

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Agricultural Perspective

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How did we start?

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was created by the Idaho Environmental Protection and Health Act (Idaho Code §39-1).



What does DEQ do?

Our Mission

To protect human health and the quality of Idaho's air, land, and water.

Our Vision

An Idaho where the quality of our environment enhances healthy living and supports thriving communities.



What value do we add?

We work for the people of Idaho.

Local compliance assistance leads to better long term outcomes.

We are able to influence the implementation of federal rules for the best fit for Idaho.

We provide timely permit decisions which is essential for Idaho's business community.



How do we do it?

Assess environmental problems

Oversee compliance by facilities that generate air, water, and hazardous waste pollution

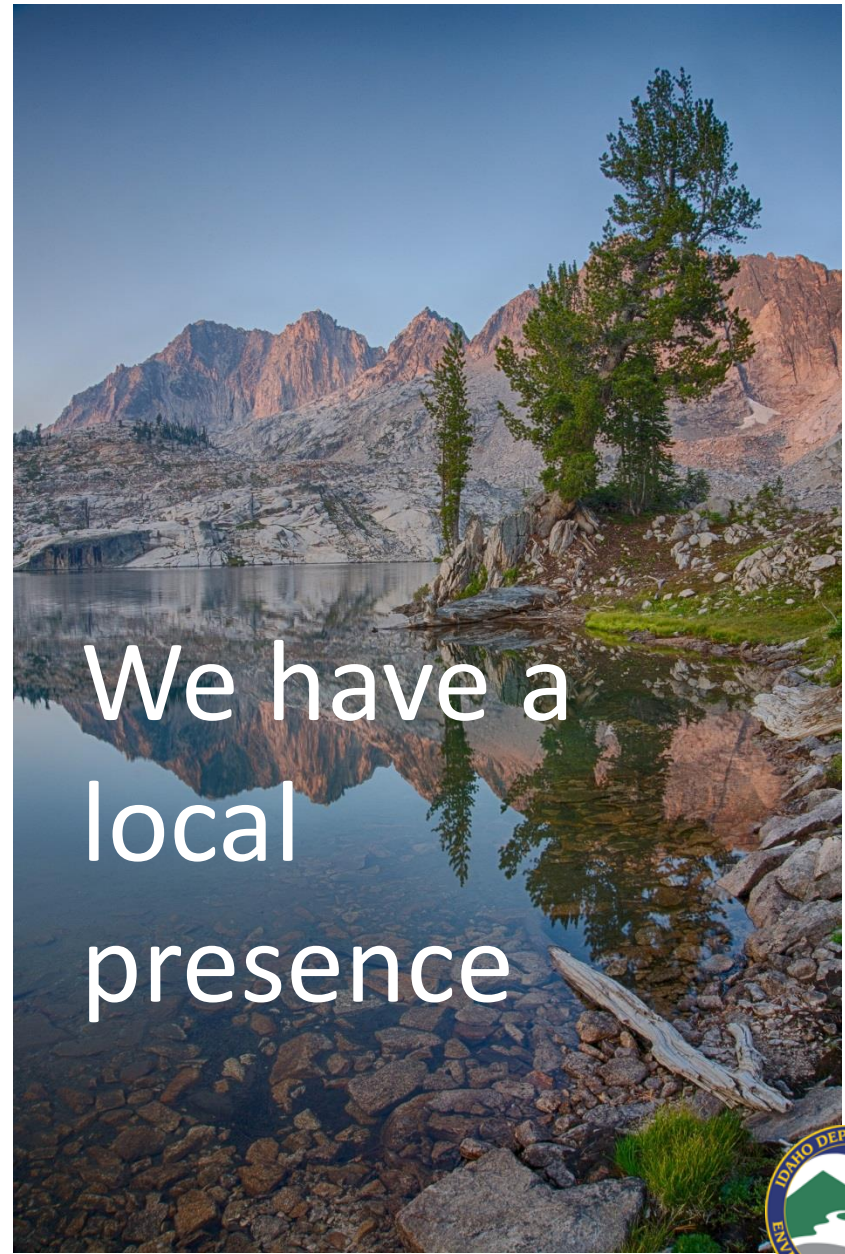
Monitoring Idaho's air and water quality

Oversee cleanup of contaminated sites

Respond to hazardous materials and emergency response calls

Issue permits and authorizations for new and expanding businesses and manufacturing facilities





Relevant topics for agriculture

- **Air**

- Crop Residual Burning
- Ammonia from Dairy Farms

- **Water**

- Agricultural Best Management Practices
- Waters of the U.S.
- Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System



Crop Residue Burning



In 2007, a lawsuit resulted in a ban on crop residue burning in Idaho



Crop Residue Burning

CRB Program State Implementation Plan and Rule Changes

Year Identified	Change Affected	Year Implemented
2010	Spot, Bale and Propane Flaming rules	2013
2016	Ozone Decision Criteria rule	2017
2018	Timing of Fees rule	2019



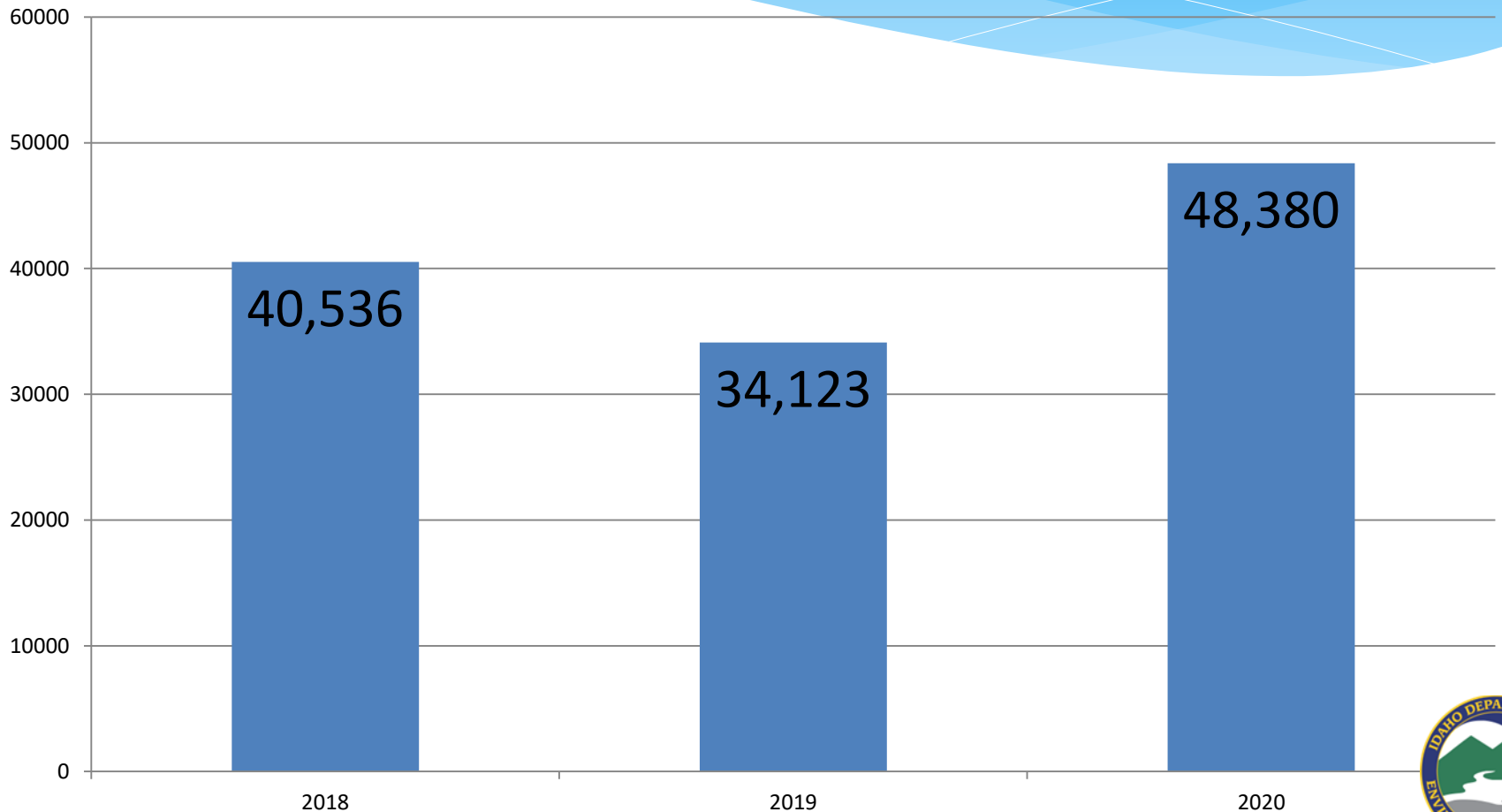
Crop Residue Burning

The goals of the CRB program remain the same; protect public health, while allowing crop residue burning to take place as an agricultural practice

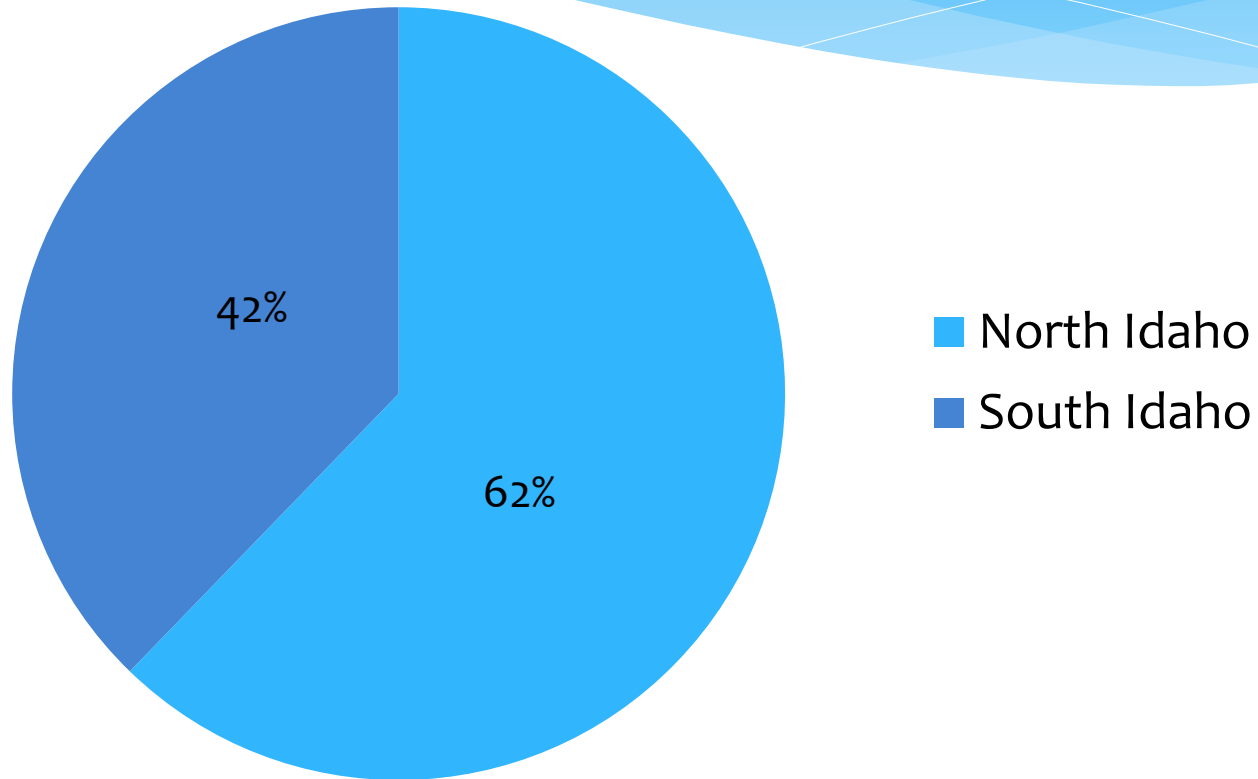


Crop Residue Burning

In the 2020 season, a total of 48,380 acres were burned



Crop Residue Burning



North Idaho: 30,113

South Idaho: 18,267



Ammonia from Dairy Farms

Dairy Ammonia
Program – Permit by
Rule

Approximately 49
PBRs for qualified
dairies



Ammonia from Dairy Farms

Qualification for the program depends on number of cattle or animal unit equivalent

ISDA conducts the dairy inspections and DEQ provides enforcement support if needed



Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP) Funding

Curlew Project, \$147,000



Waters of the U.S.

The definition of what constitutes waters of the U.S. has been an ongoing point of contention since the mid 90s

This is important because it determines what water bodies fall under protection of the Clean Water Act.



Waters of the U.S.

In 2015 EPA broadened the overall scope of waters that may be afforded those protections.

Idaho, along with 12 other states appealed that ruling and the rule was stayed by the 4th District Court for those states.



Waters of the U.S.

Idaho is operating under the new Navigable Waters Protection Rule 2020 but there is the possibility it will be repealed by the new administration and we will revert to the definition of WOTUS that was in effect before 2015.



Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System (IPDES)

The State of Idaho started this process in 2016 and obtained approval (primacy) from EPA in 2018.



IPDES Implementation

General Permits

2020

2021

**Storm water,
Biosolids,
Federal
Facilities**

2019

Non-POTW

2018

**Municipal &
Pretreatment**



Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Permitting

DEQ as permitting authority

DEQ & ISDA Memorandum of Understanding

- Outlines roles & responsibilities for inspections
- Provides clear process for communicating



Aquaculture Permits



DEQ inherited EPA's aquaculture permits and permit coverages in 2020.

2019/10/02



2020 Year in Review Video



Questions?

