

News Release

IDAHO WATER USERS ASSOCIATION, INC

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13 RECEIVE SPECIAL AWARDS AT IWUA ANNUAL CONVENTION

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A total of 13 individuals recently received special awards during the 81st Annual Convention of the Idaho Water Users Association. This includes two new inductees into the IWUA Hall of Fame, IWUA officials announced.

IWUA, the largest water user group in Idaho, also formally passed memorial resolutions honoring six individuals who were deeply involved in Idaho water issues and who passed away in 2017.

“These awards, and the memorial resolutions, are designed specifically to honor the outstanding men and women who have given so much to Idaho’s water user community,” said Paul Arrington, IWUA Executive Director and General Counsel.

The late Steven Fenton Russell, formerly of the Emmett Irrigation District, and Dale Swensen of the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District were inducted into the IWUA Hall of Fame. IWUA’s Hall of Fame recognizes those individuals with a long history of service in the water community.

Swensen also received the IWUA President’s Award. This award is a special accolade given by IWUA’s current president to recognize and commend individuals for their personal efforts to advance the aims of IWUA.

Five individuals were presented Outstanding Employee Awards. The award is a way for IWUA member organizations to recognize the exceptional service of their valued employees. The five individuals who received Outstanding Employee Awards are:

- Jerri Floyd – Boise Project Board of Control;
- Jim Plocher – A&B Irrigation District;
- Roger Wageman – Burley Irrigation District;
- Melvin Tipton – Milner Irrigation District; and
- Jared Bingham – Minidoka Irrigation District

The IWUA Water Management Award, recognizing water delivery managers who go above and beyond in their service to their organization and the water community, was presented to Tim Page of the Boise Project Board of Control.

The IWUA Outstanding Service Award, given to individuals who have provided outstanding service to the water community, was awarded to Ron Blickenstaff of the Boise-Kuna Irrigation District.

Charles “Chuck” Cuddy received IWUA’s Water Statesman Award. The award is given to individuals whose public service supported and strengthened Idaho’s water community.

Mike Beus and Robert “Hap” Boyer received the IWUA Distinguished Service Award, which is given to individuals who, through their work as Federal, State or local government employees, have provided high-quality service to Idaho’s water users.

Lynn Harmon of the Big Wood Canal Company/American Falls Reservoir District #2 received the Ted Diehl Meritorious Service Award. The honor is given to an individual who goes above and beyond in their service to IWUA.

The IWUA presented memorial resolutions for the following six individuals for their work and friendship with the Idaho water community.

- Steven Fenton Russell;
- John C. Andreason;
- Roland Paul Blaser;
- Francis Patrick Hughes
- Governor Cecil D. Andrus; and
- Robbin Walter Finch

More information including award pictures, award and resolution details and bios of the award winners can be found on the IWUA website: www.iwua.org.

The Idaho Water Users Association consists of approximately 300 irrigation districts and canal companies, agri-businesses, public water supply organizations, professional firms and individuals from around the state that manage water supplies for more than 2 million acres of irrigated Idaho farmland.

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