on the well treatment must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the treatment. The report shall present a detailed account of the work done and the manner in which such work was performed, including: (7-1-21)T

**a.** The daily production of oil, gas, and water both prior to and after the operation. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The size and depth of perforations. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Percentages by volume and total volumes of base treatment fluid, individual additives, and proppant(s). This requirement can be met by the submittal of well completion field tickets if they contain this information. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Documentation demonstrating the chemicals used in the well treatment have been reported to the website [www.fracfocus.org](http://www.fracfocus.org), its successor website, or another publicly accessible database approved by the Department. The chemical information must be reported in a systems approach. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Information specific to hydraulic fracturing, as described in Section 211 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Static pressure testing results before and after the well treatment. (7-1-21)T

**g.** The amounts, handling, and if necessary, disposal at an identified appropriate disposal facility, or reuse of the well stimulation fluid load recovered during flow back, swabbing, and/or recovery from production facility vessels. Reporting of recovered fluids shall be included with other monthly production reports required by the

Department. Storage of such fluid shall be protective of ground water as demonstrated by the use of either tanks or authorized lined pits as described in Section 230 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

well. h. Any other information related to operations which alter the performance or characteristics of the well. (7-1-21)T

**07. Fresh Water Protections for Well Treatments.** (7-1-21)T

a. The Department will not authorize pits, lagoons, ponds, or other methods of subsurface storage for treatment fluids within IDEQ recognized source water assessment or protection areas for public drinking water systems. Owners or operators must store and transport treatment fluids using above ground storage facilities and tanker trucks for well treatments in these locations. (7-1-21)T

b. The Department will not authorize well treatments to create fractures within five hundred (500) vertical feet above or below fresh water aquifers. (7-1-21)T

c. The Department shall require the owner or operator to complete fresh water monitoring at the owner's or operator's cost before and after a well treatment unless the Department, in consultation with the IDEQ, determines that the proposed treatment does not pose a threat of pollution to fresh waters. The Department will review and approve all monitoring proposals with the IDEQ. The monitoring will be done using representative existing water wells or surface waters within one-quarter (1/4) horizontal mile of the treated well. For wells that deviate from the vertical, sampling may be required within one-quarter (1/4) horizontal mile of the wellbore's projected location on the surface. If no water wells or surface waters are present in this area, the sampling area may be enlarged as needed with approval by the Department. If the Department determines that existing water wells are not representative of the ground waters that could be impacted, then the Department may require the owner or operator to install one (1) or more ground water monitoring wells at the owner's or operator's cost. The owner or operator must obtain consent from appropriate property owners to gain access prior to any sampling or well construction. When monitoring is required by the Department, the operator will prepare a monitoring plan that includes the following: (7-1-21)T

i. Location of proposed monitoring sites; (7-1-21)T

ii. Construction details of any sampled or constructed wells including total well depth, depth of screened interval(s), screen size, and drilling log. For existing wells, the operator must make every reasonable attempt to locate this information; (7-1-21)T

iii. When possible, data from the existing wells collected within the last five (5) years and analyzed in a state or EPA certified drinking water lab; (7-1-21)T

iv. List of proposed analytes, testing methods, and their detection limits; (7-1-21)T

v. Additional tests such as stable isotopic analysis; and (7-1-21)T

vi. Pre-treatment sampling and analysis when no relevant data exists, and a schedule for post-treatment sampling and analysis. (7-1-21)T

d. The owner or operator will provide the Department with copies of any analysis or reports within thirty (30) days of samples being taken. All samples must be analyzed in a state or EPA certified drinking water lab. (7-1-21)T

e. Pollution of fresh water supplies due to a well treatment is a violation of these rules and Title 47, Chapter 3, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**211. HYDRAULIC FRACTURING.**

**01. Application Requirements.** In addition to the information required by Subsection 210.01 of this rule, the owner or operator shall provide the following application information regarding hydraulic fracturing: (7-1-21)T

- a. The geological names and descriptions of the formation into which well stimulation fluids are to be injected; (7-1-21)T
- b. Detailed information on the base stimulation fluid source. For each stage of the well stimulation program, provide the chemical additives and proppants and concentrations or rates proposed to be mixed and injected, including: (7-1-21)T
- i. Stimulation fluid identified by additive type (such as but not limited to acid, biocide, breaker, brine, corrosion inhibitor, crosslinker, demulsifier, friction reducer, gel, iron control, oxygen scavenger, pH adjusting agent, proppant, scale inhibitor, surfactant); (7-1-21)T
- ii. The chemical compound name and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) number as found on the previously submitted MSDS shall be identified (such as the additive biocide is glutaraldehyde, or the additive breaker is ammonium persulfate, or the proppant is silica or quartz sand, and so on for each additive used); (7-1-21)T
- iii. The proposed rate or concentration for each additive and the total volume of each shall be provided (such as gel as pounds per thousand gallons, or biocide at gallons per thousand gallons, or proppant at pounds per gallon, or expressed as percent by weight or percent by volume, or parts per million, or parts per billion); and (7-1-21)T
- iv. The formulary disclosure of the chemical compounds used in the well stimulation(s) for the purpose of protecting public health and safety. (7-1-21)T
- c. A detailed description of the proposed well stimulation design that shall include: (7-1-21)T
- i. The anticipated surface treating pressure range; (7-1-21)T
- ii. The maximum injection treating pressure, which shall be within accepted safety limits. Accepted safety limits are generally eighty percent (80%) of the maximum pressure rating of the pressurized system; (7-1-21)T
- iii. The estimated or calculated fracture height in both the horizontal and vertical directions. (7-1-21)T
- 02. Volatile Organic Compounds and Petroleum Distillates.** The injection of volatile organic compounds, such as benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene, also known as BTEX compounds, or any petroleum distillates into ground water in excess of the applicable ground water quality standards is prohibited. Volatile organic compounds or petroleum distillates may be appropriate as additives, but they are not appropriate for use as the base fluids. The proposed use of volatile organic compounds or any petroleum distillates for well stimulation into hydrocarbon bearing zones may be authorized with prior approval of the director. Water that is produced with oil and gas, and which may contain small amounts of naturally occurring volatile organic compounds or petroleum distillates, may be used as well stimulation fluid in hydrocarbon bearing zones. (7-1-21)T
- 03. Well Integrity.** Prior to the well stimulation, the owner or operator will perform a suitable mechanical integrity test of the casing or of the casing-tubing annulus or other mechanical integrity test methods and submit an affidavit certifying that the well was tested in anticipation of proposed treatment pressures. The owner or operator will notify the Department of this test twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) hours in advance. (7-1-21)T
- 04. Pressure Monitoring.** During the well stimulation operation, the owner or operator shall monitor and record the annulus pressure at the casinghead. If intermediate casing has been set on the well being stimulated, the pressure in the annulus between the intermediate casing and the production casing shall also be monitored and recorded. If the annulus pressure increases by more than five hundred (500) psi gauge as compared to the pressure immediately preceding the stimulation, the owner or operator shall verbally notify the Department as soon as practicable but no later than twenty-four (24) hours following the incident. (7-1-21)T
- 05. Post Treatment Report.** In addition to the information required by Subsection 210.06 of this rule, the owner or operator shall provide the following post-treatment reporting: (7-1-21)T

- a. The actual total well stimulation treatment volume pumped; (7-1-21)T
- b. The actual surface pressure and rate at the end of each fluid stage and the actual flush volume, rate and final pump pressure; (7-1-21)T
- c. The instantaneous shut-in pressure, and the actual fifteen (15) minute and thirty (30) minute shut-in pressures when these pressure measurements are available; (7-1-21)T
- d. A continuous record of the annulus pressure during the well stimulation; (7-1-21)T
- e. A copy of the well stimulation service contractor's job log, without any cost/pricing data from the field ticket, in lieu of paragraphs (a) through (d) above. If the job log does not contain all the needed information, it must be supplemented with additional information needed to satisfy Paragraphs 211.05.a. through 211.05.d. of this rule. (7-1-21)T
- f. A report containing all details pertaining to any annulus pressure increases of more than five hundred (500) psi gauge as described in Subsection 211.04 of this rule. The report shall include corrective actions taken, if necessary. (7-1-21)T
- g. Results of post treatment fluid analysis used to help determine where the fluid can be disposed. (7-1-21)T

**212. -- 219. (RESERVED)**

**220. BONDING.**

**01. Individual Bond.** The Department shall, except as hereinafter provided, require from the owner or operator a good and sufficient bond in the sum of not less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) plus one dollar (\$1) for each foot of planned well length in favor of the Department. The bond shall be conditioned upon the performance of the owner's or operator's duty to comply with the requirements of the Act and the rules of the Commission, with respect to the drilling, maintaining, operating, and plugging of each well drilled for oil and gas and the reclamation of surface disturbance associated with these activities. Said bond shall remain in force and effect until the plugging of said well is approved by the Department and the well site is reclaimed as described in Section 510 of these rules, or the bond is released by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**02. Blanket Bond.** In lieu of the bond in Subsection 220.01 of this rule, any owner or operator may file with the Department a good and sufficient blanket bond covering all active wells drilled or to be drilled in the state of Idaho. The amount of the blanket bond will be as follows according to the number of active wells covered by the bond: (7-1-21)T

- a. Up to ten (10) wells, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000); (7-1-21)T
- b. Eleven (11) to thirty (30) wells, one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000); or (7-1-21)T
- c. More than thirty (30) wells, one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000). (7-1-21)T

**03. Inactive Well Bond.** An owner or operator must provide the Department with a bond of at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) plus eight dollars (\$8) for each foot of planned well length for each inactive well conditioned upon the performance of the duty to comply with the requirements of the Act and the rules of the Commission, with respect to the drilling, maintaining, operating, and plugging of each well drilled for oil and gas. Said bond shall remain in force and effect until the plugging of said well is approved by the Department, or the bond is released by the Department. Inactive wells may not be covered by a blanket bond as provided in Subsection 220.02 of this rule. (7-1-21)T

**04. Additional Bonding.** The Department may impose additional bonding on an owner or operator given sufficient reason, such as non-compliance, unusual conditions, horizontal drilling, or other circumstances that suggest a particular well or group of wells has potential risk or liability in excess of that normally expected. The

owner or operator may request a hearing to appeal either the decision to impose an additional bond or the proposed amount of the bond. (7-1-21)T

**05. Authorized Bonds.** The bond(s) referred to in Section 220 must be by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the state of Idaho or in cash. If cash is used to satisfy the bonding requirements in these rules, interest on the cash will be allocated to the general fund. (7-1-21)T

**221. TRANSFER OF DRILLING PERMITS.**

No person to whom a permit has been issued shall transfer the permit to any other location or to any other person until the following requirements have been complied with: (7-1-21)T

**01. Prior to Drilling Well.** If, prior to the drilling of a well, the person to whom the permit was originally issued desires to change the location, he shall submit a letter so stating and another application properly filled out showing the new location. Drilling shall not be started until the transfer has been approved and the new permit posted at the new location. (7-1-21)T

**02. During Drilling or After Completion.** If, while a well is being drilled or after it has been completed, the person to whom the permit was originally issued disposes of his interest in the well, he shall submit a written statement to the Department setting forth the facts and requesting that the permit be transferred to the person who has acquired the well. (7-1-21)T

**03. Terms for Acceptance of Transfer.** Before the transfer of a drilling permit shall be recognized, the person who has acquired the well must submit a written statement setting forth that he has acquired such well and assumes full responsibility for its operation and abandonment in conformity with the law, rules, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission. If bond is required to guarantee compliance with the rules and regulations of the Commission, the person acquiring such well shall furnish bond. (7-1-21)T

**222. -- 229. (RESERVED)**

**230. PIT REQUIREMENTS.**

**01. Plans Required.** If pits are proposed to be constructed in connection with another permit application required by these rules, then the owner or operator must include plans for pit construction in the application. If a pit is needed after the other permits have been approved, then an application to amend the permit must be made to the Department with an application fee. Approval by the Department is required prior to the pit being constructed unless the pit is necessary for an emergency action. Pit applications must include the permit number, well name, well location, as-built description if drilling has been completed, proposed pit location, and plans for pit construction, operation, and reclamation. (7-1-21)T

**02. Location.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Pits must be located where they are structurally sound and the liner systems can be adequately protected against factors such as wild fires, floods, landslides, surface and ground water systems, equipment operation, and public access. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Pits located in a one hundred-year floodplain must be in conformance with any applicable floodplain ordinances pertaining to activities within the one hundred-year floodplain. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Pits shall not be located within an IDEQ recognized source water assessment or protection areas for public drinking water systems. (7-1-21)T

**03. Site Preparation.** All sites must be properly prepared prior to pit construction. Vegetation, roots, brush, large woody debris and other deleterious materials, topsoil, historic foundations and plumbing, or other materials that may adversely affect appropriate construction, must be removed from the footprint of the pit unless approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**04. Pit Sizing Criteria.** (7-1-21)T

- a. Pits that have constructed berms ten (10) or more feet in height or hold fifty (50) acre-feet or more of fluid must also comply with the dam safety requirements of IDAPA 37.03.06, "Safety of Dams Rules." (7-1-21)T
- b. Pits must be designed to hold the maximum volume of fluids being used for drilling or well treatment and the volume of water associated with a one hundred-year, twenty-four-hour precipitation event. (7-1-21)T
- c. Snowmelt events shall be considered in determining the containment capacity. (7-1-21)T
- d. Pits that are left over winter must be able to contain one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the average annual precipitation that falls from October through May. (7-1-21)T
- e. Pits must be designed to maintain a minimum two (2) foot freeboard at all times. Contingency plans for managing excesses of fluids shall be described in the application. At no time shall fluids in a pit be allowed to escape from the impoundment. (7-1-21)T

**05. Minimum Plans and Specifications for Reserve, Well Treatment, and Other Short Term Pits.** Pits used for one (1) year or less, not including extensions, are short term pits. Construction plans and specifications for short term pits must include the requirements under Subsections 230.02 through 230.04 of this rule and the following: (7-1-21)T

- a. A prepared subbase, which shall be free of plus three (3) inch rocks, roots, brush, trash, debris or other deleterious materials, and compacted to ninety-five percent (95%) of Standard Proctor Test ASTM D698-07e1 or ninety-five percent (95%) of Modified Proctor Test ASTM D1557-09; (7-1-21)T
- b. Slopes of two (2) feet horizontal to one (1) foot vertical (2H:1V) or flatter for all interior and exterior pit walls. The top of a bermed pit wall must be a minimum of two (2) feet wide; (7-1-21)T
- c. A primary liner system consisting of a synthetic liner of at least twenty (20) mils thickness and constructed according to manufacturers' standards with at least four (4) inches of welded seam overlap and complete coverage on the floor and inside walls of the pit. Seams must run parallel to the line of maximum slope so they do not traverse across the slope. The liner edges shall be anchored in a compacted earth filled trench at least eighteen (18) inches in depth. The liner must be protected against cracking, sun damage, ice, frost penetration or heaving, wildlife and wildfires, and damage that may be caused by personnel or equipment operating in or around these facilities. Liner compatibility shall comply with EPA SW-846 method 9090A. Alternative liner systems with similar standards may be proposed by the owner or operator and approved at the Department's discretion; (7-1-21)T
- d. Minimum factors of safety, and the logic behind their selection, for the stability of the earthworks and the lining system of the pit; (7-1-21)T
- e. Site-specific methods for excluding people, terrestrial animals, and avian wildlife from the pits; (7-1-21)T
- f. Segregation and stockpiling of topsoil in a manner that will support reestablishment of the pre-disturbance land use after pit closure; and (7-1-21)T
- g. A closure plan including the following: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Testing of residual fluids and any accumulated solids, if anything other than water based drilling fluid was placed in the pit; (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Plans for removal and disposal of residual fluids and accumulated solids, with the liner material, at an appropriate facility; (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Regrading plan, replacement of topsoil, and erosion control measures; and (7-1-21)T

- iv. Reseeding and Revegetation. (7-1-21)T
- 06. Minimum Plans and Specifications for Long Term Pits.** Pits used for more than one (1) year, not including extensions, are long term pits. Construction plans and specifications for long term pits must include the requirements under Subsections 230.02 through 230.05 of this rule and the following: (7-1-21)T
  - a. A quality control/quality assurance construction and installation plan; (7-1-21)T
  - b. Type of fluids to be contained in the pit; (7-1-21)T
  - c. Secondary containment synthetic liners, which shall have a minimum thickness of sixty (60) mils consisting of HDPE and a maximum coefficient of permeability of  $10^{-9}$  cm/sec, or comparable liners approved by the Department; (7-1-21)T
  - d. Leak detection and collection systems. The plans and specifications shall: (7-1-21)T
    - i. Provide a material between primary and secondary containment synthetic liners to collect, transport and remove all fluids that pass through the primary containment synthetic liner at such a rate as to prevent hydraulic head from developing on the secondary containment synthetic liner to the level at which it may be reasonably expected to result in discharges through the secondary containment synthetic liner; (7-1-21)T
    - ii. Provide routines and schedules for the evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the removal of fluids from the layer placed between primary and secondary containment synthetic liners. The properly working system shall continually relieve head pressures on the secondary containment synthetic liner; (7-1-21)T
    - iii. Provide specific triggers for maintenance routines, which shall be initiated in response to inadequate performance of primary or secondary containment synthetic liners; and (7-1-21)T
    - iv. Specify operation and maintenance procedures, which shall be initiated in response to inadequate performance of primary and secondary containment or leak detection and collection systems. (7-1-21)T
  - e. All piping, including that contained in the leak detection and collection system, shall have a minimum wall thickness of PVC Schedule 80 and be designed to: (7-1-21)T
    - i. Withstand chemical attack from oil field waste or leachate; (7-1-21)T
    - ii. Withstand structural loading from stresses and disturbances from cover materials or equipment operation; and (7-1-21)T
    - iii. Facilitate clean-out and maintenance. (7-1-21)T
  - f. Protections for the liner from excessive hydrostatic force or mechanical damage at the point of discharge into, or suction from, the pit. External discharge or suction lines shall not penetrate the liner; (7-1-21)T
  - g. Plans for erosion control during and immediately following construction; and (7-1-21)T
  - h. Operating and maintenance plans. (7-1-21)T
- 07. Time Limits for Short Term Pits.** Reserve, well treatment, and other short term pits must be closed out and reclaimed within one (1) year of being constructed. The owner or operator may request a one-time extension for up to six (6) months. The Department may grant the request if the owner or operator gives sufficient cause and presents a plan for ensuring that the pit is adequately monitored and maintained. (7-1-21)T
  - a. Fluids may be left in a pit for up to six (6) months after the associated well activities are conducted. The owner or operator may request a one-time extension for up to one (1) year. The Department may grant the request if the owner or operator gives sufficient cause and presents a plan for keeping the fluids in a usable state. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Notwithstanding the above time limits, the owner or operator may request additional time based upon conditions wholly outside of the owner's or operator's control including, but not limited to, governmental lease requirements and delays related to difficult drilling conditions. The Department may impose additional construction or monitoring requirements prior to granting additional time. (7-1-21)T

**08. Emergency Pits.** Pits constructed during an emergency situation may be approved by an after-the-fact application submitted to the Department. The requirements in Subsections 230.02 through 230.05 of this rule shall apply, and the pit must be closed out and reclaimed within six (6) months of being constructed. The Department must be notified within twenty-four (24) hours of an emergency situation requiring an emergency pit. (7-1-21)T

**09. Operating Requirements.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Waste oil, hydraulic fluid, transmission fluids, trash, or any other miscellaneous waste products must not be disposed of in a pit. Placement of these materials into a pit may result in the creation of a mixed waste that requires handling and disposal as a hazardous waste. (7-1-21)T

**b.** If a pit liner's integrity is compromised, or if any penetration of the liner occurs above the liquid's surface, then the owner or operator shall notify the appropriate Department area office within forty-eight (48) hours of the discovery and repair the damage or replace the liner. (7-1-21)T

**c.** If a pit or closed-loop system develops a leak, or if any penetration of the pit liner occurs below the liquid's surface, then the owner or operator shall remove all liquid above the damage or leak line within forty-eight (48) hours, notify the appropriate Department area office within forty-eight (48) hours of the discovery, and repair the damage or replace the pit liner. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The owner or operator shall install, or maintain on site, an oil absorbent boom or other device to contain and remove oil from a pit's surface. Visible oil must be removed from short term pits immediately following the cessation of activity for which the pit was constructed. Visible oil must be removed from long term pits as soon as it is discovered. (7-1-21)T

**10. Closure of Pits.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The owner or operator shall remove all liquids from the pit prior to closure and dispose of them at an appropriate facility or reuse them at a different location. If the nature of the fluids has substantially altered during their use, then the fluids must be sampled and tested to determine which disposal facility can accept them. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Any solids that have been accumulated in the bottom of the pit will be tested to determine which disposal facility can accept the material. The solid material and liner will then be removed and disposed of at an appropriate facility. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The owner or operator must notify the Department at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to removal of the pit liner so an inspection may be conducted. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The pit foundation will be inspected for signs of leakage. If evidence of leakage is observed, the owner or operator must contact the Department and the IDEQ within twenty-four (24) hours and report the type of fluids released and the estimated extent of release. The owner or operator must then remediate the site in conformance with the applicable standards administered by IDEQ in IDAPA 58.01.02, "Water Quality Standards," Sections 850 through 852. (7-1-21)T

**e.** After addressing any pit leakage concerns, the owner or operator shall perform the activities described in Subsections 510.04 through 510.08 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**11. Condemnation Due to Improper Impoundment.** The Department shall have authority to condemn any pit that does not properly impound fluids and order the disposal of such fluids in conformance with IDAPA 58.01.16, "Wastewater Rules," and other applicable rules. (7-1-21)T

**231. -- 299. (RESERVED)**



SUBCHAPTER D – WELL SITES AND DRILLING

300. IDENTIFICATION OF WELLS.

01. **Signs; Lease Access Roads.** To identify all producing leases the owner or operator thereof shall cause a sign to be placed where the principal lease road enters the lease and such sign shall show the name of the lease and the owner or operator thereof and the section, township, and range. (7-1-21)T

02. **Signs; Well Sites.** Prior to spud activity, a legible sign must be placed near the well to identify the operator, permit number, well name, and emergency telephone number. If a multiple completion, each well head connection shall be identified. (7-1-21)T

301. WELL SITE OPERATIONS.

The owner or operator must conduct all operations and maintain the well site at all times in a safe and workmanlike manner. Best management practices and good housekeeping practices must be used at well sites. (7-1-21)T

01. **Fencing.** Within sixty (60) days after completion of the well, the owner or operator must install a fence around the well site to maintain safe working conditions, secure the well site, and prevent access by wildlife and livestock. The fence design must be acceptable to both the landowner and owner or operator. (7-1-21)T

02. **Storage.** All chemicals must be stored and maintained in accordance with the applicable MSDS requirements. Materials related to operations must be palletized where applicable. Vehicles and materials not in use must be removed from the well site. (7-1-21)T

03. **Vegetation.** All well sites must be kept free of excessive vegetation. (7-1-21)T

04. **Trash.** All trash, debris, and scrap metal must be removed from the well site. Pending removal, any trash or debris that might constitute a fire hazard shall be removed to a distance of at least one hundred (100) feet from the well location, tanks, and separator. (7-1-21)T

302. ACCIDENTS AND FIRES.

The owner or operator shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent accidents and fires. An emergency response plan will be prepared and available at the well for use or inspection. Coordination with local emergency responders and the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is recommended prior to rig set up. The following actions must be taken in event of a release, industrial accident, or fire of major consequence: (7-1-21)T

01. **Provide Information to Emergency Response.** Emergency workers will be given information on all fluids or chemicals involved in a spill or accident as needed according to OSHA Standard 1910.1200 (Hazard Communication). Nothing in this rule shall authorize any person to withhold information that is required by state or federal law to be provided to a health care professional, a doctor, or a nurse. All information required by a health care professional, a doctor, or a nurse shall be supplied, immediately upon request, by the owner or operator, or their contractors, directly to the requesting health care professional, doctor, or nurse, including the percent by volume of the chemical constituents (and associated CAS numbers) in the fluids and the additives; (7-1-21)T

02. **Initiate Spill Response and Corrective Actions.** Owner or operator must comply with the requirements of IDAPA 58.01.02, "Water Quality Standards," Sections 850 through 852; and (7-1-21)T

03. **Notify the Department.** Notify the Department within twenty-four (24) hours and submit a full report thereon within fifteen (15) days. (7-1-21)T

303. -- 309. (RESERVED)

310. GENERAL DRILLING RULES.

01. **General Design Requirements for Casing and Cementing.** Casing and cementing programs adopted for wells must be so planned as to protect any potential oil- or gas-bearing horizons penetrated during drilling

from infiltration of injurious waters from other sources, and to prevent the migration of oil or gas from one horizon to another. Owners and operators shall follow the standards for casing and tubing in API SPEC 5CT and the standards for cementing in API SPEC 10A. (7-1-21)T

**02. Wildcat and High-Pressure Conditions.** When drilling wildcat territory or in any field where high pressures are likely to exist, the owner or operator shall take all necessary precautions to keep the well under control at all times and shall use proper high-pressure fittings and equipment at the time the well is started. Under such conditions all strings of casings must be securely anchored. (7-1-21)T

**03. High Temperature Conditions.** Due to high geothermal gradients in Idaho, the temperature of the return drilling mud shall be monitored daily during the drilling of the surface casing hole and all deeper holes. The owner or operator must use cements appropriate for the temperatures expected or encountered. (7-1-21)T

**04. Conductor Pipe or Casing Requirements.** A minimum of forty (40) feet of conductor pipe shall be installed. If geologic conditions are such that forty (40) feet is not feasible, the owner or operator may request a variance from the Department. The annular space is to be cemented solid to the surface. A twenty-four (24) hour cure period for the grout must be allowed prior to drilling out the shoe unless sufficient additives, as determined by the Department, are used to obtain early strength. (7-1-21)T

**05. Surface Casing Requirements.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Department must be notified in writing seventy-two (72) hours in advance of planned spud activity for surface casing. The Department will post the spud activity notice on its website and send an electronic copy of the notice to the county where the well is located. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Surface casing must be set at a minimum depth equal to ten percent (10%) of the proposed total depth of the well. In areas where pressures and formations are unknown, a minimum of two hundred (200) feet of surface casing shall be set. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Surface casing shall provide for control of formation fluids, protection of fresh water, and for adequate anchorage of blow out prevention equipment. The casing must be seated through a sufficient series of low permeability, competent lithologic units such as claystone, siltstone, basalt, etc., to insure a solid anchor for blow out prevention equipment and to protect usable ground water from contamination. Additional surface casing may be required if the first string has not been cemented through a sufficient series of low permeability, competent lithologic units, or rapidly increasing thermal gradients or formation pressures are encountered. (7-1-21)T

**d.** All surface casing shall be cemented solid to the surface by pump and plug, displacement, or other approved method. When surface samples are cured, additional drilling activities may commence. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The Department must be notified in writing twenty-four (24) hours in advance of planned cementing activity for surface casing. The Department will witness and document all surface casing cementing activities. (7-1-21)T

**06. Requirements for BOP Equipment.** Unless altered, modified, or changed for a particular pool(s) upon hearing before the Commission, BOP and related equipment shall be installed and maintained during the drilling of all wells in accordance with the following rules: (7-1-21)T

**a.** BOP equipment installed on wells in which formation pressures to be encountered are abnormal or unknown shall consist of a double-gate, hydraulically operated preventer with pipe and blind rams or two (2) single-ram-type preventers; one (1) equipped with pipe rams, the other with blind rams and an annular type preventer. In addition, upper and lower kelly cocks, pit level indicators with alarms and/or flow sensors with alarms, and surface facilities to handle pressure kicks shall be installed prior to drilling any formation with known abnormal pressure. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Accumulators shall maintain a pressure capacity reserve at all times to provide for operation of the hydraulic preventers and valves with no outside source. (7-1-21)T

- ii. In all other drilling operations, BOP equipment shall consist of at least one (1) double-gate preventer with pipe and blind rams or two (2) single-ram-type preventers, one (1) equipped with pipe rams, the other with blind rams, and sufficient valving to permit fluid circulation at the surface. (7-1-21)T
- b. All BOP equipment, choke lines, and manifolds shall be installed above ground level. Casing heads and optional spools may be installed below ground level provided they are visible and accessible. (7-1-21)T
- c. BOP equipment and related casing heads and spools shall have a vertical bore no smaller than the inside diameter of the casing to which they are attached. (7-1-21)T
- d. The working pressure rating of all BOP and related equipment shall equal or exceed the maximum anticipated pressure to be contained at the surface. (7-1-21)T
- e. All ram-type BOP and related equipment, including casing, shall be tested to the full working pressure rating of said equipment upon installation, provided that components need not be tested to levels higher than the lowest working pressure rated component. Annular type BOP and related equipment must be tested in conformance with the manufacturer's published recommendations. If, for any reason, a pressure seal in the assembly is disassembled, a test to a full working pressure rating of that seal shall be conducted prior to the resumption of any drilling operation. In addition to the initial pressure tests, ram-type BOP shall be checked for physical operation at least once per week and all components, again with exception of the annular-type BOP, tested at least once every twenty-one (21) days to at least fifty percent (50%) of the rated pressure of the BOP equipment and/or to the maximum anticipated pressure to be contained at the surface, whichever is greater. (7-1-21)T
- f. The Department will require an affidavit covering the initial pressure tests after installation signed by the owner, operator, or contractor attesting to the satisfactory pressure tests. The Department must be advised at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of all tests. The Department may inspect and witness all BOP operations and testing. (7-1-21)T
- g. A schematic diagram of the BOP and well head assembly shall be submitted to the Department upon application for a permit to drill. The schematic diagram should indicate the minimum size and pressure rating of all components of the well head and BOP assembly. (7-1-21)T
- h. Studs on all well head and BOP flanges shall be checked for tightness each week. Hand wheels for locking screws shall be installed and operational, and the entire BOP and well head assembly shall be kept clean of mud and ice. (7-1-21)T
- i. A drillstem safety valve shall be available on the rig floor at all times with correct thread for the pipe in use. (7-1-21)T
- j. A drillstem float valve shall be installed in bit sub or as close to bit as reasonably possible. (7-1-21)T
- 07. Intermediate Casing.** (7-1-21)T
- a. Intermediate casing, if installed, shall be cemented solidly to the surface or to the top of the casing. (7-1-21)T
- b. Intermediate casing not run to surface will be lapped into at least one hundred (100) feet of the surface casing, or at least one hundred (100) feet of the next larger casing to provide overlap and secure a seal. (7-1-21)T
- c. Such casing shall be cemented and pressure tested before cement plugs are drilled. (7-1-21)T
- d. The Department must be notified in writing twenty-four (24) hours in advance of planned cementing activity for intermediate casing. The Department may witness and document all intermediate casing cementing activities. (7-1-21)T

- 08. Production Casing; Cementing and Testing Requirements.** (7-1-21)T
- a.** If and when it becomes necessary to run a production casing, such casing shall be cemented and pressure tested before cement plugs are drilled. (7-1-21)T
- b.** The Department must be notified in writing twenty-four (24) hours in advance of planned cementing activity for production casing. The Department may witness and document all production casing cementing activities. (7-1-21)T
- c.** When not run to the surface, production casing will be cemented from the bottom of the hole up into at least one hundred (100) feet of the next larger casing to provide overlap and secure a seal. (7-1-21)T
- d.** If the bottom plug will be drilled out, the open hole interval must be completed to protect any potential oil-bearing or gas-bearing horizons penetrated during drilling from infiltration of injurious waters from other sources, and to prevent the migration of oil or gas from one horizon to another. (7-1-21)T
- 09. Step-off.** An owner or operator may submit to the Department a step-off request to complete a new borehole from surface if a borehole without production casing deviates from vertical plumb by more than five (5) degrees. A step-off borehole must be drilled within the existing pad of the permitted well. The incomplete borehole must be plugged and abandoned in accordance with Section 502 of these rules. (7-1-21)T
- 10. Well Control (Rotary Tools); Reserve Mud Tanks.** When drilling with rotary tools, the owner or operator shall provide, as required by the Department, a reserve mud pit or tank of suitable capacity for the anticipated depth of the well and maintain an on-site supply of mud additives that can raise the mud weight by one (1) pound per gallon in case of loss of well control. (7-1-21)T
- 11. Mud Pits.** Before commencing to drill, proper and adequate mud pits shall be constructed for the reception and confinement of mud and cuttings and to facilitate the drilling operation. Special precautions shall be taken, if necessary, to prevent contamination of fresh waters. These pits must conform to the standards in Section 230 of these rules. If tanks will be used, then mud pits may not be required. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Well Control (Cable Tools); Fluid Containment.** Natural gas or oil which may be encountered in a substantial quantity in any section of a cabletool drilled hole above the ultimate objective shall be shut off with reasonable diligence either by mudding or by casing, or other approved method, and confined to its original source to the satisfaction of the Department. The use of cable tools for drilling activities requires written approval by the Department prior to spud activities. A request to use cable tools must include the following: (7-1-21)T
- a.** Proposed pressure control measures; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Diversion and disposal methods for stray gas; (7-1-21)T
- c.** Safety protocols for mud weights and well controls; and (7-1-21)T
- d.** Annual drill rig safety inspection information, including the date of last replacement of cables, draw works inspection report, and metallurgic report of safety compliance for structural integrity of the drill rig. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Drilling Mud Disposal.** Drilling mud will be disposed of at an appropriate facility in compliance with applicable state and federal requirements. (7-1-21)T
- 14. Report of Water Encountered; Owner's or Operator's Duties.** It shall be the duty of any owner or operator drilling an oil or gas well or drilling a seismic, core or other exploratory hole to report to the Department all potential water bearing zones encountered; such report shall be in writing and give the location of the well or hole, the depth at which the zones were encountered, the thickness of such zones, and the rate of flow of water if known. This requirement can be met by the submittal of the logs required in Section 340 of this rule. (7-1-21)T
- 15. Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan.** The owner or operator must have a Spill

Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan in conformance with the requirements of the EPA. This plan must be updated as needed when facilities or activities change. (7-1-21)T

**16. Interim Drill Site Clean Up.** If a well is completed for production or other purposes, interim reclamation must be completed within six (6) months of the rig being removed. Interim reclamation includes the following activities: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Debris and waste materials including, but not limited to, concrete, sack bentonite and other drilling mud additives, sand, plastic, pipe, and cable associated with the drilling, re-entry, or completion operations shall be removed and disposed of properly. (7-1-21)T

**b.** All disturbed areas affected by drilling or subsequent operations, except areas reasonably needed for production operations or for subsequent drilling operations to be commenced within twelve (12) months, shall be reclaimed and revegetated to approximately the pre-drilling condition or to the condition specified in an agreement with the surface owner. The reclamation standards in Subsections 510.04 through 510.07 of these rules, shall apply. (7-1-21)T

**311. LOSS OF TOOL WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL.**

**01. Recovery or Cementing of Tool.** If a gamma ray tool, or some other tool containing radioactive material, becomes lost in a well, the owner or operator shall make every reasonable attempt to retrieve the tool from the well. If the tool cannot be recovered, the owner or operator must immediately cover the tool with cement sufficient to secure it in place and prevent it from contacting any fluids in the well. A whipstock or other approved deflection device shall be placed on top of the cement plug to prevent accidental or intentional mechanical disintegration of the radioactive source. (7-1-21)T

**02. Sidetracking.** If the hole is later sidetracked above the radioactive material, the sidetracked hole must be at least fifteen (15) feet from the original hole with the lost radioactive material. (7-1-21)T

**03. Reporting.** A report must be sent to the Department and IDEQ within thirty (30) days of cementing the tool. The report must describe the tool that was lost, the depth it was lost at, the specific type and amount of radioactive material in the tool, and an estimate of the length of cement covering the tool. This report may be included in a plugging report if the well will be plugged. (7-1-21)T

**312. CHOKES.**

All flowing wells shall be equipped with adequate chokes or beans to properly control the flow thereof. (7-1-21)T

**313. USE OF EARTHEN RESERVOIRS.**

Oil shall not be produced, stored, or retained in earthen reservoirs or in open receptacles. (7-1-21)T

**314. VACUUM PUMPS PROHIBITED.**

The use of vacuum pumps or other devices for the purpose of placing a vacuum on any gas- or oil-bearing stratum is prohibited; however, the Department may upon application and hearing and for good cause shown permit the use of vacuum pumps. (7-1-21)T

**315. PULLING OUTSIDE STRINGS OF CASING.**

Casing shall not be recovered if its recovery will expose any abnormal pressure, lost circulation, oil, gas, or water zone. In pulling outside strings of casing from any oil or gas well, the space outside the casing left in the hole shall be kept and left full of mud-laden fluid of adequate specific gravity to seal off all fresh and saltwater strata and any strata bearing oil or gas which is not producing. Casing may not be pulled without first making application to the Department and receiving approval. The application must describe how fresh waters will be protected. (7-1-21)T

**316. -- 319. (RESERVED)**

**320. MECHANICAL INTEGRITY TESTING.**

**01. Mechanical Integrity Testing.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The mechanical integrity test shall include one (1) of the following tests to determine whether leaks are present in the casing, tubing, or packer: (7-1-21)T

i. A pressure test with liquid or gas at a pressure of not less than three hundred (300) psi or the minimum injection pressure, whichever is greater, and not more than the maximum injection pressure; or (7-1-21)T

ii. The monitoring and reporting to the Department, on a monthly basis for sixty (60) consecutive months, of the average casing-tubing annulus pressure, following an initial pressure test; or (7-1-21)T

iii. In lieu of Subparagraphs 320.01.a.i. and 320.01.a.ii. of this rule, any equivalent test or combinations of tests approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The mechanical integrity test shall include one (1) of the following tests to determine whether there are fluid movements in vertical channels adjacent to the well bore: (7-1-21)T

i. Tracer surveys; (7-1-21)T

ii. Cement bond log or other acceptable cement evaluation log; (7-1-21)T

iii. Temperature surveys; or (7-1-21)T

iv. In lieu of Subparagraphs 320.01.b.i. through 320.01.b.iii. of this rule, any other equivalent test or combination of tests approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Mechanical integrity tests shall be performed at the rate of not less than one (1) test every five (5) years, regardless of well status. The first five-year period shall commence on the date the initial mechanical integrity test is performed. (7-1-21)T

**02. Inactive Wells.** If, at any time, surface equipment excluding the wellhead is removed or the well becomes incapable of production, a mechanical integrity test shall be performed within thirty (30) days. The mechanical integrity test for an inactive well shall be isolation of the wellbore with a bridge plug or similar approved isolating device set one hundred (100) feet or less above the highest perforations and a pressure test with liquid or gas at a pressure of not less than three hundred (300) psi surface pressure or any equivalent test or combination of tests approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Prior Notification.** Not less than ten (10) days prior to the performance of any mechanical integrity test required by this rule, any person required to perform the test shall notify the Department, in writing, of the scheduled date on which the test will be performed. (7-1-21)T

**04. Reporting Requirements.** Mechanical integrity test results shall be submitted to the Department within thirty (30) days of testing. (7-1-21)T

**05. Mechanical Integrity Required.** All wells shall maintain mechanical integrity. All wells that fail a mechanical integrity test, or that are determined through any other means to lack mechanical integrity, shall immediately be investigated by the owner or operator. The well shall be repaired or immediately shut down following the investigation. Repairs shall be completed within six (6) months, or the well shall be plugged and abandoned. If the repair cannot be completed within six (6) months, the owner or operator may request an extension and provide a plan for the repair, (7-1-21)T

**321. -- 329. (RESERVED)**

**330. WELL DIRECTIONAL CONTROL.**

**01. General Restrictions; Allowable Deviation.** The maximum point at which a well penetrates the producing formation shall not unreasonably vary from the vertical drawn from the center of the hole at the surface. Deviation is permitted without special permission to remedy blowouts and, for short distances, to straighten the hole,

sidetrack junk, or correct other mechanical difficulties. (7-1-21)T

**02. Controlled Directional Drilling.** Except for the purposes recited in Subsection 330.01, no well hereafter drilled may be intentionally directionally deviated from the vertical unless the owner or operator thereof shall first file an application and application fee to amend the drilling permit and receive approval from the Department. Such application shall contain the following information: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Name and address of the owner or operator. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Lease name, well number, name of field and reservoir and county. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Description of surface location and proposed location of the producing interval (footage from lease and section or block and survey lines). (7-1-21)T

**d.** Reason for intentional deviation. (7-1-21)T

**e.** List of offset operators and statement that each has been furnished a copy of the application by registered mail. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Signature of representative of owner or operator. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Notification to offset operators that any objection they may have to the proposed intentional deviation of the well must be filed with the Department within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a copy of the application. (7-1-21)T

**h.** The application shall be accompanied by a neat, accurate plat or sketch of the lease and all offset leases showing the names of all offset operators and the surface and proposed producing interval locations of the well. Plat shall be drawn to a scale which will permit facile observation of all pertinent data. (7-1-21)T

**03. Copy of Application to Offset Operators.** At the time the application is filed with the Department, a copy of the application and the plat shall be forwarded by registered mail to all offset operators to the lease on which the well is to be drilled. (7-1-21)T

**04. Department Action.** Upon receipt, the Department will hold the application for fifteen (15) days. If objection from any offset operator to the proposed intentional deviation is received within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the application by said operator, or if the Department is not in agreement with the proposed deviation, the application shall be set down for public hearing. If no objection from either an offset operator or the Department is interposed within the fifteen (15) day period, the application shall be approved and permit issued by the Department. If written consent of the offset operator(s) is filed concurrently with the application to drill directionally, the Department may immediately approve the application without waiting fifteen (15) days. (7-1-21)T

**05. Angular Deviation and Directional Survey.** Upon completion, a complete angular deviation and directional survey of the well obtained by an approved well surveying company shall be filed with the Department, together with other regularly required reports. (7-1-21)T

**06. Application for Exceptions.** In the event the proposed, or final, location of the producing interval of the directionally deviated well is not in agreement with spacing or other rules of the Commission applicable to the reservoir, proper applications shall be made to obtain approval of exceptions to such rules. Such approval shall be granted or denied at the discretion of the Department, and shall be accorded with the same consideration and treatment as if the well had been drilled vertically to the producing interval. (7-1-21)T

**331. -- 339. (RESERVED)**

**340. WELL COMPLETION/RECOMPLETION REPORT AND WELL REPORT.**

Within thirty (30) days after the completion of a well drilled for oil or gas, or the recompletion of a well into a different source of supply, or where the producing interval is changed, a completion report shall be filed with the Department, on a form prescribed by the Department. Such report shall include name, number, and exact location of

the well; lease name, date of completion and date of first production, if any; name and depth of hydrocarbon reservoir(s), if a multiple completion, from which well is producing; annulus pressure test; initial production test, including oil, gas, and water, if any; a well report as defined in Section 010; and such other relevant information as the Department may require. (7-1-21)T

**341. DRILLING LOGS.**

**01. Minimum Required Logs.** All wells shall have a lithologic log from the bottom of the hole to the top, to the extent practicable. (7-1-21)T

**02. Bottom Hole Survey.** All wells shall have a bottom hole location survey. (7-1-21)T

**03. Cement Bond Log.** All wells that are cased and cemented shall have a cement bond log run across the casing. (7-1-21)T

**04. Other Logs.** If other logs are run, including, but not limited to, resistivity, gamma-neutron log, sonic log, etc., then the owner or operator shall retain a copy regardless of results. (7-1-21)T

**05. Log Submittal.** The above logs shall be submitted to the Department in paper and digital formats within thirty (30) days of the log being run. If logs were run in color, then the submitted copies shall also be in color. Digital formats must be Tiff and LAS 2.0 or higher. Logs submitted to the Department must have a scale of one (1) inch for correlation logs and five (5) inches for detail logs. (7-1-21)T

**342. -- 399. (RESERVED)**

**SUBCHAPTER E – PRODUCTION**

**400. PRODUCTION REPORTS.**

**01. Required Content.** An owner or operator must report production on a form created by the Department. Production reports submitted to the Department must include gas quantities sold in thousand cubic feet (mcf), condensate sold in barrel quantities (bbl), oil sold in barrel quantities (bbl), and formational waters produced in barrel quantities (bbl). (7-1-21)T

**02. Annual Production Report.** By January 31 of each year, an owner or operator must submit to the Department an aggregated report of all hydrocarbons and formational waters produced and sold or disposed of for each well during the previous calendar year. (7-1-21)T

**401. MEASUREMENT OF OIL.**

The volume of production of oil shall be computed in terms of barrels of clean oil on the basis of meter measurements or tank measurements of oil-level difference made and recorded to the nearest quarter-inch (1/4") of one hundred percent (100%) capacity tables, subject to the following corrections: (7-1-21)T

**01. Correction for Impurities.** The percentage of impurities (water, sand, and other foreign substances, not constituting a natural component part of the oil) shall be determined to the satisfaction of the Department, and the observed gross volume of oil shall be corrected to exclude the entire volume of such impurities. (7-1-21)T

**02. Temperature Correction.** The observed volume of oil corrected for impurities shall be further corrected to the standard volume at sixty (60) Degrees F in accordance with ASTM D-1250-08, Table 7, or any revisions thereof and any supplements thereto, or any close approximation thereof approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**03. Gravity Determination.** The gravity of oil at sixty (60) degrees F shall be determined in accordance with ASTM D-1250-08, Table 5, or any revisions thereof and any supplements thereto approved by the Department. (7-1-21)T



**402. MEASUREMENT OF GAS.**

**Gas Measurement.** For computing volume of gas to be reported to the Department, the standard of pressure shall be fourteen point seventy-three (14.73) psi atmospheric, and the standard of temperature shall be sixty (60) Degrees F. All volumes of gas to be reported to the Department shall be adjusted by computation to these standards, unless otherwise authorized by the Department. (7-1-21)T

**403. GAS-OIL RATIO FOR WELL CLASSIFICATIONS.**

In the absence of an order by the Commission setting a field-specific oil-gas ratio, a well that produces gas of five thousand (5,000) cubic feet or greater to one (1) bbl of oil at standard temperature and pressure will be classified as a gas well. (7-1-21)T

**404. GAS-OIL RATIO LIMITATION.**

**01. Waste Prevention; Conditions for Emergency Order.** To further prevent waste resulting from the production of wells with inefficient gas-oil ratios, the Department may enter an emergency order temporarily prohibiting the production of oil or gas from all wells in a pool producing both oil and gas when the Department believes that waste may be occurring or is imminent in said pool by reason of the operation of wells with inefficient gas-oil ratios. The order shall specify a date for the hearing described in Subsection 404.02 of these rules. The Department may use information provided by an offset operator or an owner or operator in a common source of supply to determine if waste is occurring. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notice and Cause for Hearing.** The Department will notify all offset operators and owners or operators in the common source of supply of the hearing date. A hearing regarding waste due to inefficient gas-oil ratios will held for any of the following reasons: (7-1-21)T

i. If an emergency order is issued as described in Subsection 404.01 of these rules. The hearing will be scheduled between five (5) and fifteen (15) days after the effective date of the order. (7-1-21)T

ii. Upon application to the Department from any person with an ownership interest in the common source of supply who believes that waste is occurring due to inefficient oil and gas ratios. The application must include credible evidence of such waste. The hearing shall be held within thirty (30) days of the Department receiving the application. (7-1-21)T

iii. Prior to an emergency situation and upon its own motion with reasonable cause, the Department may schedule a hearing regarding potential waste due to inefficient gas-oil ratios. (7-1-21)T

**03. Determination of Inefficient Ratios; Power to Limit Production.** If the Department after notice and hearing, whether held upon its own motion, upon the application of an interested party, or pursuant to an emergency order entered as hereinafter provided for, shall find that a well(s) in the pool are operating with inefficient gas-oil ratios, and that waste is occurring or is imminent as a result thereof, it shall enter an order limiting the production of oil and gas from said pool to that amount which the pool can produce without waste and in accordance with sound engineering practice. The order shall also limit the amount of oil or gas, or both, that may be produced from any well in the pool, so that each owner or operator is given an opportunity to produce his just and equitable share in the pool in accordance with sound engineering practice. (7-1-21)T

**405. GAS-OIL RATIO SURVEYS AND REPORTS.**

Within thirty (30) days following the completion or recompletion of each well producing oil and gas and thereafter as the Department may require, the owner or operator of such well shall make a gas-oil ratio test of such well and the results of such test shall be reported to the Department within twenty (20) days after the test is made. Certain wells may be excepted from this rule by the Department upon written request. Entire fields may be excepted from this rule after notice and hearing. (7-1-21)T

**406. -- 409. (RESERVED)**

**410. METERS.**

**01. General Requirements.** Meter fittings of adequate size to measure the gas efficiently for the

purpose of obtaining gas-oil ratios shall be installed on the gas vent line of every separator or proper connections made for orifice well tester. Well-head equipment shall be installed and maintained in excellent condition. Valves shall be installed so that pressures can be readily obtained on both casing and tubing. (7-1-21)T

**02. Visibility.** All required meters shall be accessible and viewable by the Department for the purpose of monitoring daily, monthly and/or cumulative production volumes from individual wells. (7-1-21)T

**411. SEPARATORS.**

All flowing oil wells must be produced through an adequate oil and gas separator or emulsion treater, provided, however, the director may approve producing wells without a separator or emulsion treater. (7-1-21)T

**412. PRODUCING FROM DIFFERENT POOLS THROUGH THE SAME CASING STRING.**

No well shall be permitted to produce either oil or gas from different pools through the same string of casing without first receiving written permission from the Department. (7-1-21)T

**413. GAS UTILIZATION.**

After a well is completed and while it is being tested, the owner or operator may flare gas for no more than fourteen (14) days without paying royalties and severance taxes on the flared gas. Under no conditions may gas be flared for more than sixty (60) days after a well is completed or recompleted. Prior to flaring gas, owners or operators must notify the county in which the well is located and all owners of occupied structures within one-quarter (1/4) mile radius of the well. After the owner or operator has tested a well, no gas from such well shall be permitted to escape into the air, and all gas produced therefrom shall be utilized without waste. (7-1-21)T

**414. -- 419. (RESERVED)**

**420. TANK BATTERIES.**

Tank batteries must meet the following requirements. (7-1-21)T

**01. Containment Requirements.** All tank batteries consisting of tanks containing produced fluids or crude oil storage tanks or containing tanks equipped to receive produced fluids must be surrounded by tank dikes that meet the following requirements: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Tank dikes must be designed to have a capacity of at least one and one-half (1½) times the volume of the largest tank which the dike surrounds. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The material used to construct a tank dike and the material used to line the bottom and sides of the containment reservoir must have a maximum coefficient of permeability of 10<sup>-9</sup> cm/sec so as to contain fluids and resist erosion. An operator must submit proof of compliance for tank dike liner construction to the Department in the form of a manufacturer's statement of design or a nuclear density test performed by a third party trained to perform the test. (7-1-21)T

**c.** All piping and manmade improvements that perforate the tank dike wall or tank battery floor must be sealed to a minimum radius of twelve (12) inches from the outside edge of the piping or improvement. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Valves and quick-connect couplers on tank batteries must be at least eighteen (18) inches from the inside wall of the tank dike. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Vegetation on the top and outside surface of tank dike must be properly maintained so as to not pose a fire hazard. (7-1-21)T

**f.** A ladder or other permanent device must be installed over the tank dike to access the containment reservoir. (7-1-21)T

**g.** The containment reservoir must be kept free of vegetation, stormwater, produced fluids, other oil and gas field related debris, general trash, or any flammable material. Drain lines installed through the tank dike for the purpose of draining storm water from the containment reservoir must have a valve installed which must remain closed and capped when not in use. Any fluids collected, spilled or discharged within the containment reservoirs must

be removed as soon as practical, characterized, treated if necessary, and disposed in conformance with IDAPA 58.01.16, "Wastewater Rules," and other applicable rules. (7-1-21)T

**421. -- 429. (RESERVED)**

**430. GAS PROCESSING FACILITIES.**

Gas processing facilities must meet the following requirements. (7-1-21)T

**01. Operations.** Operators of gas processing facilities must notify the Department which wells, by API number, are served by a gas processing facility. All gas processing facilities not constructed on a well site must comply with the requirements in Sections 301 and 302 of these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Meters and Facility Plans.** Gas processing facilities must account for all liquids and gas entering and leaving the facility with accurate meters. A supervisory control and data acquisition systems or other data recording system must be used to monitor the liquids and gas in the facility. Operators of gas processing facilities must submit an as-built facility design plan to the Department upon completion of the facility, a facility design plan must contain at the minimum: (7-1-21)T

- a. Site layout; (7-1-21)T
- b. Piping and instrumentation diagram; (7-1-21)T
- c. Process Flow schematics; (7-1-21)T
- d. Electronic controls and sensing schematic; (7-1-21)T
- e. Equipment operations and maintenance manuals for, pumps, meters, heat exchangers and any other operationally critical equipment that requires periodic maintenance and calibration; (7-1-21)T
- f. Periodic maintenance schedule for critical equipment; (7-1-21)T
- g. Troubleshooting metric; and (7-1-21)T
- h. Other information or documentation necessary for the safe and continued operation of a gas processing facility. (7-1-21)T

**03. Flaring.** Flaring at gas processing facilities must be in conformance with IDAPA 58.01.01, Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, and any permit issued by the IDEQ. (7-1-21)T

**04. Inspections.** Gas processing facilities must have site specific facility design plans and a log book of gas metered in and out of the facility available for review by Department staff during the inspections of gas processing facilities. During inspections, gas process facility staff must demonstrate knowledge of all operations and the location of all emergency shut off equipment, direction of flow lines, and heat exchangers. The Department will conduct quarterly inspections of facilities. (7-1-21)T

**431. -- 499. (RESERVED)**

**SUBCHAPTER F – WELL ACTIVITY AND RECLAMATION**

**500. ACTIVE WELLS.**

**01. Gas Storage Wells.** Gas storage wells are to be considered active at all times unless physically plugged. (7-1-21)T

**02. Extension of Active Status.** An owner or operator may request an extension of active well status for wells that are idled for more than twenty-four (24) continuous months. The owner or operator shall provide a written request to the Department stating the reason for the extension, the length of extension, the method used to

close the well to the atmosphere, and the plans for future operation. The Department shall review the request for approval, modification, or denial, and shall set the duration of the extension if approved. An extension shall not exceed five (5) years and may be renewed upon request. (7-1-21)T

**03. Annual Reports for Active Wells.** The owner or operator shall submit an annual report to the Department describing the current status of the well and the plans for future well operation by January 31 of each year. Failure to submit the annual report may result in the Department declaring the well inactive. (7-1-21)T

**501. INACTIVE WELLS.**

**01. Determination of Inactive Status.** The Department shall declare a well inactive after twenty-four (24) continuous months of inactivity if the owner or operator has not received approval for an extension of active status, or after an owner or operator fails to submit an annual report for an active well. The Department will immediately notify an owner or operator of this determination by certified mail, and the owner or operator may appeal this determination to the Commission. (7-1-21)T

**02. Owner's or Operator's Responsibility for Inactive Wells.** The owner or operator must plug and abandon an inactive well in accordance with Section 502 of these rules within six (6) months of being notified by the Department unless the owner or operator supplies the following information within the six-month time period: (7-1-21)T

- a.** A written request to extend inactive status; (7-1-21)T
- b.** An individual bond, as provided for in Subsection 220.03 of these rules, if the well was covered by a blanket bond; and (7-1-21)T
- c.** A description of how the well is closed to the atmosphere with a swedge and valve, packer, or other approved method, and how the well is to be maintained. (7-1-21)T

**03. Inactive Review and Decision.** The Department shall review the request for approval, modification, or denial, and shall set the duration of the extension if approved. An extension shall not exceed three (3) years and may be renewed upon request. (7-1-21)T

**04. Testing of Inactive Wells.** In addition to the requirements of Section 320 of these rules, inactive wells shall have a mechanical integrity test performed within two (2) years after the date of last use in order to retain inactive status. (7-1-21)T

**05. Converting Inactive Wells to Active Wells.** The owner or operator must apply to the Department to change the status of a well from inactive to active. The Department shall review the request for approval, modification, or denial. A mechanical integrity test may be required by the Department if the well has been worked over or if a test has not been conducted for five (5) years or longer. If approved, the well may again be covered by a blanket bond. (7-1-21)T

**502. WELL PLUGGING.**

**01. Plugging Required.** The operator or owner shall not permit any well drilled for oil, gas, saltwater disposal or any other purpose in connection with the production of oil and gas, to remain unplugged after such well is no longer used for the purpose for which it was drilled or converted. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notice of Intention to Abandon Well.** Before beginning abandonment work on an oil or gas well, a Notice of Intention to Abandon shall be filed with the Department and approval obtained as to the method of abandonment before the work is started. The notice must show the reason for abandonment and must give a detailed statement of the proposed work, including such information as kind, location, and length of plugs (by depths), and plans for mudding, cementing, shooting, testing, and removing casing as well as any other pertinent information. (7-1-21)T

**03. Plugging Dry Holes.** If a nonproductive well, or dry hole, is drilled and not needed for any specific purpose, it must be plugged and abandoned prior to removal of the drill rig. A verbal notification and approval may

be used for dry holes in lieu of the written notification referenced in Subsection 502.02 of these rules. The standards in Subsections 502.04 through 502.06 of these rules will still apply. (7-1-21)T

**04. Plugging of Wells.** The owner or operator of any well drilled for oil or gas, or any seismic, core, or other exploratory holes, whether cased or uncased, and regardless of diameter shall be responsible for the plugging of said hole in a manner sufficient to properly protect all freshwater-bearing and possible or probable oil- or gas-bearing formations. The material used in plugging, whether cement, mechanical plug, or some other equivalent method approved in writing by the Director, must be placed in the well in a manner to permanently prevent migration of oil, gas, water, or other substance from the formation or horizon in which it originally occurred. The preferred plugging cement slurry is that recommended in API Bulletin E3. Pozzolan, gel, and other approved extenders may be used if the owner or operator can document to the Department's satisfaction that the slurry design will achieve a minimum compressive strength of three hundred (300) psi after twenty-four (24) hours, and eight hundred (800) psi after seventy-two (72) hours measured at ninety-five (95) degrees F and at eight hundred (800) psi. No substances of any nature or description other than those normally used in plugging operations shall be placed in any well at any time during plugging operations. (7-1-21)T

**05. Plugged Intervals.** The following plugging standards shall be followed for all wells: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Cement must be placed for a length of at least one hundred (100) feet on either side of each casing shoe, or casing bottom if no shoe is present. If the bottom of the hole is less than one hundred (100) feet from the bottom of the lowest casing, then the entire length of the uncased hole below the casing will be cemented. (7-1-21)T

**b.** In the uncased portions of a well, cement plugs must be placed to extend from one hundred (100) feet below the bottom up to one hundred (100) feet above the top of any oil, gas, and abnormally high pressure zones, so as to isolate fluids in the strata in which they are found and to prevent them from escaping into other strata. (7-1-21)T

**c.** A cement plug shall be placed a minimum of one hundred (100) feet above all producing zones in uncased portions of a well. (7-1-21)T

**d.** A cement plug shall be placed a minimum of fifty (50) feet above and below the following intervals: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Where the casing is perforated or ruptured. If no cement is present behind the casing, then cement must also be squeezed out the perforations or ruptures and into the annular space between the casing and the borehole. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Top and bottom of fresh water zones. If fresh water zone is less than one hundred (100) feet thick, then continuous cement must be placed from fifty (50) feet below the zone upward to fifty (50) feet above the zone. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The top of all cement plugs will be tagged to verify their depth. (7-1-21)T

**f.** The owner or operator shall have the option as to the method of placing cement in the hole by: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Dump bailer; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Pumping a balanced cement plug through tubing or drill pipe; (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Pump and plug; or (7-1-21)T

**iv.** Equivalent method approved by the Director prior to plugging. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Unless prior approval is given, all wellbores shall have water based drilling muds, high viscosity pills, or other approved fluids between all plugs. (7-1-21)T

**h.** All abandoned wells shall have a plug or seal placed at the surface of the ground or the bottom of the cellar in the hole in such manner as not to interfere with soil cultivation or other surface use. The top of the pipe must be sealed with either a cement plug and a screw cap, or cement plug and a steel plate welded in place or by other approved method, or in the alternative be marked with a permanent monument which shall consist of a piece of pipe not less than four (4) inches in diameter and not less than ten (10) feet in length, of which four (4) feet shall be above the general ground level, the remainder to be embedded in cement or to be welded to the surface casing. (7-1-21)T

**06. Subsequent Report of Abandonment.** If a well is plugged or abandoned, a subsequent record of work done must be filed with the Department. This report shall be filed separately within thirty (30) days after the work is done. The report shall give a detailed account of the manner in which the abandonment of plugging work was carried out, including the weight of mud, the nature and quantities of materials used in plugging, the location and extent (by depths) of the plugs of different materials, and the records of any tests or measurements made and of the amount, size, and location (by depths) of casing left in the well. If an attempt was made to part any casing, a complete report of the method used and the results obtained must be included. (7-1-21)T

**07. Wells Used for Fresh Water (Cold Water < 85 degrees Fahrenheit), Low Temperature Geothermal (85 - 212 Degrees Fahrenheit) or Geothermal Wells (>212 Degrees Fahrenheit).** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Oil and gas wells, seismic, core or other exploratory holes no longer being used for their original purpose may not be converted into fresh water, low temperature geothermal, or geothermal wells unless the following actions occur: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Owner, operator, or surface owner files an application with the IDWR describing the conversion and the proposed use for the water or geothermal resource and any modifications necessary to meet the applicable well construction standards; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** The surface owner provides written documentation assuming responsibility for the converted well including, should it become necessary, decommissioning (plugging) of the converted well in accordance with applicable law; (7-1-21)T

**iii.** IDWR issues a permit for a geothermal resource well, a water right, or recognizes a domestic exemption authorizing the withdrawal of water from the converted well; and (7-1-21)T

**iv.** A licensed driller in Idaho inspects and certifies that the converted well meets all well construction standards for its intended purpose. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The Department's bond may not be released, and the oil and gas permit cancelled, until all requirements in Paragraph 502.07.a. of these rules are met. (7-1-21)T

**503. -- 509. (RESERVED)**

**510. SURFACE RECLAMATION.**

**01. Timing of Reclamation.** After the plugging and abandonment of a well or closure of other oil and gas facilities, all reclamation work described in this Section shall be completed within twelve (12) months. The Director may grant an extension where unusual circumstances are encountered, but every reasonable effort shall be made to complete reclamation before the next local growing season. (7-1-21)T

**02. General Clean Up.** All debris, abandoned gathering line risers and flowline risers, surface equipment, supplies, rubbish, and other waste materials shall be removed within three (3) months of plugging a well. The burning or burial of such material on the premises shall be performed in accordance with applicable local, state, or federal solid waste disposal and air quality regulations. In addition, material may be burned or buried on the premises only with the prior written consent of the surface owner. (7-1-21)T

**03. Road Removal.** All access roads to plugged and abandoned wells and associated production facilities shall be ripped, regraded, and recontoured unless otherwise specified in a surface use agreement. Culverts and any other obstructions that were part of the access road(s) shall be removed. Roads to be left will be graded to

drain and prepared with rolling dips or other best management practices to minimize erosion. (7-1-21)T

**04. Regrading.** Drill pads, pits, berms, cut and fill slopes, and other disturbed areas will be regraded to approximate the original contour. Where possible, slopes should be reduced to three (3) horizontal feet to one (1) vertical foot (3H:1V) or flatter. (7-1-21)T

**05. Compacted Areas.** All areas compacted by drilling and subsequent oil and gas operations that are no longer needed following completion of such operations shall be cross-ripped. Ripping shall be undertaken to a depth of eighteen (18) inches or bedrock, whichever is reached first. (7-1-21)T

**06. Topsoiling.** Stockpiled topsoil shall be replaced in a manner that will support reestablishment of the pre-disturbance land use and contoured to control erosion and provide long-term stability. If necessary, topsoiled areas shall be tilled adequately in order to establish a proper seedbed. (7-1-21)T

**07. Revegetation.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** The owner or operator shall select and establish plant species that can be expected to result in vegetation comparable to that growing on the affected lands prior to the oil and gas operations. Certified weed free seed should be used in revegetation. The owner or operator may use available technical data and results of field tests for selecting seeding practices and soil amendments that will result in viable revegetation. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The disturbed areas shall be reseeded in the first favorable season following rig demobilization, site regrading, and topsoil replacement. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Unless otherwise specified in the approved permit, the success of revegetation efforts shall be measured against the existing vegetation on site prior to the oil and gas operations, or against an adjacent reference area supporting similar types of vegetation. Reseeding or replanting is required until the following cover standards are met: (7-1-21)T

**i.** The ground cover of living plants on the revegetated area should be comparable to the ground cover of living plants on an adjacent reference area for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of soil amendment or irrigation, if used; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Ground cover shall be considered comparable if the planted area has at least seventy percent (70%) of the pre-disturbance, or adjacent reference area, ground cover; (7-1-21)T

**iii.** For locations with an average annual precipitation of more than twenty-six (26) inches, the Department, in approving a drilling permit or a pit, may set a minimum standard for success of revegetation as follows: Vegetative cover of seventy percent (70%) for two (2) full growing seasons in areas planted to herbaceous species only; or fifty percent (50%) vegetative cover for two (2) full growing seasons and six hundred (600) woody plants per acre in areas planted to a mixture of herbaceous and woody species; (7-1-21)T

**iv.** As used in this section, “herbaceous species” means grasses, legumes, and other forbs; “woody plants” means woody shrubs, trees, and vines; and “ground cover” means the area of the ground surface covered by the combined aerial parts of vegetation and the litter that is produced naturally on-site, expressed as a percentage of the total area measured. Rock surface areas will be excluded from this calculation; and (7-1-21)T

**v.** In all cases, vegetative cover shall be established to the extent necessary to control erosion. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Introduced species may be planted if they are known to be comparable to previous vegetation, or if known to be of equal or superior use for the approved post-reclamation land use, or, if necessary, to achieve a quick, temporary cover for soil stabilization purposes. Species classified as poisonous or noxious weed species shall not be used in revegetation. (7-1-21)T

**e.** By mutual agreement of the Department, the surface owner, and the owner or operator, a site may be converted to a different, more desirable or more economically suitable habitat. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Planting of grasses and forbs should be done in a manner which promotes rapid stabilization of the soil surface. Wherever terrain permits, grasses and forbs should be drilled or compacted into the ground using agricultural grass planting equipment or other seeders specifically designed for revegetation applications. Broadcast and hydroseeding may be used on areas where other methods are impractical or unavailable. (7-1-21)T

**g.** The owner or operator should plant shrubs or shrub seed, as required, where shrub communities existed prior to oil and gas operations. Shrub seed may be planted as a portion of a grass seed mix or planted as bare-root transplants after grass seeding. Where the surface owner desires a specific land use such as grazing or cropland, shrubs will not be required in the revegetation species mix. Shrub lands undergoing revegetation with shrubs shall be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical binders, or other acceptable means during establishment of the shrubs. (7-1-21)T

**h.** Tree stocking of forestlands should meet the following criteria: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Trees that are adapted to the site should be planted in a density which can be expected over time to yield a timber stand comparable to pre-disturbance timber stands; (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Trees shall be established for two (2) full growing seasons after cessation of any soil amendments and irrigation before they are considered to be established; and (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Forestlands undergoing revegetation with trees should be protected from erosion by vegetation, chemical binders, or other acceptable means during seedling establishment. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Revegetation is not required on areas that the surface owner wishes to incorporate into an irrigated field and any roads which will be used for other oil and gas operations. (7-1-21)T

**j.** Mulch should be used on severe sites and may be required by the permit where slopes are steeper than three (3) horizontal feet to one (1) vertical foot (3H:1V) or the mean annual rainfall is less than twelve (12) inches. When used, straw, or hay mulch should be obtained from certified weed free sources. "Mulch" means vegetation residues or other suitable materials to aid in the stabilization of soil and soil moisture conservation which will provide a micro-climate more suitable for germination and growth on severe sites. Annual grains such as rye, oats, and wheat may be used as a substitute for mulch where they will provide adequate protection and will be replaced by permanent species within a reasonable length of time. (7-1-21)T

**08. Reclamation Under a Surface Use Agreement.** Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsections 510.03 through 510.07 of this rule, reclamation may be superseded by the conditions of a surface use agreement as long as the site is left in a stable, non-eroding condition that will not impact fresh waters. (7-1-21)T

**511. -- 999. (RESERVED)**