

Idaho's dam safety statutes are enumerated in Idaho Code Title 42, Chapter 1709-1721. The Idaho Department of Water Resources (Department) is the state agency responsible for fulfilling the legislative mandates directed at dams and public safety. The determination of which hydraulic barriers and mine tailings impoundment structures are subject to state regulation is based on dam height, reservoir storage capacity, hazard classification or combinations thereof. Personnel in four region offices plus the state office are tasked with performing regular safety inspections and other related duties (Table 1).

The definition of height used for determining compliance with Idaho Code is measured vertically from the natural bed of the stream or watercourse at the downstream toe of the barrier to the maximum water storage elevation. The definition used for determining reservoir capacity is the volume of water impounded by the barrier at the maximum storage elevation. Hazard rating used by the Department to classify dams and reservoirs is based on a three-tier system consisting of Low, Significant and High-hazard categories. The hazard classification assigned to any particular structure is based solely on the potential consequences to downstream life and property that could result from a failure of the dam and sudden release of water. The physical condition of the structure does not factor into determining the downstream hazard potential.

Hydraulic structures greater than or equal to ten (10) feet height or reservoirs that impound a volume of water greater than or equal to fifty (50) acre-feet are regulated by the Department's Dam Safety Program for benefit of public safety, unless specifically exempted per Idaho Code 42-1711. Please view the attached *Dam Application Matrix* (Figure 1) to determine whether or not an existing or proposed hydraulic structure is large enough to be considered a dam subject to safety regulation by the Department, noting that any artificial barrier regardless of size may be subject to dam safety regulation if evidence indicates a need to protect downstream life and property against failure and uncontrolled release of water.

Owners who desire to construct, enlarge, alter or repair a water storage dam or water diversion structure meeting the definition and dimensions described above must submit an application to the Department prior to construction. The application must be accompanied with the requisite fee, and the owner must also submit a properly prepared design for Department review and approval prior to construction. The design generally will be expected to meet or exceed the prescriptive design and construction requirements enumerated in the Idaho Administrative Rules 37.03.06.

Whether or not the design is prescriptive or custom engineered by a currently licensed professional engineer in Idaho, inspection during construction shall be performed by the Department for the purpose of

securing conformity with the approved plans and specifications. If at any time during construction, site inspection reveals the work is not being accomplished in accordance with the approval of the Department and the approved design, the Department may order that no further work be done until compliance has been effected and approved.

Mine Tailings Impoundment Structures

Mine Tailings Impoundment structures greater than or equal to thirty (30) feet height are regulated by the Department in the same manner as water storage projects, with an additional provision that a surety bond be secured by the owner payable to the Department for reclamation of the project works. Design and construction requirements for mine tailings impoundment structures are described in Idaho Administrative Rules 37.03.05.

IDAHO DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES - DAM SAFETY PROGRAM 2015 EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

The following list is a current directory of state dam safety personnel. Please review the contents of the Operation/ Emergency Plan for your dam and update your files as appropriate. Note that it is the responsibility of the dam owner to revise the Operation/ Emergency Plan for their dam annually, or more frequently, if the operating instructions or contact information changes.

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NAME & TITLE</u>	<u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>
<p>State Dam Safety Office 322 E. Front Street PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720</p>	<p>John Falk, P.E. Dam Safety Program Manager john.falk@idwr.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Office: (208) 287-4800 Direct: (208) 287-4927 Mobile: (503) 269-3236 FAX: (208) 287-6700</p>
<p>Northern Region 7600 N. Mineral Drive Suite 100 Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815</p>	<p>Gio Del Papa, P.E. Dam Safety Engineer gio.delpapa@idwr.idaho.gov</p> <p>Keith Franklin N. Region Office Manager keith.franklin@idwr.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Office: (208) 762-2800 Mobile: (208) 819-6713</p> <p>Office: (208) 762-2800 Mobile: (208) 818-8968 FAX: (208) 762-2819</p>
<p>Southern Region 650 Addison Avenue West Suite 500 Twin Falls, ID 83301</p>	<p>Corey Skinner, P.E. Dam Safety Engineer corey.skinner@idwr.idaho.gov</p> <p>Allen Merritt, P.E. S. Region Office Manager allen.merritt@idwr.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Office: (208) 736-3033 Mobile: (208) 308-2956</p> <p>Office: (208) 736-3033 Mobile: (208) 539-2930 FAX: (208) 736-3037</p>
<p>Eastern Region 900 N. Skyline Drive Suite A Idaho Falls, ID 83402</p>	<p>Steve Bosworth, EIT Dam Safety Engineer stephen.bosworth@idwr.idaho.gov</p> <p>Lyle Swank, P.E. E. Region Office Manager lyle.swank@idwr.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Office: (208) 525-7161 Mobile: (208) 577-1878</p> <p>Office: (208) 525-7161 FAX: (208) 525-7177</p>
<p>Western Region 2735 Airport Way Boise, ID 83705</p>	<p>Erik Boe, P.E. Dam Safety Engineer erik.boe@idwr.idaho.gov</p> <p>Nick Miller, P.E. W. Region Office Manager nick.miller@idwr.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Office: (208) 334-2190 Mobile: (208) 660-5656</p> <p>Office: (208) 334-2190 Mobile: (208) 830-4682 FAX: (208) 334-2348</p>

Dams and Reservoirs Subject to IDWR Regulation According to Height and Storage Capacity Determination					
MATRIX SERVES ALL HYDRAULIC BARRIERS *		H E I G H T O F B A R R I E R			
		Less than 6.0 Feet	6 -to- 10 Feet	10 Feet or More	More than 20 Feet
S T O R A G E	Less than 10.0 Acre-Feet	NO	NO	NO	NO
	10 -to- 50 Acre-Feet	NO	NO	YES	YES plus a P.E. Design
	50 Acre-Feet or More	NO	YES	YES	YES plus a P.E. Design
	100 Acre-Feet or More	NO	YES plus a P.E. Design	YES plus a P.E. Design	YES plus a P.E. Design

*** Note - In general accordance w/ Idaho Code §42.1709:**
Artificial hydraulic barriers regardless of height or storage capacity may be regulated for benefit of public safety based on sufficient evidence to indicate the structure poses a significant hazard to downstream life or property.

IDWR Regulated Dams (green) showing the relationship to hydraulic height and reservoir capacity, and the additional requirement for an engineered design prepared by a licensed Professional Engineer (PE).

Figure 1