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## **BASIC PRINCIPLES**

### **Purpose of Farm Bureau**

Farm Bureau is a free, independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm and ranch families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity, environmental awareness and social advancement, and thereby, to promote the national well being.

Farm Bureau is local, statewide, national, and international in its scope and influence and is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-secretive in character.

### **Farm Bureau Beliefs and Philosophy**

America's unparalleled progress is based on freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts. Freedom to the individual versus concentration of power, which would destroy freedom, is the central issue in all societies.

We believe the definition of marriage is a union between one man and one woman.

We believe that since the beginning of time, man's ability to provide food, fiber, and fuel for himself and his dependents has determined his independence, freedom and security.

We believe that a strong and viable agricultural industry is one of the most important cornerstones in the foundation of our national security, and that the importance of the role that agriculture plays in the development of our society must never be taken for granted.

Economic progress, cultural advancement, ethical and religious principles flourish best where men are free, responsible individuals.

The exercise of free will, rather than force, is consistent with the maintenance of liberty.

Individual freedom and opportunity must not be sacrificed in a quest for guaranteed "security".

We believe that America's system of private ownership of property and the means of production has been, and is, one of the major foundation stones of our republic. This element of our economic system and the personal rights attendant to private property, including grazing

1 and water rights, must be maintained and  
2 protected.

3 We will take every opportunity to  
4 publicize and defend our position, and we will  
5 stand firm on basic constitutional rights.

6 We believe in government by law,  
7 impartially administered, without special  
8 privilege.

9 We support agricultural programs and  
10 organizations that give equal opportunity for  
11 personal and professional growth based on  
12 skills, knowledge and leadership ability.

13 We believe in the representative form of  
14 government; a republic as provided in our  
15 Constitution; in limitations upon government  
16 power; in maintenance of equal opportunity; in  
17 the right of each individual to worship as he  
18 chooses; in separation of church and state as  
19 set forth in the First Amendment to the  
20 Constitution; and in freedom of speech, press,  
21 and peaceful assembly.

22 The U. S. Supreme Court imposed one  
23 man one vote rule should be overturned and  
24 return the United States to the republican form of  
25 government that was envisioned by the framers of  
26 the Constitution. Individuals have a moral  
27 responsibility to help preserve freedom for future  
28 generations by participating in public affairs and by  
29 helping to elect candidates who share their  
30 fundamental beliefs and principles.

31 We oppose the use of public funds for  
32 financing political campaigns. People have the  
33 right and the responsibility to speak for  
34 themselves individually or through organizations  
35 of their choice without coercion or government  
36 intervention. Ownership of property and  
37 property rights are among the human rights  
38 essential to the preservation of individual  
39 freedom. The right to own property must be  
40 preserved at all costs.

41 We believe in the right of every man to  
42 choose his own occupation; to be rewarded  
43 according to his contribution to society and to  
44 save, invest, spend, or convey his earnings to  
45 his heirs.

46 These rights are accompanied by the  
47 responsibility that each man has to meet the  
48 financial obligations he has incurred.

1 We support a society free of drug  
2 abuse.

3 We support English as the official  
4 language of Idaho and the United States.

5 We support English as the language  
6 that students should learn and use in public  
7 schools.

8

### 9 **The Constitution**

10 Stable and honest government with  
11 prescribed and limited powers is essential to  
12 freedom and progress. The Constitution of the  
13 United States was well designed to secure  
14 individual liberty by a division of federal authority  
15 among the Legislative, Executive and Judicial  
16 branches. The Tenth Amendment assures that  
17 liberties are further secured for the states and  
18 the people through the retention of those powers  
19 not specifically delegated to the federal  
20 government. The constitutional prerogatives of  
21 each branch of government should be preserved  
22 from encroachment.

23 We support the Constitution as the  
24 supreme law of the land. Changes should be  
25 made only through constitutional amendments,  
26 not by federal policy or regulation. One of the  
27 greatest dangers threatening our republic and  
28 system of private, competitive enterprise is the  
29 socialization of America through the  
30 centralization of power and authority in the  
31 federal government. The centralization of power  
32 and responsibility in the federal government  
33 violates constitutional purposes. It has usurped  
34 state sovereignty and individual freedom and  
35 should be reversed.

36 In defense of our constitution, and of the  
37 sovereignty of the U.S.A., we oppose the  
38 centralization of power worldwide into one world  
39 government.

40

### 41 **Religious Life**

42 Our nation was founded on spiritual faith  
43 and belief in God. Whereas the Constitution of  
44 the United States was founded on moral and  
45 religious principles, moral, ethical and traditional  
46 family values should get equal support and  
47 consideration in the public schools as do the  
48 atheistic and humanistic views.

1 We support the right to have religious  
2 beliefs and symbols of those beliefs presented in  
3 our communities.

4 We vigorously support retention of:

- 5 (1) "So Help Me God" in official oaths;
- 6 (2) The phrase "In God We Trust" on our  
7 coin;
- 8 (3) The fourth verse of the "Star Spangled  
9 Banner";
- 10 (4) The phrase "Under God" in the Pledge  
11 of Allegiance.

### 12 13 **Capitalism-Private Competitive Enterprise**

14 We believe in the American capitalistic,  
15 private, competitive enterprise system in which  
16 property is privately owned, privately managed,  
17 operated for profit, individual satisfaction and  
18 responsible stewardship.

19 We believe in a competitive business  
20 environment in which supply and demand are  
21 the primary determinants of market prices, the  
22 use of productive resources, and the distribution  
23 of output.

24 We support the continuing freedom of  
25 the people of Idaho to manage, develop, harvest  
26 and market the useful products of our natural  
27 resources.

28 We believe in man's right to search and  
29 research to select the best ways of maintaining  
30 quality production of food and fiber.

31 We believe every individual in Idaho  
32 should have the right to a job without being  
33 forced to join or pay dues to any organization.  
34 Government operation of commercial business  
35 in competition with private enterprise should be  
36 terminated.

37 We also believe that no element of  
38 society has more concern for, understanding of,  
39 or a greater stake in, the proper husbandry of  
40 poultry, livestock, furbearers, game animals and  
41 aquaculture than the producer.

### 42 43 **Economy in Government**

44 We consider the proliferation of  
45 government with its ever increasing cost to the  
46 taxpayer a major problem.

47 State expenditures and growth of  
48 personnel on the public payroll should not be

1 allowed to expand faster than the population and  
2 should be compatible with the percentage of  
3 economic growth of the state.

4 We believe that Article B, Section 1,  
5 "Limitations of Public Indebtedness" of the state  
6 constitution is the main reason for the healthy  
7 financial condition of Idaho's government. We  
8 will oppose any attempt to amend this section of  
9 the constitution.

10 Tax exemptions granted by the state  
11 Legislature that reduce county income should at  
12 the same time require appropriations of  
13 sufficient funds to replace county revenue losses  
14 caused by such exemptions.

15 We support economy at all levels of  
16 government.

### 17 18 **Education**

19 We believe education starts with the  
20 parent or guardian and is extended to the  
21 schools as a cooperative partnership in which  
22 parents and guardians have the right to review  
23 any and all methods and materials used in the  
24 educational processes of school systems.

25 We believe parents have the right to  
26 choose how best to educate their children.

27 We believe local school boards must be  
28 elected by the people to maintain control of  
29 public school systems and must have authority  
30 to establish policy for dress standards, personal  
31 conduct standards, testing standards, fiscal  
32 controls and curriculum.

33 We believe all school systems must be  
34 accountable to provide opportunities for all  
35 students to obtain proficiency in the basics of  
36 reading, writing and mathematics. Parents and  
37 guardians must be kept informed by the school  
38 system, of the educational progress of their  
39 children.

40 We believe parents and guardians have  
41 an inherent right and obligation to discipline their  
42 own children.

### 43 44 **Political Parties**

45 Strong, responsive political parties are  
46 essential to the United States system of elective  
47 government.

48 We recommend that Farm Bureau

1 members support the political party of their  
2 choice.

3 We believe that government should in  
4 no way be involved directly in the political  
5 process but should lay down certain rules to  
6 assure fair and proper elections.

7 We strongly favor retaining the county  
8 central political committees composed of county  
9 precinct committee people and their existing  
10 functions within the party structure.

11 We are opposed to shifting the functions  
12 of a county committee to a district committee.

13

14

## COMMODITIES

15

### (1) Agrichemicals/Pesticides

17 We oppose establishment of zones of  
18 agricultural land in which any kind of legal  
19 application or storage of agricultural chemicals is  
20 curtailed without sound, scientifically validated  
21 evidence to warrant curtailment.

22 We support increased research and  
23 labeling for minor-use pesticide registrations.

24 We recommend that compliance with  
25 federally approved label instructions should  
26 absolve farmers or commercial applicators from  
27 liability claims of environmental pollution.

28 We support the continued use of  
29 approved pesticides and/or related products until  
30 conclusive scientific evidence proves there is an  
31 unacceptable risk, and a substitute is approved  
32 that is economically feasible and equally  
33 effective.

34 We oppose fumigant buffer zone  
35 limitations proposed by the EPA without  
36 research giving substantial evidence that current  
37 practices are negatively affecting bystanders.

38

### (2) Commodity Diseases

40 We urge the Idaho State Department of  
41 Agriculture to do all within its power to prohibit  
42 the importation of Anthracnose virus into Idaho.

43 We support the quarantine of all sources  
44 of the potato wart virus.

45 We support active research and the  
46 dissemination of information to all interested  
47 parties related to rhizomania and urge that any  
48 imposed restrictions be based on scientific data.

1 We support any phytosanitary action  
2 taken by the Idaho Department of Agriculture to  
3 protect the Idaho potato industry from the threat  
4 of the "Pratylenchus Neglectus" nematode.

5  
6 **(3) Commodity Indemnity Fund**

7 We support all efforts to maintain  
8 accountability, monitor efficiency and protect the  
9 fund.

10 We favor a minimum of \$15 million in  
11 the state commodity indemnity fund to provide  
12 an adequate level of protection for growers.

13  
14 **(4) Commodity Promotion**

15 We support the organization of  
16 commodity commissions for promotion and  
17 research purposes of any commodity.

18 We support compulsory deduction of  
19 funds if producers can establish the commodity  
20 commission through referendum, with  
21 assessments being established or increased by  
22 a majority vote of the producers, or if producers  
23 can easily obtain refunds of their assessments.

24 We support a periodic referendum if  
25 assessment is made mandatory.

26 We recommend that all ag commodity  
27 commissions be removed from state legislative  
28 control and put into producer control.

29  
30 **(5) Commodity Sales**

31 We support expansion of Idaho  
32 agricultural markets, domestic and foreign. We  
33 also support trade missions abroad to better  
34 inform our producers and the hosting of foreign  
35 delegations to our state in efforts to increase our  
36 market share.

37 We support changes to crop insurance  
38 that truly reflect a safety net.

39 We oppose double discounts by grain  
40 dealers.

41 We support licensing and bonding of all  
42 commodity brokers by the State of Idaho.

43 We support identification and  
44 quantification on the container label of all seeds  
45 that have been identified in samples from a lot of  
46 agricultural, vegetable, flower, tree or shrub  
47 seed to be sold.

48

1 **(6) Commodity Testing Equipment**

2 Commodity buyers' moisture meters and  
3 other commodity testing equipment for the  
4 purpose of grading should be certified for  
5 accuracy by the ISDA Bureau of Weights and  
6 Measures.

7  
8 **(7) Country of Origin on Food**

9 We support mandatory country-of-origin  
10 labeling of agricultural products in the State of  
11 Idaho.

12  
13 **(8) Environmental Studies**

14 We recommend that any individual or  
15 group doing environmental studies be held  
16 accountable for claims or assertions of damage  
17 by agricultural practices to the environment.  
18 Claims or assertions should be treated with  
19 skepticism until they have been subjected to  
20 critical peer review and tested by practical  
21 application.

22  
23 **(9) Fair Trade**

24 We support the concept of fair trade as  
25 outlined in American Farm Bureau Federation  
26 policy.

27  
28 **(10) Field Testing Biotechnology Products**

29 We support effective field testing of new  
30 biotechnology products, to promote commercial  
31 use of products that will benefit agriculture and  
32 the general public.

33 We oppose any law or regulation  
34 requiring registration of agriculture producers  
35 who use or sell biotech- based products or  
36 commodities.

37  
38 **(11) Food Safety/Government Accountability**

39 We strongly believe a government  
40 agency making public health decisions that  
41 result in product recalls, product seizures or  
42 destruction of perishable goods must be held  
43 accountable when such decisions prove false.  
44 Such agencies must be required to compensate  
45 or indemnify individuals and companies for the  
46 monetary losses that occur because of poor or  
47 false regulatory decisions.

1 **(12) Forage/Soil Sample Testing**

2 We recommend that action be taken to  
3 set uniform guidelines for all testing labs in the  
4 analysis of forage and soil samples, with the  
5 Idaho Department of Agriculture to administer  
6 them.

7  
8 **(13) Hay Certification**

9 We support a uniform state noxious  
10 weed free hay certification program.

11  
12 **(14) Industrial Grade Hemp**

13 We encourage the legalization of  
14 cultivation and production of industrial grade  
15 hemp in Idaho.

16  
17 **(15) Lien Law**

18 We oppose any attempt to alter the  
19 system of centralized filing or first in time, first in  
20 right system of lien priorities, either in revised  
21 UCC Article 9, or any other legislation.

22 Delivered feed shall not be encumbered  
23 by a blanket lien from a financial institution until  
24 the grower/supplier is paid in full.

25  
26 **(16) NAFTA Withdrawal**

27 We support a concurrent resolution from  
28 both houses of the Idaho State Legislature to  
29 Congress to take necessary steps to withdraw  
30 from NAFTA.

31  
32 **(17) Potato Seed Management**

33 We support a potato seed management  
34 program that encourages the use of certified  
35 seed potatoes in seed and commercial  
36 production for the control of diseases and pests.

37 We recommend:

- 38 (1) That the tolerance for late blight in  
39 potato seed planted in the state of Idaho  
40 be 1% or less at shipping point  
41 inspection.
- 42 (2) That the Idaho State Department of  
43 Agriculture recognize the entire state as  
44 late blight infected.

## LIVESTOCK

1

2

### 3 **(18) Animal Care**

4 We support the rights of owners and  
5 producers to raise their animals in accordance  
6 with commonly accepted animal husbandry  
7 practices.

8 We oppose any legislation, regulatory  
9 action or funding, whether private or public, that  
10 interfere with the control of animals or with  
11 commonly accepted animal husbandry  
12 practices.

13 We support fines and/or reimbursement  
14 for animal research lost and all costs and  
15 damage incurred, when farms or research  
16 facilities are willfully damaged. Responsible  
17 persons or organizations should pay all costs.

18 We further support the role of licensed  
19 veterinarians in the care of animals and support  
20 current licensing standards for veterinarians.

21 We support the Idaho Veterinary  
22 Practice Act and oppose any efforts to weaken it  
23 or the licensing standards.

24 We oppose the creation of an Idaho  
25 livestock care standards board.

26

### 27 **(19) Animal ID**

28 We support procedures and or  
29 equipment for an animal ID program that makes  
30 it possible to trace an animal back to its original  
31 location.

32 We support the right of the owner to  
33 choose among the acceptable methods of  
34 identification and to leave their animals  
35 unidentified prior to movement from the  
36 premises of origin.

37 We support having the Idaho State  
38 Department of Agriculture determine acceptable  
39 methods of identification, including hot or cold  
40 brands, for the state.

41

### 42 **(20) Animal Rights**

43 We oppose the concept that animals  
44 have rights and oppose legislation that would  
45 give funds to animal-rights organizations or any  
46 public agency or the right to establish standards  
47 concerning these so-called rights of animals.

48

1     **(21) Bioterrorism**

2             We support legislation that would make  
3 it a felony for any person to purposefully spread  
4 any type of contagious, communicable or  
5 infectious disease among livestock or other  
6 animals.

7             We support legislation that would make  
8 it a felony for any person who intentionally  
9 attempts to transfer, damage, vandalize, or  
10 poison the product, water, or facilities of a  
11 posted commercial aquaculture operation.

12  
13     **(22) Bovine Tuberculosis**

14             We support amending Idaho cattle  
15 importation rules to make those rules equal to  
16 U.S. border states in their restriction of  
17 tuberculosis infected/exposed cattle.

18  
19     **(23) Brucellosis**

20             We oppose all efforts to eliminate the  
21 mandatory vaccination law and require its  
22 complete enforcement.

23             We insist that the National Park Service  
24 eradicate brucellosis in Yellowstone and Grand  
25 Teton Parks.

26             We support regulations requiring the  
27 appropriate state and federal agencies to control  
28 and eradicate this disease in wildlife.

29             We oppose separating the state into  
30 zones for definition of brucellosis free status.

31  
32     **(24) CAFO Regulations**

33             We support efforts by all livestock  
34 associations to create MOUs with the  
35 appropriate state and federal agencies.

36             We believe that counties should have  
37 the sole right, responsibility and authority under  
38 existing laws for the siting of CAFOs (Confined  
39 Animal Feeding Operations).

40             We would encourage the counties to  
41 consult the local extension personnel, state  
42 agencies and soil and water agencies in  
43 determining the parameters to write siting  
44 guidelines.

45             Matters pertaining to CAFO regulation  
46 other than siting, should be under the jurisdiction  
47 of the state.

48

1 **(25) Cattle Liens**

2 Liens should not be attached to  
3 livestock until ownership can be proven and  
4 verified.

5

6 **(26) Data Confidentiality**

7 We support the confidentiality of data  
8 collected on farms and feedlots. Only final  
9 reports or conclusions should be made a matter  
10 of public record. No data collected from  
11 individual operations should be made public.

12

13 **(27) Domestic Cervidae**

14 We support the right of domestic  
15 cervidae owners to use private trophy ranches  
16 as a means to ethically harvest their animals.

17 We support the right of domestic  
18 cervidae owners to breed, raise, harvest and  
19 market all members of the cervidae family  
20 indigenous to Idaho that can be legally acquired.

21

22 **(28) Equine**

23 We oppose any attempt to eliminate the  
24 equine owner's or the BLM's right to the humane  
25 slaughter of their equine for consumption or any  
26 other purpose.

27 We support construction of new  
28 slaughtering facilities and/or use of existing  
29 processing facilities in Idaho to humanely  
30 slaughter equines.

31 We support individuals and non-  
32 governmental organizations right to save horses  
33 from slaughter as long as they take possession  
34 of the horses and are responsible for their care  
35 and feeding.

36 We support the humane treatment of  
37 equine at all times and in all places including  
38 those destined for slaughter.

39 We support the continued classification  
40 of equines as marketable livestock and oppose  
41 any efforts to classify them as pets or  
42 companion animals.

43 We support the inclusion of equine in  
44 the National Animal Identification System.

45 When an equine is in the custody of a  
46 government agency and an adoption has not  
47 been able to take place within 6 months, that  
48 equine should be slaughtered or humanely

1 euthanized.

2

3 **(29) Foot and Mouth/BSE Disease**

4 We support stringent controls to protect  
5 Idaho's livestock industry from foot and mouth  
6 disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy  
7 (BSE). In addition, the United States must  
8 impose restrictions on importation of animals  
9 and animal products that could carry other  
10 contagious infectious diseases.

11 We oppose importation of live cattle  
12 over 30 months of age until sound science  
13 proves this does not threaten to spread BSE to  
14 the United States.

15 We oppose any announcement to the  
16 media of BSE suspects in the U.S. until the final  
17 scientific determination is made whether they  
18 are positive or negative.

19 We support allowing entities to  
20 voluntarily test all slaughtered animals for bovine  
21 spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in order to  
22 ship products to countries that require individual  
23 tests.

24

25 **(30) Foot Rot in Sheep**

26 We support a continued stringent foot  
27 rot control program for sheep in Idaho.

28

29 **(31) Livestock Brands**

30 We support the concept that livestock  
31 may be left unbranded at the discretion of the  
32 owner except for those livestock grazing on  
33 federal/state managed lands.

34 We support research into alternative  
35 methods of permanent livestock identification  
36 and ask that the Brand Department be  
37 authorized to recognize these methods.

38

39 **(32) Manure Management**

40 We believe that manure and  
41 manure/compost are nutrient-rich residue  
42 resources.

43 We oppose manure being classified as  
44 industrial waste.

45 We encourage research on manure  
46 management including such areas as odor  
47 reduction and waste and nutrient management.

48 We encourage programs that educate

1 livestock operators on techniques regarding  
2 properly managed organic nutrient systems,  
3 especially if implemented with consistent best  
4 management practices (BMPs) developed by  
5 extension, university and the livestock industry.

6 We support the Idaho State Department  
7 of Agriculture allowing certification of third-party  
8 soil sampling for nutrient management plan  
9 compliance purposes

### 10 11 **(33) Sheep Tail Length**

12 We support the creation of a minimum  
13 length standard on tail docking of sheep for  
14 show purposes.

### 15 16 **(34) State Veterinarian**

17 We believe that the Animal Health  
18 Division of the Idaho Department of Agriculture  
19 should be administered by a licensed  
20 veterinarian.

### 21 22 **(35) Unclaimed Cattle Fund**

23 We support the Unclaimed Cattle Fund  
24 money being moved to a fund for promotion and  
25 education about the livestock industry.

## 26 27 **WATER**

### 28 29 **(36) Artesian Wells**

30 We support the current law regarding  
31 artesian wells, if adequate funding for the cost-  
32 sharing of well repairs is provided.

33 We oppose the designation of the heat  
34 value from a geothermal source as being the  
35 only beneficial use.

### 36 37 **(37) Bureau of Reclamation Reservoirs**

38 Release of water in power head space  
39 in Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs shall be  
40 controlled solely by state water law.

### 41 42 **(38) Bureau of Reclamation Water Contracts**

43 When renewing irrigation contracts with  
44 Bureau of Reclamation, irrigators should retain  
45 full quantity of water and be allowed conversion  
46 of water service contracts to repayment  
47 contracts as required by law.

48

1 **(39) Comprehensive State Water Plan**

2 We urge the Governor to appoint Water  
3 Resource Board members who will be protective  
4 of the waters of the state of Idaho.

5 We oppose all minimum stream flows  
6 unless sufficient storage is built to supply priority  
7 needs first.

8 We support requiring legislative  
9 approval before establishing minimum stream  
10 flow, river basin plans and state water plans. We  
11 support repealing Idaho Code 42-1503 (e)ii  
12 which allows "Minimum Stream Flows" proposed  
13 by the Idaho Department of Water Resources to  
14 become final if no specific action is taken by the  
15 Legislature.

16 We support a mandatory requirement  
17 for legislative approval of agreements made by  
18 state agencies with federal agencies when  
19 dealing with commitments on water.

20 We support the Swan Falls Agreement  
21 as originally written in October of 1984.

22  
23 **(40) Dams**

24 We support legislation that would focus  
25 the attention of the Northwest Power Planning  
26 Council's authority on planning to provide for  
27 present and future power needs of northwest  
28 power states and away from other secondary  
29 issues.

30 We support the construction of storage  
31 facilities that provide beneficial multiple uses of  
32 Idaho's water, and encourage municipalities,  
33 federal agencies and tribal agencies to advocate  
34 and fund additional storage to help meet their  
35 increasing demands for water, thus avoiding the  
36 need to take irrigation water from agriculture.

37 We support the continued existence and  
38 current usage of all dams on the Columbia and  
39 Snake rivers.

40 We oppose any efforts to destroy or  
41 decrease production of those dams.

42  
43 **(41) Effluent Trading**

44 We support the concept of effluent  
45 trading.

46  
47 **(42) Flood Control**

48 We recommend that steps, including

1 additional storage facilities, increased recharge  
2 and land transfers from federal to state  
3 ownership, be taken to control future flooding  
4 within the state of Idaho.

5  
6 **(43) In-Stream Flows and Reconnect Process**

7 We support in-stream flows and  
8 reconnect permits of government agencies  
9 going through the same process as minimum  
10 stream flow permits, and through the legislative  
11 process before being allowed.

12  
13 **(44) Moratorium**

14 We support the current Idaho  
15 Department of Water Resources moratoriums on  
16 critical groundwater development.

17  
18 **(45) Outstanding Resource Waters**

19 We support the Basin Advisory Groups  
20 (BAGs) and Watershed Advisory Groups  
21 (WAGs) process, recognizing that outstanding  
22 resource waters (ORWs) are part of this  
23 process.

24 We oppose nominations of ORWs by  
25 parties other than BAGs and WAGs.

26  
27 **(46) State Purchase of Water Rights for  
28 Mitigation**

29 We support having the state of Idaho  
30 purchase water rights for mitigation purposes to  
31 be held by the state water board, so water trade  
32 may benefit recharge and pump conversions.

33  
34 **(47) Transfer of Water Rights**

35 We oppose the transfer of water rights  
36 to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

37 We oppose the taking of water for fish  
38 flushing. Water held by the Idaho Water  
39 Resources Board will be held and used for  
40 purposes intended and in accordance with state  
41 law.

42 We believe all water in Idaho should be  
43 used beneficially. In the event the BOR or  
44 IDWR desires use of water they would have to  
45 negotiate on a yearly basis for rental-pool water  
46 in accordance with state water law.

47

1 **(48) Waste Management**

2 We are concerned with wastes and  
3 other pollutants entering and adversely  
4 impacting the state water quality.

5 We oppose mandatory facility  
6 construction without scientific proof of  
7 environmental pollution on an individual basis.

8

9 **(49) Water Development on New Non-Ag  
10 Development**

11 We support legislation that would  
12 require developers to supply water and water-  
13 delivery systems using existing water rights or  
14 gray water to new developments.

15

16 **(50) Water Quality**

17 We support the continued management  
18 of water quality, both underground and surface,  
19 by utilizing "Best Management Practices"  
20 (BMPs) as contained in USDA's "Natural  
21 Resource Conservation Services Field Office  
22 Technical Guide" and Idaho's "Forest Practices  
23 Act". Changes in these BMPs should be based  
24 only on scientifically monitored data rather than  
25 "best professional judgment".

26 We support the development of BMPs  
27 for recreational uses.

28 We support canal and irrigation districts'  
29 efforts to halt unwanted drainage into their water  
30 systems.

31 The EPA should not have the authority  
32 to arbitrarily impose penalties on landowners  
33 without first identifying the problem and giving  
34 the landowner an opportunity to correct the  
35 problem. If there is a difference of opinion  
36 concerning the extent of the problem, a  
37 reasonable and cost-effective appeal process of  
38 the EPA decision should be available to the  
39 landowner.

40 We oppose the deletion of the word  
41 "navigable" from the Clean Water Act.

42

43 **(51) Water Quality Standards**

44 Water quality standards must be site  
45 specific and realistically achievable for each  
46 water body. These standards must at least  
47 partially support designated beneficial uses.

1 **(52) Water Recharge**

2 We support state planning and  
3 implementation of a basin-wide aquifer  
4 recharge.

5 We support the development of new  
6 conveyance systems for large-scale recharge of  
7 the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. Government  
8 mandated water conservation (i.e. lining of  
9 canals, etc.) must be accompanied by  
10 equivalent recharge of the aquifer.

11 Aquifer recharge must be considered a  
12 beneficial use of irrigation/stock water.

13 Funds for recharge should be available  
14 as an annual budget appropriation of the  
15 Legislature.

16

17 **(53) Water Rights**

18 We support state ownership and control  
19 of its water held in trust for the residents of the  
20 state of Idaho, and will oppose any policy,  
21 program, or regulation, including Federal Energy  
22 Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing,  
23 which would infringe on this right.

24 We support defining public interest  
25 under water right law, to give priority to  
26 beneficial uses and agricultural viability.

27 We support sanctions upon any party  
28 making frivolous claims against water right  
29 applications. Frivolous claims are not  
30 reasonably grounded in fact or law causing  
31 unnecessary delay, increased cost, or  
32 harassment.

33 We are opposed to the Water  
34 Resources Board accepting any further  
35 applications for water rights on surface stream  
36 water of the state that has been over decreed  
37 and adjudicated. Adequate water for domestic  
38 and agricultural purposes should have priority  
39 over other uses when the waters of any natural  
40 stream are insufficient, as per Article 15, Section  
41 3 of the Idaho Constitution.

42 Permittees on federal land should be  
43 allowed to retain ownership of water rights in  
44 their name as their livestock provide beneficial  
45 use under state law.

46 Minimum stream flows should not  
47 jeopardize water

1 rights and should be financed by the benefit  
2 recipients.

3 We support adjudication of water rights  
4 but not on a basin wide basis.

5 We favor the continued wise  
6 development of all Idaho's rivers and their  
7 tributaries as working rivers.

8 We support first in time, first in right, and  
9 state control of water issues within appropriate  
10 Idaho agencies without federal regulatory or  
11 legislative intervention.

12 We support the privatization of Idaho  
13 irrigation canal systems.

14 We support the protection of canal and  
15 drain ditch easements from arbitrarily being  
16 taken over by cities, counties, states, federal or  
17 private developers or private landowners and  
18 developed into green belts or bike paths.

19 We support the concept of conjunctive-  
20 use management when scientific evidence is  
21 available to support such management.

22 We support efforts by local groundwater  
23 districts to provide supplemental or water bank  
24 water to senior surface water users to prevent  
25 curtailment of junior water rights. Irrigation  
26 districts shall have no net loss of irrigated acres  
27 due to growth and development.

28 We oppose changing the historical  
29 beneficial use of water rights when that change  
30 will have a negative impact on other water right  
31 holders.

32 We oppose the Federal Government  
33 changing the historic priorities and uses of water  
34 storage reservoirs.

35

### 36 **(54) Water Spreading**

37 We support voluntary conservation of  
38 water use by updating irrigation systems.  
39 Increases in irrigated acres (water spread acres)  
40 due to redesigning or remodeling irrigation  
41 systems or development of areas within a  
42 recorded water right, should not be excluded  
43 from irrigation. Conservation should not  
44 adversely affect the full use of an irrigation water  
45 right.

46

### 47 **(55) Water Supply Funding**

48 We support dedicating 1/16 of a cent of

1 the state permanent sales tax to assist in  
2 meeting the development costs of Idaho's water  
3 supply.

4  
5 **(56) Water Transfers**

6 We oppose out-of-basin transfers of  
7 irrigation water from lands enrolled in the federal  
8 cropland set-aside program for use on lands that  
9 have not historically been used for agricultural  
10 development.

11 We oppose the continued use of the  
12 427,000 acre  
13 feet of water for flow augmentation.

14  
15 **LAND USE**

16  
17 **(57) Conservation Reserve Program -**  
18 **Grazing**

19 We support managed grazing or other  
20 management tools of CRP acres to enhance the  
21 health of vegetation at the discretion of local  
22 committees.

23 We support the separation of haying  
24 and grazing on CRP acres and the use of both  
25 as separate management tools.

26  
27 **(58) Experimental Stewardship Program**

28 We support and encourage the  
29 continuation and expansion of the Experimental  
30 Stewardship Program and Coordinated  
31 Resource Management Program, (CRMP) as  
32 long as producer control is maintained in all  
33 decisions concerning range management.

34  
35 **(59) Government Land Transactions**

36 We support no net loss of private  
37 property. We urge enactment of legislation to  
38 require prior legislative approval for any state  
39 land acquisition on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

40 We support prohibiting the sale of state  
41 land to the federal government or agencies of  
42 the federal government, except for the purpose  
43 of building federal facilities or structures.

44 When federal land is sold, traded, or  
45 exchanged, all holders of grazing preference  
46 must be fairly compensated. When land is to be  
47 sold, the current grazing permit holder must  
48 have the first right of refusal. If there is no

1 permit holder, the adjacent landowner should be  
2 given the first right of refusal based on  
3 appraised value.

4 We oppose any land exchanges  
5 involving publicly owned land unless there is  
6 strong local support.

7 When any entity acquires property from  
8 the federal government, that entity should be  
9 required to compensate grazing preference  
10 holders on the former federally administered  
11 lands for the loss of their property right.

## 12 13 **(60) Government-Managed Lands**

14 We support multiple-use management  
15 of federal and state lands with due regard for the  
16 traditional rights of use.

17 We urge county governments to have a  
18 land-use management plan with which both  
19 state and federal agencies would coordinate in  
20 order to protect the land within their tax base.

21 We support the equal-footing doctrine  
22 and efforts to reclaim federal land back to state  
23 jurisdiction and management.

24 Holders of grazing permits or leases  
25 should not be penalized or removed from  
26 allotments because of administrative errors or  
27 omissions of the land-managing agency.

28 On state and federal government  
29 grazing permits and/or lease rules, the word  
30 "grazing" needs to be further defined as  
31 livestock consumption of forage and brush for  
32 livestock production with benefits of weed and  
33 fire control.

34 We support grazing contracts on non-  
35 grazed public lands to reduce excess fuel that  
36 contributes to range or forest fires.

37 We support the timely salvage of trees  
38 in burn areas within our state.

39 We support legislation that would  
40 promote harvest of trees and forage on federal  
41 and state land to help prevent and control  
42 wildfire.

43 We encourage the release of federal,  
44 state and local government held lands for  
45 development or private use.

## 46 47 **(61) Grazing Fees**

48 We support the current state grazing fee

1 formula and the PRIA formula concept.

2

3 **(62) Grazing Permit Transfer**

4 We oppose the U.S. Forest Service  
5 ruling that will prevent transferring grazing  
6 permits for twenty-five head or less.

7

8 **(63) Idaho Forest Practices Act**

9 We support the Idaho Forest Practices  
10 Act.

11 We support legislation requiring all  
12 forest land owners, even tribal forest land  
13 owners, to comply with standards at least as  
14 stringent as the rules placed in the act.

15

16 **(64) Idaho Grazing Land Conservation  
17 Initiative (GLCI)**

18 We support the Idaho Grazing Land  
19 Conservation Initiative.

20

21 **(65) Landfills on BLM Lands**

22 We encourage the development of new,  
23 as well as the continued use of, county landfills  
24 on BLM lands.

25

26 **(66) Local, State or National Land  
27 Designation**

28 We oppose any infringement upon  
29 private property rights through any designation  
30 of land by any government entity, including  
31 highway scenic byways/corridors and National  
32 Heritage Areas.

33

34 **(67) Mineral Rights**

35 We support legislation that would  
36 transfer government-retained mineral rights to  
37 current landowners (at no expense to the  
38 landowners), where there has been no  
39 meaningful mineral activity for ten years.

40 We support requiring property deeds to  
41 state the name and address of the person or  
42 entity who owns the mineral rights for each  
43 property. If mineral rights are sold or  
44 transferred, the deed should be updated. The  
45 surface owner should be notified and offered  
46 first right of refusal.

47

1 **(68) Mining**

2 We support the continuation of mineral  
3 extraction in Idaho as long as the appropriate  
4 mine reclamation and environmental protections  
5 are in place and followed.

6

7 **(69) Open Range**

8 We oppose any changes to Idaho open  
9 range and fence laws.

10

11 **(70) Pest Control**

12 We support enforcement of current laws  
13 to give counties authority to spray and control  
14 insect infestations on private land, with the cost  
15 of the spraying to be assessed to the current tax  
16 base of the present owner of the land.

17 We support legislation that requires  
18 state and federal governments to manage their  
19 lands and control their noxious weeds and pests  
20 so that no harm is done to adjoining lands, crops  
21 and animals.

22

23 **(71) Protecting Farm Land**

24 We ask all units of government to give  
25 high priority to the protection of farm land and/or  
26 grazing land when considering other uses of  
27 such lands for public purposes. There should be  
28 no governmental taking of private property rights  
29 by restriction of use without just and due  
30 compensation.

31 We support the federal and state  
32 "takings" law in support of the U.S. Constitution,  
33 Article V.

34 We oppose any infringement of private  
35 property rights caused by regulation of rivers  
36 and dams for endangered species.

37 We oppose infringement on private  
38 property rights caused by highway districts and  
39 transportation departments.

40

41 **(72) Range Management Plans**

42 We believe that range management  
43 plans developed by the Idaho Department of  
44 Lands, BLM or U.S. Forest Service should be  
45 based on current factual information. If any plan  
46 is proposed without current information, we will  
47 join with others to persuade BLM and U.S.  
48 Forest Service or Idaho Department of Lands to

1 revert to the pre-existing plan until current  
2 factual data is obtained.

3 We support voluntary forage monitoring  
4 and oppose mandatory forage monitoring by  
5 livestock permittees on federal lands as  
6 proposed by the Federal Land Management  
7 Policy Act.

8

### 9 **(73) Rangeland Resource Commission**

10 We support the Rangeland Resource  
11 Commission and the fees assessed on BLM and  
12 U.S. Forest Service grazing AUMs on state  
13 lands and on private dryland grazing lands.

14

### 15 **(74) Regulation of Agricultural Practices**

16 We recognize and support long-standing  
17 sound agricultural practices such as field  
18 burning, including grass seed straw, residue  
19 burning, timber slash burning and animal-waste  
20 disposal, cultivation and harvest practices.

21 We support farmer participation in  
22 voluntary airshed quality programs.

23 We oppose any legislation or  
24 regulations that would segregate any agricultural  
25 industry, agricultural crop, cropping practice or  
26 geographical area and would impose a higher  
27 air quality, water quality or environmental  
28 standard than is required of any other person,  
29 entity, industry or geographical area within the  
30 state.

31 We oppose regulations on agricultural  
32 practices that are not validated by sound peer  
33 reviewed scientific process and supported by  
34 scientific fact.

35 We oppose the issuance of  
36 undocumented assertions regarding damage to  
37 the environment from agricultural practices that  
38 are not supported by scientific fact.

39 The Idaho State Department of  
40 Agriculture should not have the authority to  
41 impose sanctions on livestock operators without  
42 first identifying specific problems and giving the  
43 operators an opportunity to correct said  
44 problems.

45 We oppose mandatory registration or  
46 licensing of farms and ranches.

47 We support the farmer's right to farm by  
48 being able to carry on sound farming and

1 forestry practices and to be free from  
2 environmental regulations that are not  
3 proportionately beneficial to the implementation  
4 cost.

5 Rule changes to the Idaho Forest  
6 Practices Act should be given a public hearing  
7 by the Legislature prior to approval, so farmers  
8 can be heard on issues affecting the regulation  
9 of their practices.

10 We support access of agricultural  
11 implements of husbandry and vehicles to any  
12 and all local, county and state roads/ highways  
13 in Idaho and oppose the imposition of any  
14 minimum speed requirements.

15

### 16 **(75) Right to Farm**

17 We support the right-to-farm law, and  
18 the concept behind it, and encourage legislative  
19 changes to strengthen the law so it can be  
20 enforced at the local governmental levels  
21 through conditional use permits or other  
22 permitting processes.

23

### 24 **(76) Riparian Management**

25 Proper multiple-use management of  
26 riparian areas is essential.

27 We believe these highly productive  
28 areas can be properly harvested with modern  
29 forest or livestock best management practices  
30 (BMPs) and still improve riparian habitat for all  
31 uses.

32 We believe these areas should be  
33 properly used but not abused. However,  
34 management of the entire allotment should not  
35 be governed by forage utilization of riparian  
36 areas.

37 We support the concept that all existing  
38 roads along class 2 streams be given  
39 grandfather rights approval.

40

### 41 **(77) Sawtooth National Recreation Area**

42 We oppose any expansion of the  
43 Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA).

44

### 45 **(78) Sheep Grazing**

46 We believe that sheep grazing is a  
47 valuable use of Idaho forage and resist attempts  
48 to terminate grazing permits and/or move

1 domestic sheep because of their proximity to  
2 Bighorn sheep.

3 We support the best management  
4 practices concept for dealing with this issue.

5

### 6 **(79) State and County Noxious Weed Control**

7 We support stronger enforcement of  
8 Idaho's noxious weed law by the state and  
9 counties, together with appropriate use of  
10 special management-zone provisions.

11 We urge that Idaho Transportation  
12 Department weed control policies, at both the  
13 state and district levels, be changed to require  
14 that the ITD be in compliance with the Idaho  
15 noxious weed law each year, by controlling all  
16 infestations each year in a timely and effective  
17 manner and by controlling noxious weeds on the  
18 full width of all rights of way.

19 We urge the Idaho State Department of  
20 Agriculture to require timely and effective  
21 noxious weed control by all railroads on their  
22 rights of way within the state.

23 We urge that state and county  
24 authorities direct more emphasis to rights of  
25 way.

26 We request that the Idaho Department  
27 of Agriculture add dog rose (*Rosa canina*) and  
28 sweet briar (*Rosa eglanteria*) to the Idaho  
29 noxious weed list.

30

### 31 **(80) Timber Management**

32 We support all efforts by the Department  
33 of Lands to optimize the timber yields and  
34 stumpage prices as mandated by the Idaho  
35 Constitution. We oppose actions by the Land  
36 Board or Department of Lands that would inhibit  
37 or further restrict these processes, including, but  
38 not limited to, habitat conservation plans and  
39 conservation easements.

40

### 41 **(81) Timber Trespass**

42 We support legislation that would award  
43 delivered log values to landowners with no  
44 deduction for logging for incidental timber  
45 trespass. Additional penalties would be  
46 established for intentional trespass.

1 **(82) Wilderness and Restrictive Zones**

2 We oppose wholesale dedication of land  
3 in Idaho to wilderness and roadless areas and  
4 support the release of lands currently held in  
5 wilderness study areas (WSA) back to multiple-  
6 use management. All lands designated as non-  
7 suitable for wilderness must be immediately  
8 released from WSA status.

9 We support the traditional balanced  
10 multiple-use practices on all federal/state lands  
11 and that access to wilderness be free and  
12 accessible for everyone.

13 We support negotiated wilderness  
14 solutions when the stakeholders have been  
15 participating in the negotiations and are in  
16 agreement with the solution.

17 We oppose designation of lands in  
18 Idaho as biosphere reserves, corridors or buffer  
19 zones, using the Lands Legacy Initiative, the  
20 Antiquities Act and the National Monument  
21 Declarations by the executive branch of the  
22 government.

23 We oppose the Central Idaho Economic  
24 Development and Recovery Act (CIEDRA), also  
25 known as the Boulder-White Clouds Wilderness  
26 Bill, as currently written or any similar wilderness  
27 legislation.

28 We support adding adequate fire breaks  
29 in wilderness areas.

30

31 **(83) Wildfire Control**

32 We recommend changing fire-control  
33 policy to put out any fire upon arrival or as soon  
34 as safely possible. Local landowners must be  
35 allowed to protect private property. Local entities  
36 (such as counties and fire districts) and private  
37 landowners and individuals need to be allowed  
38 to act as first responders.

39 We support changing state and federal  
40 wildfire policy to require that state and federal  
41 fire managers and incident commanders  
42 coordinate with county and local fire  
43 departments and landowners.

44 We also encourage farm groups to  
45 coordinate with the state department of lands in  
46 organizing trained, local fire crews.

47 We support a provision that state and  
48 federal agencies maintain a fire break

1 strategically located to protect private property  
2 and to control large wild fires.

3

4

## FISH AND WILDLIFE

5

### 6 **(84) Animal Damage Control**

7

We support animal damage control  
8 programs to control and manage predators,  
9 rodents and destructive wildlife.

10

We recommend bees and beehives be  
11 added to the animal damage compensation list.

12

### 13 **(85) Emergency Feeding of Wild Game**

14

We oppose feeding big-game animals  
15 except in emergency situations. We support the  
16 role of the Idaho Department of Agriculture in  
17 the rules passed in 2005 for emergency feeding  
18 of wild game and oppose any effort to remove  
19 the Department of Agriculture from its current  
20 role.

21

All money collected by Fish and Game  
22 for the purpose of feeding wild game should be  
23 used only for that purpose.

24

### 25 **(86) Endangered Species Act (ESA)**

26

We oppose any effort to create a State  
27 Endangered Species Act (ESA). We believe that  
28 modern society cannot continue to operate on  
29 the premise that all species must be preserved  
30 at any cost.

31

We support a revision of the ESA to  
32 include a more thorough consideration of  
33 agricultural, mining, logging and tree farming in  
34 such a manner that these activities will be  
35 sustained and made part of any recovery plan.  
36 Recovery of Threatened or Endangered (T/E)  
37 species should not receive higher priority than  
38 human uses or rights.

39

We believe basic requirements of  
40 human life have priority over protection of other  
41 species, including T/E species. A thorough  
42 consideration of all potential adverse impacts to  
43 human economic and social welfare should be  
44 an integral part of any consideration to list any  
45 T/E species.

46

A species cannot be listed before its  
47 critical habitat is identified within its scientifically  
48 established historical range. Habitat site specific

1 assessments and recovery plans must include  
2 comprehensive appreciation and inclusion of the  
3 protection of private property rights.

4 No critical-habitat designation should be  
5 allowed until it has been established beyond  
6 scientific doubt that the species in question is  
7 actually present and that endangered or  
8 threatened status is actually warranted. The  
9 data to satisfy the scientific criteria should meet  
10 the guidelines of the Data Quality Act under  
11 federal statutes sections 3504(d)(1) and 3516 of  
12 title 44, United States Code. The agency,  
13 organization or individual requesting the critical-  
14 habitat designation must bear the cost of proving  
15 presence of the species and this must be done  
16 through the use of the best available peer  
17 reviewed science.

18 We oppose road closures and land and  
19 water use restrictions imposed in the name of  
20 critical habitat.

21 Anadromous hatchery fish and wild fish  
22 should be treated equally under the ESA.  
23 Hatchery fish should be counted toward  
24 recovery of the species.

25 We support eliminating the marking of  
26 hatchery fish.

27 We believe that introduction/  
28 reintroduction of any species must be approved  
29 by the state legislature and must be consistent  
30 with local government natural resource plans.  
31 Therefore, we urge the passage of legislation  
32 that requires federal agencies to coordinate and  
33 determine consistency per federal statutes with  
34 the proper state agency and local governments  
35 when those federal agencies have received a  
36 petition to list a species.

37 We support the right of landowners to  
38 protect themselves, their families, livestock and  
39 properties from all predators including grizzly  
40 bears and wolves without legal retaliation.

41 We urge Congress to seek depredation  
42 funding for losses or damage resulting from  
43 endangered species and to mandate  
44 responsibility to deal with such losses.

45 We oppose implementation of the  
46 endangered species pesticide labeling program,  
47 other than in critical habitat.

1           We oppose the listing of the Giant  
2 Palouse Earthworm (*Driloleirus americanus*) as  
3 an endangered species.

4           We support livestock grazing as an  
5 effective tool to reduce wildfires and enhance  
6 plant and wildlife habitat.

## 8 **(87) Fish and Game Department**

9           We oppose the acquisition of additional  
10 land by the Fish and Game Department without  
11 local input.

12           We encourage the department to use  
13 good-neighbor management practices on the  
14 land they now own, including fences, pests,  
15 noxious weeds and provide sportsmen with  
16 guidance and marked boundaries.

17           We oppose any increase in funding for  
18 the Idaho Department of Fish and Game from  
19 either the general fund or license fees without  
20 showing a specific need or use for the funds.

21           The Fish and Game Department must  
22 control the concentration of wildlife numbers on  
23 all lands and should be prohibited from entering  
24 into agreements to limit access to any area,  
25 without approval of the local governing authority.

26           We support retaining the present  
27 composition and selection method of the Idaho  
28 Fish and Game Commission. Hunting license  
29 fees and tags should cost disproportionately  
30 more than at present for nonresidents compared  
31 to Residents.

32           We support a Habitat Improvement  
33 Program and request Idaho Fish and Game  
34 Commission to reflect strong emphasis on  
35 multiple use.

36           We propose that the \$1,000 depredation  
37 deductible now in existence be reduced.

38           Fish and Game should be responsible to  
39 pay for damages caused by management  
40 decisions.

41           We support Idaho Fish and Game  
42 issuing emergency depredation permits to ag  
43 producers and landowners to harvest animals  
44 that are causing verifiable damage to crops,  
45 livestock and property. Emergency depredation  
46 permit holders should have the option to retain  
47 possession of harvested animals.

1 We support creating depredation areas  
2 for landowners who are annually affected by  
3 depredating animals and support mechanisms  
4 for quicker response in those areas.

5 Transactions between the Idaho Fish  
6 and Wildlife Foundation and the Idaho  
7 Department of Fish and Game may represent a  
8 conflict of interest and should be investigated.

9  
10 **(88) Fish and Game – Private Reservoir**  
11 **Companies**

12 Fish and Game Department shall pay  
13 private reservoir companies for the use of that  
14 reservoir for fish habitat. The Department  
15 should also pay up-keep assessments on  
16 reservoirs in which they own water.

17  
18 **(89) Fish and Game/U.S. Fish and Wildlife**  
19 **Responsibility**

20 We support the reform of the Idaho  
21 Department of Fish and Game to create local  
22 management of the wildlife of Idaho. This  
23 program should be site specific to control  
24 damage caused from over populated species of  
25 both game and non-game animals.

26 We oppose the relocation of wild game  
27 and non-game species without proper notice  
28 being given to residents and property owners in  
29 the area where they are released.

30 The Idaho Fish and Game Department  
31 should not engage in activities that encourage  
32 only non-consumptive uses of fish and wildlife  
33 species in Idaho.

34 The state or federal wildlife personnel  
35 shall be required to file an environmental and  
36 economic impact statement before they can  
37 release non-native insects or plants in Idaho or  
38 make regulations that affect the counties and/or  
39 the state.

40 We support the Idaho State Department  
41 of Agriculture's ban on the release of deleterious  
42 exotic animals into the State of Idaho.

43 All state and federal agency personnel  
44 must go through the elected county sheriff for all  
45 law enforcement.

46  
47

1 **(90) Fish Species Population Management**

2 We support alternative scientific  
3 applications to modify fish species population  
4 without affecting contractual agreements or  
5 causing detrimental effects on flood control,  
6 irrigators, recreation and economies.

7  
8 **(91) ISDA and F&G Prior Notification**

9 The Idaho State Department of  
10 Agriculture and Idaho Fish and Game must give  
11 24-hour prior notification to land owners or  
12 designees before entering premises.

13  
14 **(92) Sage Grouse Hunt**

15 We support the Idaho Fish and Game  
16 Commission's policy of having a sage grouse  
17 hunting season.

18  
19 **(93) Introduction of Salmon**

20 We oppose the introduction of salmon  
21 above the Brownlee Dam.

22  
23 **(94) Salmon Recovery**

24 We support the following salmon-  
25 recovery alternatives:

- 26 (1) Physically modifying the dams rather  
27 than tearing them down or lowering  
28 water levels.
- 29 (2) Improving barging such as net barge  
30 transportation.
- 31 (3) Privatizing salmon fisheries for stronger  
32 fish.
- 33 (4) Controlling predators of salmon.
- 34 (5) Utilizing new hydroelectric turbine  
35 technologies to achieve the goals of  
36 increased power production and  
37 reduced hazards to fish.
- 38 (6) Operating the Brannon bypass system  
39 as an option to facilitate salmon  
40 recovery and support continued study of  
41 the Kevlar Tube and other bypass  
42 systems.
- 43 (7) Regulating harvest of off-shore and  
44 instream fish.

45  
46 **(95) Snake River Basin Snails**

47 We support the delisting of snail species  
48 in the Snake River Basin and the grouping of

1 snail species based on taxonomic/biological  
2 similarities.

3 We oppose the future listing of new snail  
4 species.

5

### 6 **(96) Wolves**

7 We support the delisting of wolves and  
8 access by all citizens to any and all control  
9 measures available to provide relief from wolf  
10 depredations.

11 Wolves should be classified and  
12 managed as predators. Until they are, we  
13 support the Idaho Fish and Game in its attempts  
14 to establish a hunting season on wolves. The  
15 costs associated with wolves, including triple  
16 damages for depredation costs, should be borne  
17 by the federal government. Until such time that  
18 livestock owners are compensated from the  
19 federal government, money should be made  
20 available from the sale of wolf tags to  
21 compensate livestock owners for depredation.

22 We request that IDFG require hunters to  
23 turn in all wolf carcasses for testing for  
24 communicable diseases.

25 We further demand that all wolves  
26 captured and/or killed by IDFG, Wildlife  
27 Services, US Fish and Wildlife or any other  
28 agency or individual be tested for communicable  
29 diseases.

30 We support a 10-j type rule for  
31 managing wolves being extended to north of  
32 Interstate 90.

33 We request the Governor invoke our  
34 Tenth Amendment rights to control wolves.

35 We request that Hydatid disease be  
36 returned to Idaho Department of Health and  
37 Welfare's reportable disease list.

38

39

## **EASEMENTS**

40

### 41 **(97) Conservation Easements and Scenic** 42 **Easements**

43 We support continuation of conservation  
44 easements or agreements and scenic  
45 easements or agreements only if the real  
46 property involved remains on the tax rolls  
47 according to use.

## ENERGY

1

2

### 3 **(98) Alternative Energy**

4 We support the development of  
5 alternative energy.

6 We oppose a broad moratorium on  
7 alternative energy projects.

8 We support county control in the siting  
9 of these projects.

10 We support sales tax incentives to  
11 assist in the development of alternative energy.

12

### 13 **(99) Bonneville Power Administration Credit**

14 We support some type of BPA credit  
15 that allows all of Idaho's citizens to benefit from  
16 the BPA's use of Idaho water for power  
17 generation.

18

### 19 **(100) Electrical Energy**

#### 20 **Hydroelectric Dams:**

21 As future demands for electrical energy  
22 increase, we support the continued careful use  
23 of water as one of our renewable natural  
24 resources through existing and the construction  
25 of new hydro projects.

26 We encourage the adoption of hydro  
27 projects to generate power for sale.

28 We support the relicensing of dams,  
29 including the Hells Canyon complex, using a  
30 least cost mitigation plan reflecting the desire of  
31 the customers to have a reliable power resource  
32 at reasonable rates.

#### 33 **Renewables:**

34 We encourage utilities operating in  
35 Idaho to develop economically feasible  
36 renewable energy portfolios.

37 We support the construction of  
38 economically feasible power generation facilities  
39 in Idaho including those that use plant and/or  
40 animal residue or logging slash.

41 We support an annual true-up for net  
42 metering rather than a monthly true-up.

#### 43 **Regulations:**

44 We encourage state agencies to remove  
45 barriers that prevent utilities from increasing  
46 Idaho's power generation capacity.

47 We oppose any deregulation,  
48 reorganization, merger or consolidation of power

1 generation or transmission which could result in  
2 loss of water rights, less service or increased  
3 rates.

4 We support current laws that require  
5 coal fired plants be held to strict standards in the  
6 construction, operation and retirement of the  
7 facility.

#### 8 **Transmission:**

9 We support upgrades in transmission  
10 and distribution. Routing of utility corridors  
11 should be placed on public land first and then to  
12 the areas of least impact to private property  
13 owners.

14 We support the initiation of on and off  
15 ramps in transmission lines within the State of  
16 Idaho.

17

#### 18 **(101) Farm Produced Fuel**

19 We support grants, cost share programs  
20 and bio-fuel production tax credits for farm-scale  
21 bio-fuel projects.

22

#### 23 **(102) Fossil Fuels**

24 We support the mining and drilling of  
25 fossil fuels.

26 We encourage the State of Idaho to  
27 adopt rules for oil and natural gas production  
28 that safeguard the water aquifers for all citizens  
29 and protect property owners' rights to use their  
30 property. If a local government entity bans the  
31 development of mineral rights in their  
32 jurisdiction, it should be considered a property  
33 rights "taking" and compensation should be  
34 provided to the property owner.

35

#### 36 **(103) Nuclear Energy**

37 We support the generation of electricity  
38 from nuclear reactors in meeting our future  
39 energy needs and urge the development of  
40 permanent disposal sites for radioactive waste  
41 material where it will not endanger Idaho's  
42 aquifer.

43 We support research and development  
44 of further usage of radioactive waste materials  
45 and safer ways of storage.

46 We support development of the fast  
47 burn sector of nuclear technology which  
48 massively reduces or eliminates the need for

1 nuclear waste disposal. We further support the  
2 utilization of the Idaho National Laboratory to  
3 provide the lead role in advancing the continued  
4 development of this technology.

5  
6 **(104) Power Buy Back**

7 We support demand control programs  
8 as long as current water rights and power usage  
9 contracts are protected. These programs must  
10 remain on a voluntary basis.

11  
12 **(105) Renewable Fuels**

13 We support the promotion and use of  
14 alternative fuels made from agricultural  
15 products, as long as they are driven by open  
16 markets and not economically supported by  
17 mandates and government subsidies.

18 We encourage all state and local  
19 governments to assist in developing renewable  
20 fuel projects in Idaho.

21 We support the availability of low-cost  
22 fuels, including off road bio-fuels, for the  
23 operation of farms and ranches.

24  
25 **(106) Utility Companies**

26 Utility companies that damage public  
27 roads should be responsible for restoring  
28 roadways to their original state for at least a  
29 period of two years.

30  
31 **LABOR**

32  
33 **(107) Health Insurance**

34 We oppose any legislation to require  
35 employers to carry health insurance on their  
36 employees whether they are seasonal or full-  
37 time.

38  
39 **(108) Legal Aid**

40 We oppose state funding of Idaho Legal  
41 Aid Services.

42 We oppose the uninvited presence of  
43 Legal Aid personnel soliciting business on  
44 private property.

45  
46 **(109) Minimum Wage**

47 We oppose any state minimum wage  
48 that is higher than the federal minimum wage.

1 **(110) New Hire Reporting**

2 We support changes in the Idaho New  
3 Hire Reporting Law to extend the reporting date  
4 to 60 days.

5 We support not having to report  
6 seasonal temporary workers that work less than  
7 45 days in a year.

8

9 **(111) Supplemental Agricultural Labor**

10 We support programs sponsoring labor  
11 for agriculture on a temporary basis. If existing  
12 programs fail to satisfy labor needs, we would  
13 support a system under which supplemental  
14 labor from other countries could be imported on  
15 a timely and flexible basis to work in agriculture.  
16 When these workers are no longer needed they  
17 would be required to return to their countries of  
18 origin. If a status adjustment is contemplated for  
19 farm workers currently working but not  
20 authorized to work in the U.S., then such  
21 adjustment may not include citizenship and must  
22 include penalties for illegal entry into the U.S.

23 We recommend strict enforcement of  
24 our immigration laws and improved procedures  
25 to verify status.

26

27 **(112) Unemployment Insurance**

28 Eligibility requirements should be made  
29 realistic to reflect agriculture's seasonal  
30 employment practices.

31 Business owners should not have to pay  
32 unemployment tax on themselves.

33 The minimum basic-period wage criteria  
34 for unemployment benefits should be increased  
35 proportionately to increases in the minimum  
36 wage.

37

38 **(113) Workers Compensation**

39 Workers compensation for agricultural  
40 employers should provide:

41 (1) Cost control measures and fair base  
42 rates.

43 (2) Mediation for agricultural concerns.

44 (3) Protection from third party lawsuits.

45 (4) Employer protection from worker caused  
46 injuries (i.e. drug & alcohol).

47 Corporate officers should not be  
48 required to be covered by workers

1 compensation. Business owners should not be  
2 required to pay into workers compensation on  
3 themselves since they are prohibited from  
4 collecting as business owners.

5 We support changes in the existing  
6 worker's compensation law that would take into  
7 consideration the employee's responsibility  
8 when an accident occurs.

9 We support having the settlement  
10 reduced by the percentage that was determined  
11 that the worker was responsible.

## 12 13 **TAX**

### 14 15 **(114) Agricultural Property Tax Shifts**

16 We are opposed to shifting property tax  
17 to agricultural real estate.

18 We support removing the Idaho Housing  
19 Price Index from the 50% / \$75,000  
20 homeowner's exemption.

### 21 22 **(115) Assessed Value of Ag Production Land**

23 We believe all land being used for  
24 commercial agricultural production should be  
25 appraised for tax purposes according to its  
26 current use, eliminating any consideration of its  
27 speculative value, using realistic productivity  
28 figures, realistic cost deduction, including  
29 government mandated control of noxious weeds,  
30 taking into account the USDA's annual report on  
31 farm real estate values in Idaho and that only  
32 the landlord's net share of production be used in  
33 computing value for tax purposes, as prescribed  
34 by Idaho State Tax Commission rules and  
35 regulations.

36 We support the retention of the five acre  
37 minimum productivity option and the Bare Land  
38 & Yield Option for forest lands.

### 39 40 **(116) Budget Caps**

41 We oppose the loosening, removal or  
42 alteration in any way or the granting of an  
43 exemption from limitations and restraints placed  
44 by present Idaho law on units of local  
45 government, community colleges, school  
46 districts, etc., in increasing local property taxes.

1 We oppose the creation of additional tax  
2 entities that could be exempt from such  
3 limitations and restraints.

4  
5 **(117) County Taxing Districts Sharing**  
6 **Administrators**

7 We encourage county commissioners,  
8 school districts, highway districts and possibly  
9 other taxing districts to consider using  
10 administrators and secretaries on a county-wide  
11 or multi-district basis to help ease the tax burden  
12 of administration.

13  
14 **(118) Fuel Tax**

15 We oppose repealing the refund of tax  
16 paid on fuel used off-road.

17 We oppose taxing dyed fuel.

18  
19 **(119) Impact Fees**

20 We support local impact fees on new or  
21 expanding developments to pay for the services  
22 required to support growth.

23 We support simplification of current  
24 impact fee rules and procedures.

25  
26 **(120) Investment Tax Credit**

27 We support retention of the current 3%  
28 investment tax credit provisions, or an increase  
29 in the credit.

30  
31 **(121) Local Option Taxation**

32 We support local option taxation when  
33 used specifically for projects that would have  
34 been paid for with property tax dollars.

35  
36 **(122) Maximum Levy Rates**

37 We oppose raising the maximum  
38 statutory levy rates for any taxing authority.

39  
40 **(123) Personal Tax Privacy Rights**

41 We oppose the county tax assessor's  
42 office requiring personal tax information to  
43 establish land use.

44  
45 **(124) Property Tax**

46 We oppose budget increases and  
47 foregone balances that current Idaho State law  
48 allows for local governments.

1 We support limiting yearly property  
2 assessment increases to a maximum of the  
3 state inflation rate.

4 We support legislation that would allow  
5 county tax assessments and collection on  
6 property that has been purchased by non-profit  
7 groups and placed in tax exempt status, such as  
8 a tax code that covers environmental tax exempt  
9 classification.

10 We support exempting all equipment  
11 used in the production of agricultural  
12 commodities from personal property tax.

### 13 14 **(125) Property Tax – Funding Local 15 Government & Schools**

16 We support gradually reducing the  
17 property tax burden to fund public schools and  
18 local government.

19 We are opposed to judges being  
20 allowed to levy taxes.

21 We support legislation mandating that  
22 plant facilities levy monies can be used only for  
23 capital expenditures related to school operation  
24 and maintenance.

25 We oppose school districts carrying over  
26 these funds to finance the construction of new  
27 buildings or the acquisition of additional  
28 property.

29 We support removing the school budget  
30 stabilization levy that was authorized in the 2006  
31 special Legislative session, unless it is  
32 supported by a local vote.

33 We support the creation of standardized  
34 mandatory full disclosure of the school district's  
35 revenues and expenditures that are related to  
36 extracurricular activities; separated into  
37 curriculum and athletics, and budgeted in  
38 standard categories of salaries, transportation,  
39 supplies and capital expenditures.

### 40 41 **(126) Sales Tax**

42 We oppose removing the sales tax  
43 exemption on production items.

44 We support legislation that would  
45 exempt non-profit organizational fund-raising  
46 from paying sales tax on those receipts.

47 We oppose the collection of use tax on  
48 out-of-state goods purchased by Idaho

1 residents.

2

3 **(127) Special Taxing Districts**

4 We support county commissioners  
5 approving special taxing districts budgets,  
6 except independent road districts, before such  
7 budgets are published for public review.

8 We support a requirement that all new  
9 taxing districts must be approved by a 66-2/3%  
10 majority vote of the registered voters within a  
11 district.

12 We support legislation allowing special  
13 taxing districts to be funded by a household fee.  
14 All taxing districts that charge fees should be  
15 under the same 3% cap that applies to counties  
16 and municipalities.

17 We support giving library districts the  
18 option to be funded by a household fee rather  
19 than through an ad valorem tax. If the library  
20 district chooses the household fee option, any  
21 bonds they pass must also be paid through  
22 household fees.

23 We support a ten year sunset on all  
24 special taxing districts, after which they would  
25 require re-authorization by the voters to  
26 continue.

27

28 **(128) State Budget**

29 We support zero-based budgeting.

30 We oppose balancing budget shortfalls  
31 by any tax increase.

32 We support a constitutional amendment  
33 limiting state spending to a calculation  
34 determined by population growth and inflation.

35

36 **(129) Super Majority**

37 We support retaining the 66-2/3 percent  
38 majority vote as required in the Idaho State  
39 Constitution for bond levies.

40 We oppose circumventing the required  
41 two-thirds majority by creative financing options.

42

43 **(130) Tax Compensation for Federal and  
44 State Managed Lands**

45 We recommend that a fee in lieu of  
46 taxes be assessed on all lands removed from  
47 tax rolls by state or federal agency  
48 management.

1 We favor an annual fee equivalent to  
2 local private property tax on land.

3  
4 **(131) Tax Refund Extension**

5 We support extension of the statute of  
6 limitations on income-tax refunds from 3 years to  
7 10 years. Tax refunds 4 to 10 years old may be  
8 used to offset taxes and interest due.

9  
10 **(132) Urban Renewal Districts**

11 We support legislation that limits urban  
12 renewal districts to the purpose for which they  
13 were created and legislation that places  
14 mandatory time limits not to exceed ten years on  
15 the life span for any district so formed.

16  
17 **LOCAL AFFAIRS**

18  
19 **(133) Annexation**

20 We are opposed to areas adjacent to a  
21 city being annexed into the city unless a two-  
22 thirds majority of those owning property in the  
23 area proposed for annexation vote in favor of the  
24 annexation.

25  
26 **(134) County Commissioners**

27 County Commissioners should be  
28 elected by the district in which they reside, not  
29 the whole county.

30 We encourage county commissioners to  
31 develop a Natural Resource Plan per NEPA  
32 guidelines that clearly states the objectives and  
33 policies of the county in regards to management  
34 of the natural resources located on public lands  
35 in their county. We encourage county  
36 commissioners to invoke the "coordination  
37 mandate" of Congress set forth in federal  
38 statutes with the public land management  
39 agencies plans and actions that may negatively  
40 impact the county's economy, culture and  
41 heritage.

42  
43 **(135) Distribution of Federal Fines**

44 We support legislation that would  
45 require public notification of the distribution of  
46 fines collected by the governmental agencies in  
47 that county.

48 We support legislation that would

1 require federal agencies to return a portion of  
2 federal fines collected in the county where the  
3 infraction occurred.

4

### 5 **(136) Elections**

6 We support restricting local school bond  
7 and levy elections to primary and general  
8 election dates.

9 We support a mandatory pre-registration  
10 requirement to be eligible to vote in all local  
11 bond elections.

12 We support more positive proof of  
13 residency for voter registration at the polls.

14 Pay raises for elected officials shall not  
15 take effect until the official stands again for  
16 election.

17 We support requiring full and complete  
18 disclosure of all campaign contributions with stiff  
19 penalties for failure to disclose. This will include  
20 full disclosure of any personal funds contributed  
21 by the candidate. The information will be readily  
22 accessible to all interested individuals and  
23 organizations.

24

### 25 **(137) Emergency Response Fees**

26 We oppose the imposition of a “crash  
27 tax” to cover the cost of cleaning up spills at the  
28 site of an accident. We favor reducing  
29 regulatory burdens which prohibit low-cost  
30 clean-up solutions.

31

### 32 **(138) Indigent Care Funding**

33 We support the use of the interest from  
34 the tobacco settlement monies to reduce the  
35 indigent care deductible now being paid for by  
36 the property owners. The deductible should  
37 continue to decrease incrementally as the  
38 settlement monies increase, not to drop below  
39 \$1,000. The reduced deductible for tobacco-  
40 related illnesses should be expanded to include  
41 a reduced deductible for all health-related  
42 situations.

43

### 44 **(139) Lighting in Agriculture**

45 We support adequate lighting to operate  
46 agricultural businesses in a safe, efficient and  
47 unobtrusive manner.

1 **(140) Notice of Zoning Change**

2 Water-right holders or recipients of  
3 water delivered through property that is  
4 proposed to be rezoned should receive the  
5 same notification of public hearings as  
6 surrounding landowners.  
7

8 **(141) Public Hearings**

9 Public hearings that affect a given area  
10 of the state must be held in the area that is  
11 affected, at a reasonable time and date for those  
12 impacted.  
13

14 **(142) Waste Recycling**

15 We support and encourage voluntary  
16 recycling of solid waste.  
17

18 **(143) Zoning**

19 County commissioners should control all  
20 zoning in the county. Zoning should be site  
21 specific within the county; we oppose the use of  
22 blanket zoning ordinances, including sustainable  
23 development and smart-growth initiatives.  
24

25 We recognize and encourage the use of  
26 planning tools allowed under state law to  
27 encourage planned and orderly growth in or  
28 near agricultural areas.  
29

30 **EDUCATION**

31 **(144) Adolescent Nutrition**

32 We support school districts offering  
33 dairy products, healthy nutritional snacks and  
34 fruit juices in vending machines on school  
35 premises.  
36

37 **(145) Ag in the Classroom**

38 We support "Ag in the Classroom" in  
39 school curriculums to increase student literacy of  
40 agriculture.  
41

42 We support an increase in funding for  
43 Ag in the Classroom.  
44

44 **(146) Contracts for Teachers**

45 We recommend that the tenure system  
46 for school teachers be eliminated and replaced  
47 with contracts based on evaluation and  
48 performance.

1 We support the concept of incentive pay  
2 that will improve teacher excellence.

3 School teachers should have the option  
4 of being able to negotiate their own contract with  
5 the school district as a private contractor.

6

### 7 **(147) Education Standards and Assessments**

8 We support using:

9 1. Professionally established standards  
10 and assessments that can be modified to reflect  
11 locally recognized educational values, goals and  
12 philosophy.

13 2. Standards to ensure the progression  
14 of a student that reflect a comprehension of the  
15 subject.

16

### 17 **(148) Knowledge of Constitution**

18 We support requiring students  
19 graduating from Idaho schools to have a  
20 thorough understanding of the Constitution and  
21 the form of government that it gives us.

22

### 23 **(149) Local Control of Education**

24 We encourage the State Board of  
25 Education and the Idaho legislature to refuse  
26 federal funds aimed at promoting control of  
27 educational programs in public schools by the  
28 federal government.

29 We oppose the gathering of personal  
30 information of students that is not related to their  
31 academic education without parental consent.

32

### 33 **(150) No Increase in School Time**

34 We oppose increasing required school  
35 hours beyond 990 hours per year.

36

### 37 **(151) Parental Choice in Education**

38 We support the voucher system for  
39 education.

40 We support the continuing freedom of  
41 Idaho parents to choose private school,  
42 parochial school, home school, public charter  
43 school or public school as prescribed in the  
44 Idaho Constitution and in the Idaho Code.

45 We support optional kindergarten.

46 We oppose public funding of pre-  
47 kindergarten.

48

1 **(152) Right to Challenge Class**

2 We recommend that high school  
3 students be given the opportunity to challenge  
4 high school classes and if able to pass, be given  
5 credit for that class toward graduation.

6

7 **(153) Sexually Transmitted Diseases/Sex**  
8 **Education**

9 We oppose the teaching of  
10 homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle.

11 We support the teaching of abstinence  
12 as the only 100% effective method to prevent  
13 pregnancy.

14 We also support the teaching of  
15 abstinence before marriage and monogamy  
16 after marriage as the most effective method for  
17 the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

18 We further support educating for  
19 increased awareness and prevention of any  
20 sexually transmitted diseases.

21

22 **(154) Veterinary Students**

23 We support an increase from eleven  
24 (11) to fifteen (15) seats per year for Idaho  
25 residents in the Washington-Idaho Cooperative  
26 Veterinary Medical Education Program.

27

28 **(155) Vocational Education**

29 We support adequate funding for  
30 Idaho's vocational education program.

31 We encourage vocational teachers,  
32 administrators and school boards to utilize this  
33 funding by actively developing and administering  
34 programs in their school districts that promote  
35 career development.

36

37 **STATE AFFAIRS**

38

39 **(156) Agricultural Research and Extension**

40 We support the University of Idaho  
41 Agricultural Research and Extension Service  
42 and urge the Legislature to adequately fund this  
43 vital program.

44 We support adequate funding to the  
45 College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to  
46 allow research to develop new improved  
47 varieties of seed that are classed as public  
48 varieties.

1 We request the Legislature examine the  
2 role of the University of Idaho as the land grant  
3 college, and take steps to ensure the University  
4 honors its commitment as our agricultural  
5 research facility. The University should be on the  
6 same budgeting system as the State of Idaho.

7 We support expanded research and  
8 education in all crop areas relative to Idaho. This  
9 must also include new and improved plant and  
10 animal varieties along with effective insect, pest,  
11 disease and weed controls.

12 We also support an informational  
13 exchange and cooperative effort within the tri-  
14 state area in agchemical registration and  
15 research as well as plant/animal variety  
16 improvement research. Every effort should be  
17 made by state and county officials and the  
18 University of Idaho to retain an agricultural  
19 extension agent in each county as an extension  
20 service of our land grant university. Strong  
21 pressure must be exerted to revitalize and  
22 improve the agricultural information and  
23 education programs.

24 We recommend that extension activities  
25 assist farm programs on a first-priority basis,  
26 including the integrated Farm Management  
27 Program.

28 We also believe that county agents  
29 should be first and foremost county agricultural  
30 agents.

31 We support the hiring of new extension  
32 educators in the College of Agricultural and Life  
33 Sciences with primary training and experience in  
34 commercial agriculture and forestry.

### 35 36 **(157) Attorney General Review**

37 We support legislation that establishes a  
38 process whereby farmers and ranchers may  
39 request a review by the state attorney general of  
40 all local and state ordinances and rules that  
41 could violate state law by restricting normal  
42 agricultural operations.

### 43 44 **(158) ATV Safety**

45 We oppose the creation of a mandatory  
46 class or special license for the ability to ride an  
47 ATV on private or public land.

48

1 **(159) Ballot Initiative Process**

2 We support using legislative districts as  
3 a geographic requirement for gathering  
4 signatures to qualify an initiative for the ballot.

5

6 **(160) Bicycle Safety**

7 We support bicyclists using public  
8 roadways being subject to the same laws that  
9 motorists must obey.

10

11 **(161) Cell Phone Use**

12 We oppose any legislation that would  
13 ban cell phone use in vehicles for voice  
14 communication.

15 We oppose texting while driving.

16

17 **(162) Commercial Auction Companies**

18 **Bonding**

19 We support legislation that would  
20 require licensing and bonding of commercial  
21 auction companies.

22

23 **(163) Commercial Unmanned Air Systems**  
24 **(UAS)**

25 We support the commercial use of un-  
26 manned air systems (UAS) for natural resource  
27 management.

28

29 **(164) Cross Deputization of Law Enforcement**  
30 **Officers**

31 We believe that cross deputization of  
32 county sheriffs and any tribal law enforcement  
33 officers should be voluntary.

34 **(165) Definition of Agricultural Buildings**

35 We support changes to Idaho Code to  
36 define agricultural buildings as follows: They are  
37 buildings where agricultural products are stored,  
38 housed or grown. They are buildings where  
39 agricultural equipment, including licensed  
40 vehicles that are used in the production of  
41 agriculture, can be fixed, repaired or stored.  
42 They are buildings that are used for the normal  
43 servicing of an agricultural business. They can  
44 be used by employees as a place of  
45 employment as well as a place to have meals  
46 and take bathroom breaks as required by GAAP  
47 (Generally Accepted Agriculture Practices.)

1 **(166) Department of Corrections**

2 We support legislation requiring the  
3 Department of Corrections to notify victims and  
4 witnesses who have requested to be notified  
5 when inmates convicted of violent crimes will be  
6 paroled or issued passes. Records should be  
7 reasonably accessible to concerned individuals.

8 We support having names of juveniles  
9 convicted of a felony made public knowledge.

10 The Department of Corrections should  
11 be required to house nonviolent prisoners in  
12 county jails when space is available, instead of  
13 shipping them out of state. The state should  
14 reimburse counties at the rate that it is paying  
15 out-of-state prisons.

16

17 **(167) Drug Penalties**

18 We favor stiffer penalties—not  
19 necessarily prison terms—for drug pushers,  
20 money launderers and repeated users, with no  
21 plea bargaining.

22 We oppose legalizing medical marijuana  
23 in Idaho.

24

25 **(168) Drug Testing for Welfare Recipients**

26 We support legislation that would  
27 require adult applicants/recipients for state  
28 and/or federal welfare payments, or similar  
29 benefits, to submit to periodic testing for illegal  
30 drugs and test negative to receive benefits.

31

32 **(169) Executive Branch MOU/MOA**

33 We oppose actions by the governor  
34 entering into memorandums of understanding or  
35 memorandums of agreement without legislative  
36 oversight and approval.

37

38 **(170) Falsifying Reports**

39 Knowingly filing a false report and/or  
40 complaint to any agency shall be considered a  
41 misdemeanor and the perpetrator should be  
42 required to pay damages and/or expenses to the  
43 individual that was falsely accused as well as  
44 the investigating agency.

45

46 **(171) Gambling**

47 We oppose any amendment to the State

1 Constitution to permit licensed or unlicensed  
2 casino gaming in Idaho.

3

4 **(172) Government Employees Accountability**

5 Employees of government must not be  
6 exempt from any laws and should be  
7 accountable under law for their actions. State  
8 officials should refrain from involving themselves  
9 in how county governments operate.

10 Government employees should be  
11 restricted from moonlighting in their field of  
12 expertise, competing unfairly with private  
13 professionals or using government equipment,  
14 files etc.

15

16 **(173) Hazardous Waste**

17 We believe that each state should, to  
18 the extent possible, take the responsibility for  
19 treatment and disposal of hazardous waste  
20 generated in its state and that these waste  
21 products be disposed of in the most feasible  
22 manner that will not endanger life or resources.

23 We feel that hazardous material and  
24 hazardous waste should be kept separate in the  
25 law.

26 We support a statewide hazardous  
27 materials clean-up day.

28

29 **(174) Inmate Care**

30 We do not support taxpayer funded  
31 procedures that prolong the life of inmates with  
32 life sentences.

33

34 **(175) Judicial Confirmation**

35 We support the repeal of the "Judicial  
36 Confirmation", Title 7, Chapter 13, Idaho Code,  
37 for ordinary and necessary expenses.

38

39 **(176) Liability & Tort Claims**

40 We support current Idaho statutes  
41 dealing with liability and tort claims and will  
42 resist any effort to weaken or erode them.

43

44 **(177) Medicaid**

45 We support required co-pay by Medicaid  
46 recipients and non-insured persons who use  
47 hospital emergency room visits for non-life  
48 threatening health care. We support minimum

1 co-pay for primary health care provider visits.

2

3 **(178) Memorials in Public**

4 We oppose awarding attorney's fees  
5 and penalties funded by tax money when judges  
6 order the removal of religious icons and  
7 expressions from public property.

8 We support the continued display of the  
9 Ten Commandments on public property.

10

11 **(179) Mental Health and Drug Court**

12 We support increased state funding for  
13 mental health and drug court programs.

14

15 **(180) Mosquito Eradication**

16 We support spraying and other methods  
17 to kill mosquitoes.

18

19 **(181) Nationalized Health Insurance**

20 We oppose nationalizing health  
21 insurance.

22

23 **(182) North-South Highway**

24 We support construction and/or  
25 improvement of a North-South Highway to the  
26 Canadian border.

27

28 **(183) Planning and Zoning Commission  
29 Compensation**

30 We support a change in Idaho law  
31 allowing members of county planning and  
32 zoning commissions to receive payment for the  
33 time they devote to their duties if approved by  
34 local voters.

35

36 **(184) Private Property Rights/Eminent  
37 Domain**

38 Private property should be defined to  
39 include but not be limited to all land, crops,  
40 timber, water rights, mineral rights, all other  
41 appurtenances and any other consideration  
42 associated with land ownership.

43 We support programs to educate the  
44 public about private property rights and about  
45 trespass laws. Landowners should retain the  
46 right to refuse access within the current law.

47 Landowners having lands adjacent to  
48 federal and or state lands should not be forced

1 through coercion/or fear of imprisonment to  
2 allow new easements across their land for public  
3 access to federal and state lands. The taking of  
4 property or easements should be permitted only  
5 when there is eminent domain.

6 We oppose the use of eminent domain  
7 for recreational purposes, for private economic  
8 development or to expand the land holding of  
9 wildlife agencies.

10 We support an Idaho constitutional  
11 amendment defining public use as found in the  
12 eminent domain doctrine to prohibit the  
13 condemnation of private property for economic  
14 development or any use by private parties. If  
15 private property is taken, compensation must be  
16 prompt, just and adequate.

17 In the cases of partial taking of real  
18 property, the landowner must be compensated  
19 when government-imposed regulations cause a  
20 loss in value of private property. Landowners or  
21 tenants shall not be held liable for any damages  
22 incurred as a result of the condemnation.  
23 Entities condemning property shall assume  
24 liability for any damages incurred by  
25 landowners.

### 26 27 **(185) PUC Rates**

28 We will continue to cooperate with  
29 organizations that are trying to obtain equitable  
30 public utility and freight rates.

31 We oppose any action by the PUC to  
32 move in the direction of inverted block rates or in  
33 any major rate design revision that would be  
34 detrimental to agriculture.

### 35 36 **(186) Public Employees Bargaining**

37 We believe that public employees, when  
38 negotiating contracts, should be separate  
39 entities in themselves, and by statute not  
40 allowed to delegate or reassign their negotiating  
41 rights to professional negotiating forces.

### 42 43 **(187) Public Funded Institutions and Entities**

44 All public institutions and entities funded  
45 in whole or in part with public money will  
46 discourage and prevent the sanctioning,  
47 promotion, encouragement or advocacy of any  
48 behavior or any lifestyle containing behaviors

1 that are in violation of Idaho statute or the Idaho  
2 Constitution.

3

4 **(188) Re-Appportionment**

5 We support the state's right to a  
6 republican form of government, and the right to  
7 pattern our representation in the state Senate  
8 and House after the Congress of the United  
9 States; with the Senate by county and the  
10 House by population.

11

12 **(189) Re-Establish Congressional  
13 Lawmaking Responsibility**

14 We support the state Legislature in its  
15 efforts to encourage Congress to reclaim its  
16 constitutional responsibility of making law.

17 Proposed rules or regulations by federal  
18 bureaus or agencies should have congressional  
19 approval before becoming law.

20 Presidential directives or executive  
21 orders should be limited in scope and subject to  
22 congressional approval in a timely manner.

23 We support passage of legislation  
24 ensuring that no treaty can supersede the  
25 Constitution or reduce the protections we enjoy  
26 under the Constitution.

27

28 **(190) Regulation Reform**

29 We support:

30 (1) Complete review of existing regulations  
31 to determine their effectiveness and  
32 appropriateness prior to assigning more  
33 restrictive regulations.

34 (2) Peer review of the existing regulations  
35 to determine their potential to mitigate  
36 the problems they address.

37

38 **(191) Rights-of-Way**

39 Easement rights-of-way obtained by  
40 public or private sectors shall not be committed  
41 to any new or additional purpose, either during  
42 their original usage or after abandonment,  
43 without consent of the owner of the land  
44 underlying the easement. Upon abandonment  
45 of railway or utility rights-of-way or leases, all  
46 property and rights associated with such rights-  
47 of-way or leases should revert to the current

1 owner of the original tract.

2 We urge enactment of legislation to  
3 require that adjacent landowners be given  
4 priority to purchase at fair market value lands  
5 that have been vacated by railways, power  
6 companies, roadways, etc. and require that  
7 public agencies obtaining title to abandoned  
8 rights-of-way be responsible for maintaining  
9 fences, drainage systems, all field and road  
10 crossings and for controlling weeds on any such  
11 acquired rights-of-way.

12 We support access to or through federal  
13 lands using RS2477.

14 We support allowing county  
15 commissioners the ability to determine the  
16 validity of an RS2477 claim, the right to move an  
17 RS2477 when it occurs on private land and the  
18 ability to temporarily close an RS2477 for  
19 resource reasons. To prevent the misuse of  
20 RS2477 claims, we recognize the superiority of  
21 a property's title over RS2477 claims.

22 We will not support the use of RS2477  
23 as a tool for the taking of private property  
24 without just compensation as prescribed in the  
25 Constitution.

26 Any party who controls a railroad right-  
27 of-way for use as a trail or any other purpose  
28 that prevents the corridor from reverting back to  
29 the adjacent landowners, must continue to honor  
30 all historical maintenance agreements that the  
31 railroad formerly performed including fencing,  
32 weed control and any other agreement that may  
33 have been in existence before the corridor  
34 changed management.

35

### 36 **(192) Right to Bear Arms**

37 We oppose any abridgment of the  
38 Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution  
39 which protects the right to keep and bear arms.

40 We support current law that allows law-  
41 abiding citizens the right to bear arms and be  
42 free from legal jeopardy when protecting  
43 themselves, their families and their property.

44 We oppose the retaining of personal  
45 records collected by the FBI as a result of  
46 firearms purchase background checks. The  
47 dangerous weapons code should be updated to  
48 reflect these rights in the home, the place of

1 business or in motor vehicles.

2 We support legislation that declares that  
3 all firearms and ammunition made and retained  
4 in-state are beyond the authority of the federal  
5 government.

6

### 7 **(193) Sexual Crimes**

8 We support increased penalties for  
9 violent, repeat sexual abuse crimes.

10

### 11 **(194) Sharia Law**

12 We support legislation banning the  
13 implementation of Sharia Law in Idaho.

14

### 15 **(195) State Agencies**

16 We oppose regulating any phase of  
17 farm and ranch business by any state agency  
18 that does not have an agricultural representative  
19 as a member of its policy-making board or  
20 committee.

21 We oppose combining, splitting or  
22 changing government agencies without the  
23 approval of users of the services.

24 We support the concept of the Soil  
25 Conservation Commission or successor entity to  
26 advise and aid local Soil Conservation Districts  
27 by providing technical support and a mechanism  
28 to receive financial support at no less than fiscal  
29 year 2010 levels.

30 We recommend representation by an  
31 agricultural producer on the Board of Regents  
32 for Idaho's land grant university and on the  
33 Idaho Fish and Game Commission.

34 We urge and will support legislation to  
35 require that government rules and regulations,  
36 wherever applicable, be based upon supportive  
37 disciplinary peer reviewed scientific data and  
38 that wherever policies, rules or regulations do  
39 not meet this standard the responsible individual  
40 and/or individuals can be held liable.

41 When a state law enforcement agency  
42 makes an arrest there should be a means  
43 provided to reimburse the county for all costs  
44 associated in maintaining the prisoner.

45

### 46 **(196) State Building Code**

47 We ask the State Legislature to review  
48 the State Building Code with amendments, to

1 limit infringement on private property rights  
2 through excessive permit requirements.

3

4 **(197) State Commissions and PERSI**

5 We support the development of a policy  
6 at the state level that allows for opting out of  
7 PERSI for State Commission board members to  
8 preserve their IRAs.

9

10 **(198) State Hatch Act**

11 We favor restoring the State Hatch Act,  
12 67-5311 Limitation of Political Activity, to its  
13 original form and content.

14

15 **(199) State Historic Preservation Office  
16 (SHPO)**

17 We oppose the expansion of the  
18 authority of the SHPO and oppose any state  
19 funding.

20

21 **(200) State Legal Reform**

22 We support reform of the state's civil  
23 justice system, which would cure or substantially  
24 solve many of the problems farmers face with  
25 hostile, harassing legal services lawsuits. Any  
26 person or organization that sues to prevent  
27 livestock operation siting, or the use of  
28 agriculture or resource management practices,  
29 should be required to post a bond in a  
30 reasonable amount, which will be forfeited to the  
31 defendant to help defray their costs in the event  
32 that the suit is unsuccessful.

33

34 We support legislation by the Idaho  
35 Legislature that would require any entity bringing  
36 such lawsuits to post substantial bonds based  
37 on the potential harm of the lawsuit. Individuals  
38 who file complaints against an agricultural  
39 operation and request an investigation must pay  
40 a fee to cover administration costs. Complete  
41 names, addresses and phone numbers are  
42 required on each complaint.

43

44 We support legislation to restore the

45

46 election of district judges.

47

We support the open and full disclosure  
of the actions of the Idaho Judicial Council.

Entities from outside the jurisdiction of  
taxing districts that file lawsuits against public

1 entities should be required to pay all legal  
2 expenses.

3

#### 4 **(201) Term Limits**

5 We oppose term limits on statewide  
6 offices, legislative offices and county and local  
7 levels, with individual counties given the choice  
8 to adopt or oppose term limits.

9

#### 10 **(202) Termination of Life**

11 We oppose human euthanasia.

12 We oppose legalization of assisted  
13 suicide.

14 We oppose abortion except in cases of  
15 rape, incest or when there is endangerment to  
16 the life of the mother.

17 We oppose any state funding of  
18 Planned Parenthood.

19

#### 20 **(203) Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL'S)**

21 We support mandating Idaho's  
22 Department of Environmental Quality to conduct  
23 an Economic Impact Analysis of an area's  
24 businesses (including the agri-business and  
25 agricultural operations of that area) before  
26 initiating a TMDL process for that geographic  
27 area. The analysis shall be provided to the  
28 Watershed Advisory Group before consideration  
29 is given to develop and implement a TMDL. A  
30 copy of the analysis shall also be provided to the  
31 germane committees of the Idaho Legislature.

32

#### 33 **(204) Transportation**

34 We support continuation of independent  
35 road districts without oversight by county  
36 commissioners.

37 We would consider an increase in the  
38 state fuel tax for infrastructure construction.

39 We would consider a tax or fee increase  
40 on vehicles of 12500 GVW and under if this  
41 revenue is used for infrastructure construction.

42 We oppose the removal of the Port of  
43 Entry system from the Department of  
44 Transportation.

45 We support increases in gross weights  
46 with axle weights non-changing.

47 We support the continued use of long  
48 combination vehicles (LCVs).

1 We support the Idaho Department of  
2 Transportation policy of issuing oversize load  
3 permits for Idaho public roads.

4 We support the continued improvement  
5 of Idaho's agricultural roadways.

6 We support accountability of highway  
7 transportation department's engineers for the  
8 cost over-runs and/or miscalculations for  
9 wrongful designs of highway projects.

10 We support increasing permit fees on  
11 loads exceeding 200,000 GVW to be  
12 comparable with fees in surrounding states.

#### 13 14 **(205) Trespass**

15 We support a law placing the burden of  
16 trespass on the trespasser instead of the  
17 landowner.

#### 18 19 **(206) Unfunded Mandates**

20 All new laws passed by the legislature  
21 that put financial burdens on the counties or  
22 cities should be funded by the state.

#### 23 24 **(207) U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals**

25 We support the division of the Ninth  
26 Circuit Court of Appeals to add a new northwest  
27 U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

#### 28 29 **(208) Use of the Public Trust Doctrine for 30 Hunting**

31 We oppose the use of the Public Trust  
32 Doctrine to force private property owners to  
33 allow hunting on their private property.

#### 34 35 **(209) Well Drillers License**

36 A well shall only be drilled by or under  
37 the responsible charge of a licensed driller  
38 except that a property owner who is not licensed  
39 can construct a well on his own property for his  
40 own use with the aid of power driven mechanical  
41 equipment with the option of substituting a video  
42 tape of the well head and bore for the "well log"  
43 showing geologic strata, casing and satisfactory  
44 compliance with "Well Construction Standards  
45 Rules".

46

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