GRANT APPLICATION

US Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grants Program:
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Opportunity No. R24AS00059

PROJECT TITLE:
"Greenferry Water and Sewer District Water Meter Upgrade Project"

Submitted by:
Greenferry Water and Sewer District

Applicant Address:
Greenferry Water and Sewer District
PO Box 2788
Hayden, Idaho 83835

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January 15, 2024

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Attachments

ACRONYMS

GWSD	Greenferry Water and Sewer District
IDEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
MDMS	Meter data management system
PNW	Pacific Northwest
SVRP	Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie

I. Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

A. Executive Summary

The Greenferry Water and Sewer District (GWSD, or District), located in Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho is submitting this application to the Bureau of Reclamation for WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant funds for the Project, titled "Greenferry Water and Sewer District Meter Upgrade Project". The GWSD is a Category A applicant. The date of application submittal is January 15, 2024.

This GWSD project includes upgrading 98 meters within the District, which spans between the City of Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. This project is the first phase of the District's larger initiative to upgrade all meters (299 meters total) that do not have advanced metering technology. All District meters will be upgraded to Spectrum Single-Jet Meters which have advanced metering technology. This will allow customers and the District to monitor their water use. This project is part of the District's Facility Plan, approved by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), to upgrade the system to be more energy efficient, increase water conservation and improve operations. GWSD is supplied by two groundwater wells pumping from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie (SVRP) Aquifer. When comparing the metered production and metered consumption there was an obvious loss of water. Upgraded meters would not only allow the District to identify where this loss is coming from but will improve their overall operation and assist in conserving water.

This project is planned to begin January 20, 2025, and be completed by July 20, 2026. The Project is not located on a Federal Facility.

B. Project Location

The District is located on the southern shore of the Spokane River and approximately half a mile south of the City of Post Falls in Kootenai County, Idaho. The District covers an area of 1.79 square miles between the Spokane River and Blossom Mountain. The project latitude is 47°41'43" N and the longitude is 116°54'37" W. Figure 1 below is a geographic map of the District. Figure 2 is a map showing the geographic location of the District within the SVRP Aquifer. Figure 3 is a map showing the locations the project will affect.

C. Technical Project Description

Since 2013 Greenferry Water and Sewer District has been working on project plans to upgrade the system. The area in which the District is located has seen a rapid increase in population. As new residential developments occur, the District has been able to begin system upgrades which include utilizing new smart meters with remote read technology. These meters have proven to be more efficient and accurate for the District. Of the current 392 users in the District, only 93 are equipped with Spectrum Single-Jet meters. The remaining 299 still use basic meters, many of which are either ineffective or failing to give accurate readings.

The District will be installing Spectrum 50DL 1" 10.75" LL S50 1" Top Load Brass Measurer that are equipped with innov8 registers at all 98 locations. Thirty meters are underground and will be installed by an excavation contractor, determined by open bid. The remaining 68 meters are easily accessible and will be installed by Integrity Water Management, the District's Operation Manager. The 30 that are underground will also need new meter boxes as the current meter boxes are concrete. The boxes will be replaced with McDonald NL Coil Pit Setter boxes. The upgraded boxes will allow the District's operators to easily access the meters. Once excavated, the old meters will be removed and the new meters will be installed along with the meter boxes. None of the 98 meters are installed in roadways eliminating the need for excavation work in the road and road closures. Thirty meters are located near the Spokane River. Precautions will be taken for these meters due to their proximity to the river. An erosion control plan compliant with Kootenai County requirements including straw wattles to prevent run-off and a reseeding plan to ensure regrowth will be implemented. The engineering company will perform bi-monthly monitoring. Monitoring will also be conducted in the event of a storm. The excavation will be conducted within the original excavation limits.

The Spectrum meters will be installed over the course of 12 months. The project's schedule allows for 6 months to accommodate unforeseen weather conditions. Since the District is only replacing 98 meters in this phase, they will purchase the meters all at once to avoid possible price increases.

D. Evaluation Criterion

1. Evaluation Criterion A. Project Benefits

a) Benefits to the Category A Applicant's Water Delivery System

(1) Clearly explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and water customers.

The Greenferry Water and Sewer District strives to reduce water loss, improve operational efficiency, reduce the cost of operations and promote water conservation throughout the District. Installation of upgraded meters will directly support these water management benefits and improvements.

As mentioned previously, the new developments in the District have Spectrum Single-Jet meters installed. By upgrading the remaining meters, the District will be able to identify areas experiencing water loss. System loss is calculated as the difference between total metered production and total metered consumption. From October 2022 through September 2023 the District saw a significant water loss. The peak of this loss was from October 2022 through May 2023 where the system loss was 15,431,000 gallons of water or over half of the District's source production. The summer months have a much larger loss of water due to the higher user consumption. The extreme difference in water loss throughout the year confirms the District's concerns that old meters are in fact failing to accurately record flow readings over the large range of flows the District encounters through the year. With a "dual-bearing" design that is accurate during low and high flows, the Spectrum Single-Jet meters will allow the District to pinpoint these locations and stop the waste of water throughout the year.[1] The Spectrum Meters are paired with innov8 registers that deliver reliable readings and diagnostic data to a cloud-based meter data management system (MDMS).[2] This data can be accessed by not only the District but by the users via the Waterscope web portal. This system also sends quick notifications of unusual water activity and potential leaks, prompting the District to investigate the problem immediately. It will benefit the customers by giving them more accurate readings and encourage them to lessen unnecessary water usage.

Currently, the District expends resources on manually reading individual meters at their locations. Due to accessibility problems the antiquated meters are currently not read in the winter months. Spectrum Meters will allow the District's operator to read the meters in the wintertime and identify leaks very quickly when they occur at a residential service. With remote readings the District will not only be able to keep more thorough water consumption records, but they will be able to invest their resources into other areas of the system. With limited resources due to the small size of GWSD, eliminating manual readings will improve system operations and reduce operational costs. Reducing operational costs will also allow the District to focus funds on additional critical upgrades.

(2) Explain the significance of the anticipated water management benefits for Category A applicant's water delivery system and customers.

Due to the dry, hot summers our area of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) experiences, water restrictions are only implemented during summer months. The dry season requires the District to monitor source production and consumption more often. Spectrum Meters will make this process more efficient for both the District and their customers as the remote reading capabilities will provide more accurate meter readings to both. Billing disputes will be easily resolved saving the District time and resources, and customers can more easily monitor their own consumption. Upgrading the meters will help prevent the water loss and assist in the conservation of water. GWSD is mindful of the source wells water production, especially during

[1] https://metronfarnier.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Datasheet-Residential-Spectrum-Meters-July-21.pdf
[2] https://metronfarnier.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Datasheet-innov8-VN-Mar21A.pdf

summer months, as it pulls from the SVRP aquifer. Concerns about the aquifer and its effects on the surrounding areas will be further discussed in the following section.

b) Broader Benefits

The District's source wells pull from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer as mentioned previously. This aquifer is the source of drinking water for over 500,000 people and was designated as a "Sole Source Aquifer" in 1978 by the Environmental Protection Agency.[3] With the ever-expanding population growth this area has seen, concerns of increasing groundwater withdrawals and its effect on stream flows in the Spokane and Little Spokane Rivers have arisen. The SVRP aquifer and the Spokane River are interlinked, recharging each other. The losing reaches of the upper portion of the river are the aquifer's main source of recharge while the gaining reaches of the lower portion of the river pull from the aquifer. As water is pulled from the aquifer, water flow in the river is affected.[4] The system operator of the District, Integrity Water Management, manages multiple water districts throughout the area, all of which use the aquifer as their source. The Spectrum meters will allow accurate data to be recorded and compared with fellow districts. Aquifer preservation is at the forefront not only for the users but for many state and federal groups. In 2014 and 2015 GWSD was a part of a regional effort to define a coordinated, long-range plan for water service in our area. The District along with other water purveyors who utilize the SVRP Aquifer defined their 30-year service boundary as to avoid any conflicts amongst water rights.

Aquifer preservation is even more important as the Pacific Northwest has been experiencing significant drought over the past 20 years. In 2001, 2015 and in 2020 the PNW region suffered multi-year drought in the areas of Oregon and Idaho. Conditions in Idaho are forecasted to persist. [5] With our winter months becoming drier, GWSD along with many water purveyors in our area are trying to reduce their impact on the Aquifer which directly affects the Spokane River and other local bodies of water. Snowpack accumulation is the major source of water in Northern Idaho and has been declining since the mid-20th century. If water levels fall below average, the entire area is at risk of further drought conditions. Wildfires have become more prevalent in Idaho, with 2012 being the most active fire season to date.[6] By reducing water waste and encouraging water conservation GWSD can be a part of the solution to help preserve the water sources in our area. Spectrum meters will give the District the ability to proactively assess their impact and share this information with the water users.

Preservation of the water sources also helps preserve the fauna, flora, and natural communities. The area in which the District covers is home to endangered species such as historic grizzly bear habitat, yellow-billed cuckoos, monarch butterflies, and bull trout.[7] Each of these species

[3] https://idwr.idaho.gov/water-data/projects/spokane-valley-rathdrum-prairie/
[4] https://www.spokaneaquifer.org/the-aquifer/the-aquifer-atlas/
[5] https://www.drought.gov/states/idaho
[6] https://statesummaries.ncics.org/chapter/id/
[7] https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/COM6SVALRRB6PN544N6LKBCHVQ/resources#endangered-species

benefit from water conservation as their habitats rely on availability of water. With the SVRP Aquifer pulling from the Spokane River the bull-trout's habitat is greatly affected. By lessening the use of water and encouraging water conservation amongst users, water levels in the river will be less affected.

2. Evaluation Criterion B. Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

Beginning in 2013, the District set about developing their Water System Facility Plan. This document was created to analyze the system's operating conditions and provide recommendations for improvements and modifications. This plan is intended to make the system more energy efficient, increase water conservation and improve operations. The Facility Plan outlines different projects that will help the District achieve these goals. IDEQ approved the plan in 2021 and the District has continued to complete as many of these projects based on funding available.

The District enlisted two engineering companies, ACE Solutions LLC and Welch Comer and Associates, Inc. to prepare the Water System Facility Plan. During monthly meetings GWSD's board members would share concerns about the system and work with the engineers to create plans that would resolve the issues. Many options would be considered to ensure the most cost-effective improvements would be selected. The plan's improvements are all in compliance with Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems (IDAPA 58.01.08).

A main concern identified in the Facility Plan was water loss. A leak detection study was conducted in 2020 which outlined possible causes for the discrepancy between individual water user metered data and source meter data. Different improvements to correct this issue were implemented such as replacing waterlines, maintenance of reservoirs and identifying illegal service connections. Even after these improvements were made the District is still experiencing excessive water loss. Upgrading all meters to those with advanced technology were a final solution to this on-going issue. These improvements are specifically mentioned in the Facility Plan in section 5.5 "Replacement of Service Water Meters, Service Lines, and Old Water Mains".

3. Evaluation Criterion C. Implementation and Results

a) Task 1. Grant Administration

If GWSD is selected for financial assistance for the proposed project, following the requirements outlined in the grant agreement is a main priority. The District will complete Financial Reports, Interim Performance Reports, and a Final Performance Report, per the specifications.

The implementation plan for the proposed water meter upgrade project includes the following:

b) Project Schedule

If accepted the project will commence on January 20, 2025. This is with the intention of Grant award notification by June of, 2024 and funds being available by October 31, 2024. The District also expects NEPA clearance no later than October of 2024. The first task of the project is procuring the supplies necessary for project completion. Once funding is obtained the district

will begin meter upgrades in 3 phases, consisting of 32-33 meters in each phase totaling 98 meters. Each phase will be allotted a 4-month time frame. The final group of meter upgrades is expected to be completed by January 20, 2026. The official project end date is July 20, 2026. Due to inclement weather the District can experience, six months has been added to the project timeline to cover any delays that may arise.

c) Task 2. Meter Upgrade Process

Once the grant agreement is signed, assuming the date of October 31, 2024, the District will place the order for the 98 spectrum meters. Delivery of the meters is expected within 2-3 months of the order. The meters will be stored at the GWSD's wellhouse storage facility until the project start date.

The meters' removal and installation will be performed by Integrity Water Management and an excavation contractor determined through open bid. The second section of upgrades will include the meters requiring excavation. Table 1 summarizes the schedule and process information:

Table 1. Timeline

	2024			2024			2025			2025			2025			2025			2026			2026		
	June/July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June/July
Task 1: Grant Admin	Award Notification			Grant Agreement October 31								Semi-Annual Report				Semi-Annual Report				Semi-Annual Report				Final Report July 20, 2026
Task 2: Meter Upgrade				Purchase of meters upon signed agreement			Meter upgrade begins January 20th			1st group of meter upgrade completed May 20th			2nd group of meter upgrade completed September 20th						Meter Upgrade Completed January 20th					

d) Permits, Engineering, and Access

The meters to be upgraded already exist and are connected to the water source, so there will be no permits or access easements required. Engineering will be required for an erosion control plan for underground meters that require excavation. Residents will be notified two weeks prior to their meter being upgraded via a door flyer.

e) Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance Requirements

The District has contacted the local Reclamation office and was informed that for environmental compliance this project would most likely fit into a Categorical Exclusion. Cultural resource compliance states the excavation of the 30 meters would be considered a "no potential to effect category" if the excavation is completed within the limits of the previous excavation to install the existing equipment.

4. Evaluation Criterion D. Nexus to Reclamation

There is no direct connection to a current Reclamation project or activity.

5. Evaluation Criterion E. Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities

a) Sub-criterion No. E1. Climate Change

Upgrading current meters to Spectrum Single-Jet meters will address the impacts of climate change in many ways including reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving water use which protects water resources in the area.

Upgraded meters that allow for remote readings eliminate the process of driving from meter to meter for manual readings. The new meters will also prevent water loss which means less equipment operation. The system uses energy to pump water from the source wells which is then treated at the treatment facility and stored in reservoirs. By reducing unnecessary water use, energy will be conserved at an operational level thus lessening the overall greenhouse gas emissions.

GWSD is mindful of the changing climate in our area. As mentioned prior, our area has been experiencing drought due to higher temperatures accompanied by less snowpack. These conditions directly affect the main water source for so many water purveyors in the area. By upgrading the current broken and inaccurate meters with Spectrum Single-Jet meters, the District can identify areas of the system that are leaking. By identifying these issues quickly, they can efficiently reduce water loss and encourage water conservation. Water conservation directly affects the SRVP Aquifer and Spokane River. As the climate changes, these resources become more at risk of being depleted. The aquifer is recharged by rain, snowpack, and bodies of water such as lakes and rivers. In turn the aquifer recharges the Lower Spokane River. By reducing their impact on the aquifer, the District will be part of the preservation of this water source and all that rely on it.

b) Sub-criterion No. E2. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

The community in which GWSD serves is not considered underserved or economically disadvantaged.

c) Sub-criterion No. E3. Tribal Benefits

The project will not directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe.

II. Budget Narrative

Greenferry Water and Sewer District is requesting $100,000.00 in federal grant funds for the Water Meter Upgrade Project. The total project cost is $207,375, leaving a non-federal cost share of $107,375. GWSD's monetary contribution will be $107,375. The monetary contribution will be used in the purchasing of supplies and contractors. The non-federal cost share is secure and will be provided by the District's cash reserves. Table 2 summarizes the budget costs.

Table 2. Budget Estimate

Budget Category	Total Cost	Federal Estimated Amount	Non-Federal Estimated Amount
Supplies	$102,900	$100,000	$ 2,900
Contractual	$104,475	$ 0	$ 104,475
Total Cost	**$207,375**	**$100,000**	**$ 107,375**

A. Supplies

The total estimated cost for supplies and materials is $102,900. The District is requesting $100,000 in federal grant funds and will cover the remaining $2,900 with cash reserves.

The supplies and materials consist of the 98 Spectrum Single-Jet meters at $525 each totaling $51,450; the 30 McDonald NL Coil Pit Setter Boxes at $1,665 each totaling $49,950; an estimated 120 pounds of grass seed at $5 per pound totaling $600; and 30 8"x25' straw wattles at $30 each totaling $900. Meter costs were based on a quote estimate from Metron Farnier Smart Water Meters and Systems. The meter box cost was estimated based on cost per the A.Y McDonald website catalogue. The grass seed and straw wattles that will be used for erosion control were based on average cost from our area vendors. Table 3 summarizes supply cost.

Table 3. Supply Budget

Supply Item	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Spectrum Meter	98	$525	**$ 51,450**
Meter Box	30	$1,665	**$ 49,950**
Grass Seed	120lb	$5 per/lb	**$ 600**
Straw Wattles 8"x25'	30	$30	**$ 900**
Total Cost			**$102,900**

B. Contractual

All contractual services will be covered by the District's cash reserves as part of their monetary contributions.

The District's water system operation is overseen by Integrity Water Management who have a contract with the District for general maintenance of the system. The District pays a monthly fee for their services and will not be adding this to the budget as the fee encompasses tasks outside of this project. However, Integrity Water Management will be installing 68 meters and are

charging $100 per meter installation, on top of their regular monthly fee. The total project cost for their meter installation services will be $6,800.

The District will be enlisting a contractor for the excavation of the 30 meters located underground. A contractor will be selected via an open bid. The District will open the bid for a period of two weeks and will publicly read each bid. A contractor will be selected based on price and performance history. Through preliminary price analysis the District estimates the cost for excavation will be $3,172.50 per meter location. This estimate includes cost of a service truck and equipment at $165 per hour, mini excavator at $100 per hour, excavator operator at $39.31 ($28.92 rate plus $10.39 fringes) per hour, 2 laborers at $43.94 ($29.44 rate plus $14.50 fringes) each per hour, and materials to isolate existing service line at $35 per meter. The District assumes one meter to be excavated and upgraded per 8-hour day. The total estimated cost for the excavation contract will be $95,175 and will be covered by the District's cash reserve as part of their monetary contribution. Hourly wages were based on Davis Bacon Act WD #ID20240107. Time frames and costs are based on recent installations of 93 Spectrum Single-Jet meters and boxes in the newer developments of the District.

The District will be acquiring an Erosion Control plan from their contracted engineer ACE Solutions, LLC. The plan will cost an estimated $2,500. The plan includes location erosion control for $1,200 and bi-monthly monitoring for two months at $1,300. The bi-monthly monitoring has allotted 20 hours at $65 an hour. The estimated cost is based on a quote from ACE Solutions, LLC. The District selected ACE Solutions, LLC as a contracted Engineer via a yearly public budget meeting. Each year the District accepts bids from engineering companies for year-round consultation and selects a company based on price and performance history.

The District's administrative manager, John Austin, will be the project manager and will be responsible for all administrative duties described in Task 1. Grant Administration. Mr. Austin is contracted by the District for administrative purposes and is paid a monthly fee for his services which will not be included in the project's budget. Mr. Austin's time dedicated to the project is already covered under his contract with the District. Mr. Austin will be onsite throughout the meter upgrade process obtaining necessary progress information for interim progress reports. He will also oversee financial reports and maintain records of supply purchases and contract services.

Table 4 summarizes the above contractual estimates.

Table 4. Contractual Cost Estimate

Contractor Service	Price Per Unit	Quantity	Quantity Type	Total Cost
Integrity Water Management				
Meter Installation	$100	68	Each	**$ 6,800**
Excavation Contractor TBD				
Service Truck & Equipment	$165	240	Hours	$ 39,600
Excavator	$100	240	Hours	$ 24,000
Excavation Operator	$39.31	240	Hours	$ 9,434
Laborer	$87.88*	240	Hours	$ 21,091
Freeze Kit	$35	30	Each	$ 1,050
Totaled				**$ 95,175**
ACE Solutions, LLC				
Erosion Control	$80	15	Hours	$ 1,200
Monitoring	$65	20	Hours	$ 1,300
Totaled				**$ 2,500**
Contractual Total Cost				**$104,475**

*Laborer hourly rate is doubled to account for 2 employees.

III. Environmental and Cultural Resources and Compliance

(1) Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

The proposed project will be taking place with existing meters. The District will be removing old meters and replacing them with upgraded meters. There are 30 meters located underground that will require excavation for the new meter to be installed. An erosion control plan will be implemented prior to the excavation process to prevent any run-off. The old meters and meter boxes will be dug up, removed, and replaced with the upgraded meters and meter boxes. They will then be buried up to the lid of the box and reseeded.

(2) Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project a rea? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service threatened species that could potentially be found within the District include grizzly bear habitat, yellow-billed cuckoos, monarch butterflies, and bull trout. None of these species will be affected negatively as the project is taking place in a developed environment. There are also no critical habitats within the District.

(3) Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as "Waters of the United States?" If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.

The project area does contain surface waters and is located south of the Spokane River. Erosion control plans are being implemented when necessary to prevent any impact on the River. Due to the digging up of certain meters, run-off is a possible concern but will be heavily monitored. Wetlands throughout the project area were considered and protected during original construction of the meters and will not be affected by the meter upgrades.

(4) When was the water delivery system constructed?

GWSD was organized in 1970 with the construction of its first well in 1989 and the second in 2001. The wells were constructed to replace an antiquated water treatment plant drawing water from the Spokane River. It currently serves only single- family residences on parcels ranging from .15 to 64 acres.

(5) Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive Iterations or modifications to those features completed previously.

The proposed project will not modify or affect any irrigation systems.

(6) Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.

There are no buildings, structures, or features listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

(7) Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

There are no known archeological sites in the project area.

(8) Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

The project will not have any effect on low income or minority populations.

(9) Will the proposed project limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?

The project will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands.

(10) Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

The project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.

IV. Required Permits or Approvals

This project does not require permits or approval.

V. Overlap or Duplication of Efforts Statement.

Greenferry Water and Sewer District certifies that there is no overlap between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects in terms of activities, costs, or commitment of key personnel. The project submitted for consideration does not in any way duplicate any proposal or project that has been submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source, whether it be Federal or non-Federal.

VI. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

Greenferry Water and Sewer District certifies that there is no conflict of interest at the time of submission of this grant application.

VII. Uniform Audit Reporting

Greenferry Water and Sewer District was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the fiscal year.

VIII. Letters of Support

Letters of support were received from the following elected officials, agencies and organizations and can be found in Attachment A.

1. United States Congressional Delegates
2. Idaho State Senator Carl Bjerke
3. Kootenai County Commissioner Leslie Duncan
4. Idaho Department of Water Resources' Northern Region Hydrogeologist Daniel Sturgis
5. Idaho Rural Water Association Chief Executive Officer Shelley Roberts
6. Kootenai Electric Cooperative's General Manager/CEO Douglas Elliot
7. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Drinking Water Compliance Officer Jim Williamson

IX. Official Resolution

Greenferry Water and Sewer District's submittal of this grant for WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant funds was approved by the GWSD Board of Directors on December 28, 2023, under Resolution No. 2023-01. The resolution is attached on the following page.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SMALL-SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM (SWEP) GRANT AND 50% MATCH TO THE GRANT

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Greenferry Water and Sewer District Board to provide for the efficient delivery and monitoring of its water to residents, and

WHEREAS, upgrading its residential water meters to advanced metering infrastructure **(AMI)** meters will greatly assist in this, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Board of Reclamation has a Small Scale Water Efficiency Program (SWEP) to assist districts with financing the meter upgrades, in the amount of $100,000 in each phase, and

WHEREAS, a match of 50% of the grant award is required to be provided by the District, as grantee,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Greenferry Water and Sewer District that:

1. Staff, with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, will submit the SWEP grant for the first phase of the program, in the amount of $200,000.
2. The Board of Directors authorize the matching funds of $100,000, jointly with one-half ($50,000) from its Capital Reserve Fund and one-half ($50,000) from its General Fund.

PASSED and approved by the Board of Directors of the Greenferry Water and Sewer District this 28th day of December, 2023.

APPROVED:

Carol Rassier

Carol Rassier, Chairperson

Mike Crapo
United States Senator
239 Dirksen Senate Office
Building Washington, DC 20510

James E. Risch
United States Senator
483 Russell Senate Office
Building Washington, DC 20510

Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress
1520 Longworth House Office
Building Washington, DC 20515

January 17, 2024

Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton
Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C St NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Commissioner Touton:

We write to express our support for Greenferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant. This project aims to implement advanced metering infrastructure, thereby improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

Situated in Kootenai County Idaho, the Greenferry Water and Sewer District serves approximately 400 customers who rely on the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRPA) for their water needs. It is important to note that this aquifer is a Sole Source Aquifer, catering to around 500,000 water users from both Idaho and Washington. Given the rapid growth in the region above the SVRPA, it is crucial to take measures to reduce water loss and promote water conservation to ensure the long-term sustainability of the aquifer and the communities and biodiversity that depend on it.

The District has made it a priority to actively pursue water efficiency management measures. As part of this effort, they are advocating for the installation of advanced residential water meters for all their customers. The proposed project aims to upgrade approximately 300 customer meters in phases. These advanced meters utilize technology that minimizes water leaks and accidental water usage, while also motivating customers to improve their water conservation efforts. Currently, meters that require onsite reading are not being serviced during the winter season when most leaks tend to occur. By upgrading these meters, the District will be able to detect and address leaks promptly, resulting in significant water savings for all SVRPA users. Additionally, this project will lead to energy savings by reducing water production, equipment maintenance, and the need for travel to perform meter readings.

In conclusion, we kindly request the full and fair consideration of Greenferry Water and Sewer District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application. This project holds great potential to enhance water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies, benefiting the entire community and the environment.

Sincerely,

MIKE CRAPO
United States
Senator

JAMES E. RISCH
United States
Senator

RUSS FULCHER
Member of
Congress

DISTRICTS
KOOTENAI COUNTY

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Idaho State Senate

SENATOR CARL BJERKE

December 30, 2023

WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant Program
United States Bureau of Reclamation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Greenferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant to implement advanced metering infrastructure improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

Greenferry Water and Sewer District ("District"), located in Kootenai County, Idaho, supplies water to approximately 400 customers from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRPA). This aquifer is considered a Sole Source Aquifer, serving approximately 500,000 water users from Idaho and Washington. This number is rapidly growing because the area above the SVRPA is growing tremendously.

The district's project of installing advanced meters will enable it to upgrade approximately 300 customer meters (in phases) with technology that minimizes water leaks and other accidental water usage and motivates customers to improve their water conservation efforts. The project will upgrade meters requiring onsite reading, which is not currently performed during winter when most leaks occur. This would result in significant water savings, benefiting all SVRPA users, and energy savings through the reduction of water production, maintenance of equipment, and elimination of travel for meter readings.

For these reasons, I support the District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application to improve water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies. I appreciate your consideration of this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,

Carl Bjerke
Senator LD5

KOOTENAI COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LESLIE **DUNCAN**

December 14, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Greenferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Water Efficiency Projects grant to implement advanced metering improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

Greenferry Water and Sewer District ("District"), located in Kootenai County, Idaho, supplies water to approximately 400 customers from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRPA). This aquifer is considered a Sole Source Aquifer and serves approximately 500,000 water users from Idaho and Washington. This number is rapidly growing because the area above the SVRPA is seeing tremendous growth.

Reducing water loss and encouraging water conservation is part of the District's long-term strategy to support the sustainability of the SVRPA and the communities and biodiversity depending on it. The District is actively pursuing water efficiency management measures and promotes installing advanced residential water meters to all their customers as an important step towards achieving this goal.

The District's project of installing advanced meters will enable the District to upgrade approximately 300 customer meters (in phases) with technology that minimizes water leaks and other accidental water usage. The project will upgrade meters that require onsite reading which is not currently being performed during the winter season when most leaks occur. This would result in a significant savings of water, benefiting all SVRPA users, as well as energy savings through the reduction of water production, maintenance of equipment, and elimination of travel for meter readings.

It is for these reasons I strongly support the District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application to improve water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies. Thank you for your consideration of this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,

Kootenai County Commissioner Leslie Duncan

451 N Government Way • P.O. Box 9000
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816-9000
Phone: 208-446-1600 • Email: lduncan@kcgov.us

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Northern Region • 7600 N Mineral Drive, Suite 100 • Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815-7763
Phone: 208-762-2800 • Fax: 208-762-2819 • Email: northerninfo@idwr.idaho.gov • Web: idwr.idaho.gov

Governor Brad Little **Director Mathew Weaver**

December 27, 2023

WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant Program
United States Bureau of Reclamation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Greenferry Water and Sewer District's (District) application for a WaterSMART Grant through the Bureau of Reclamation. It is my understanding that the District is applying for a small-scale water efficiency project grant to install advanced water meters at 300+ customer service connections. These advanced meters will enable the District to detect water leaks and accidental water usage. Advanced meters will also help the District and customers with water conservation efforts.

The District currently serves municipal water from two wells completed in the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRP). Due to the importance of the SVRP Aquifer to the region, Idaho Water Resource Board and Idaho Department of Water Resources adopted an aquifer management plan for the Rathdrum Prairie portion of the SVRP Aquifer. One of the objectives of the Rathdrum Prairie Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) is to meet future water demand. Several tasks were identified to help accomplish this objective. One task is to enact water conservation measures that promote water efficiency and reduced use.

The District has made efforts to fulfill the vision and objectives of the Rathdrum Prairie CAMP. Recently, the District invested $1.7 million to replace aging infrastructure including water mains, fire hydrants, and water meters. Additionally, the District has applied for a water right to meet anticipated future needs for the next thirty years.

Installing new advanced meters at customer service connections will allow the District and the community to continue to achieve the goals of the Rathdrum Prairie CAMP. Please accept my letter of support for your consideration of the District's WaterSMART Grant application.

Sincerely,

Daniel Sturgis
Northern Region Hydrogeologist
Idaho Department of Water Resources

January 2, 2024

United States Bureau of Reclamation
Atn: Mr. Josh German
Denver, CO 80225
jgerman@usbr.gov

Re: WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Greenferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant to implement advanced metering infrastructure improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

Greenferry Water and Sewer District ("District"), located in Kootenai County, Idaho, supplies water to approximately 400 customers from the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer (SVRPA). This aquifer is considered a Sole Source Aquifer and serves approximately 500,000 water users from Idaho and Washington. This number is rapidly growing because the area above the SVRPA is seeing tremendous growth.

Reducing water loss and encouraging water conservation is part of the District's long-term strategy to support the sustainability of the SVRPA and the communities and biodiversity depending on it. The District is actively pursuing water efficiency management measures and promotes installing advanced residential water meters to all their customers as an important step towards achieving this goal.

The District's project of installing advanced meters will enable the District to upgrade approximately 300 customer meters (in phases) with technology that minimizes water leaks and other accidental water usage, and motivates customers to improve their water conservation efforts. The project will upgrade meters that require onsite reading which is not currently being performed during the winter season when most leaks occur. This would result in a significant savings of water, benefiting all SVRPA users, as well as energy savings through the reduction of water production, maintenance of

equipment, and elimination of travel for meter readings. Furthermore, the project will reduce the impact of climate change by the reduction of carbon emissions due to less miles driven for both equipment maintenance and meter readings.

It is for these reasons I strongly support the District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application to improve water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies. Thank you for your consideration of this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,

Shelley Roberts

Shelley Roberts
Chief Executive Officer

Kootenai Electric
COOPERATIVE

December 18, 2023

United States Bureau of Reclamation
RE: WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Greensferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant to implement advanced metering infrastructure improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

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The District's project of installing advanced meters will enable the District to upgrade approximately 300 customer meters (in phases) with technology that minimizes water leaks and other accidental water usage, and motivates customers to improve water conservation efforts. The project will upgrade meters that require onsite reading which is not currently being performed during the winter season when most leaks occur. This would result in a significant savings of water, benefiting all SVRPA users, as well as energy savings through the reduction of water production, maintenance of equipment, and elimination of travel for meter readings. Furthermore, the project will reduce the impact of climate change by the reduction of carbon emissions due to fewer miles driven for both equipment maintenance and meter readings.

It is for these reasons that I strongly support the District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application to improve water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies. Thank you for your consideration of this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Elliott
General Manager/CEO

9014 W. Lancaster Road | Rathdrum, ID 83858
TEL 208-765-1200 | TOLL FREE 800-240-0459 | FAX 208-772-5858
EMAIL kec@kec.com | WEB kec.com

2110 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 • (208) 769-1422

Brad Little, Governor
Jess Byrne, Director

January 4, 2024

RE: WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant Program
United States Bureau of Reclamation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Greenferry Water and Sewer District's application for the Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects grant to implement advanced metering infrastructure improving water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies.

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It is for these reasons I strongly support the District's Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project grant application to improve water efficiency and sustainability of local drinking water supplies. Thank you for your consideration of this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,

Jim Williamson
Drinking Water Compliance Officer
Jim.Williamson@deq.idaho.gov

Ec: Anna Moody, Drinking Water Compliance Supervisor, *Anna.Moody@deq.idaho.gov*
EDMS: ID1280077 – EDMS #2024ACA92

Figure 1. Geographic District Map

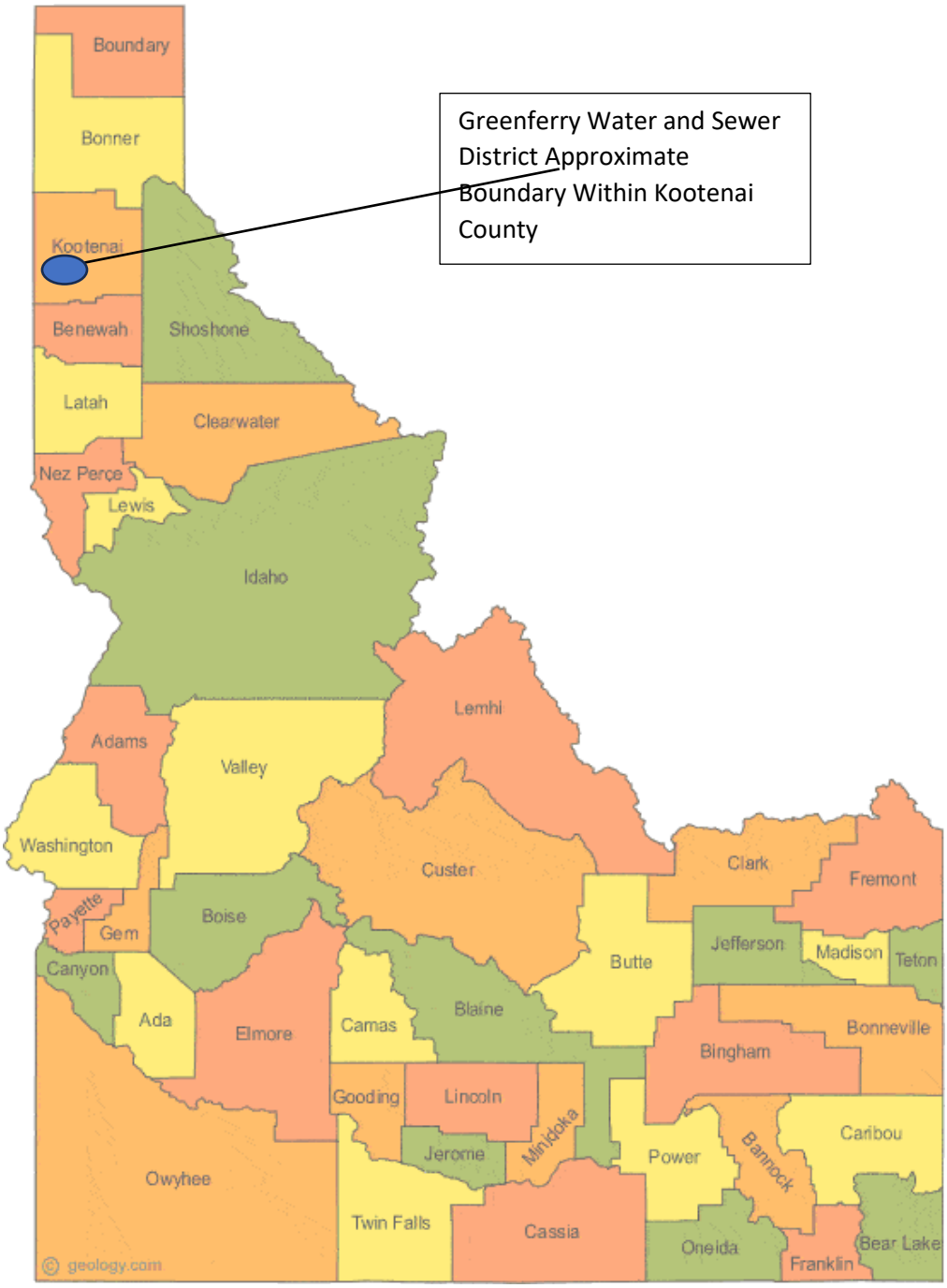

Figure 2. GWSD Vicinity Map

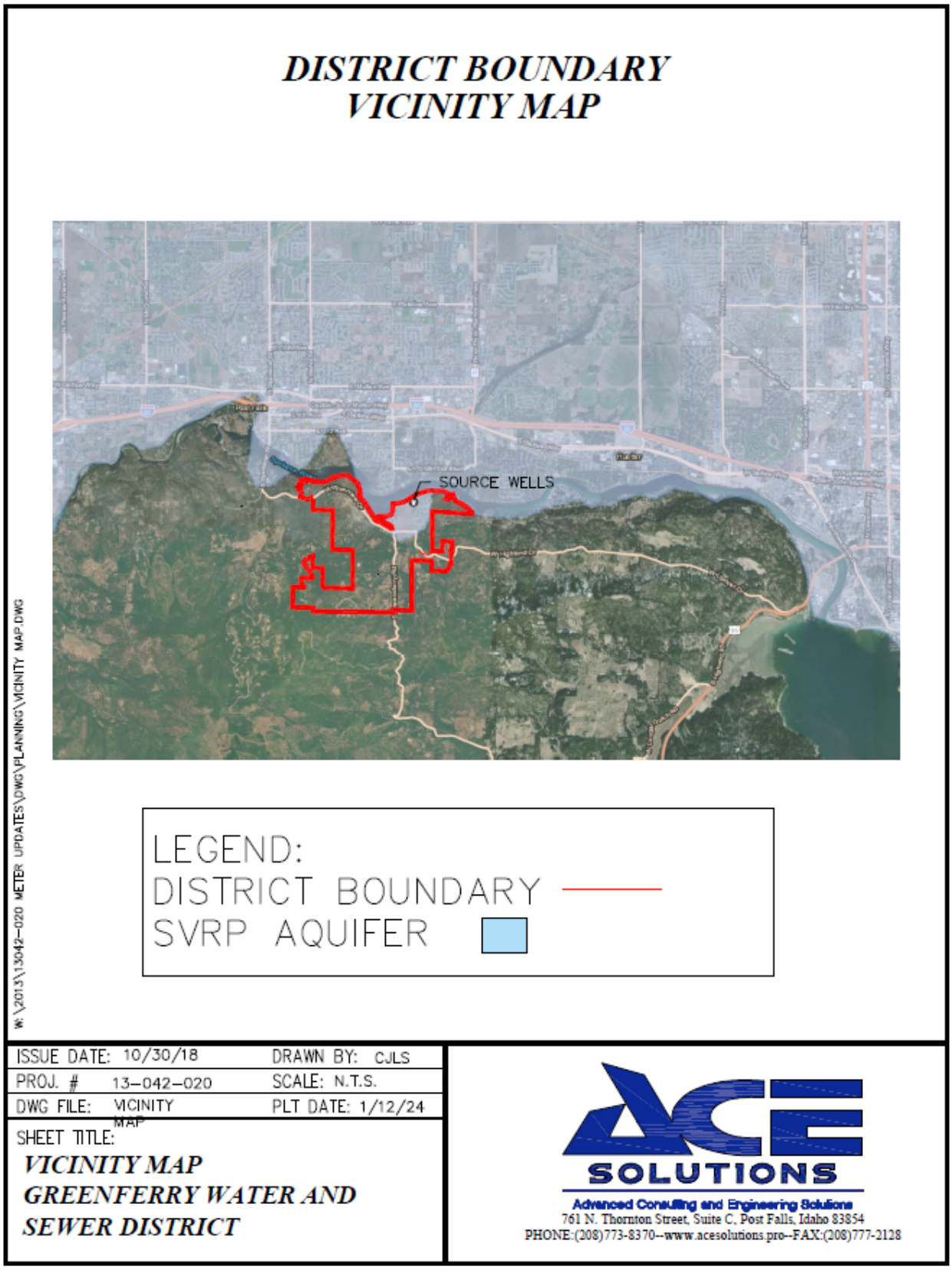

Figure 3. GWSD Project Location

FIRST PHASE
METER LOCATION UPGRADES

LEGEND:
ABOVE GROUND
EXCAVATION REQUIRED

W:\2013\13042-020 METER UPDATES\DWG\PLANNING\VICINITY MAP.DWG

ISSUE DATE: 10/30/18	DRAWN BY: CJLS
PROJ. # 13-042-020	SCALE: N.T.S.
DWG FILE: VICINITY MAP	PLT DATE: 1/12/24

SHEET TITLE:
PROJECT LOCATION
GREENFERRY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

ACE SOLUTIONS
Advanced Consulting and Engineering Solutions
761 N. Thornton Street, Suite C, Post Falls, Idaho 83854
PHONE:(208)773-8370--www.acesolutions.pro--FAX:(208)777-2128