

CONSERVATION-ENVIRONMENTAL-CROP PROTECTION COMMITTEE

SUBSECTIONS:

Cons = Conservation

Env = Environmental

Crop = Crop Protection

Approved 11/18/2025 by Scott Fuhriman, Chair

CONSERVATION

Conservation Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- grower-developed tillage practices and Best Management Practices which are economically feasible to meet conservation plans,
- increasing funding sources that encourage the use of tillage practices to improve air, water, and soil quality,
- Idaho and neighboring states enforcing noxious weed laws and educating the public on noxious and invasive species,
- new funding for conservation practices,
- consistent implementation and interpretation of conservation programs and regulations between Idaho counties and other states,
- the goals and mission of the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission,
- efforts to streamline and consolidate data use and application between government agencies.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will continue

- to monitor all conservation program rules to protect Idaho producers,
- to be a leader in providing grower representatives on agriculture committees at the county, state, and federal levels.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association is opposed

- to conservation dollars funding environmental groups who work against agriculture interests.

Resolution No Cons 1 – Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports wise use of the CRP, CREP, and SAFE programs as natural resource tools. IGPA will work to ensure these programs will be targeted only to environmentally sensitive land. We support CRP and SAFE rental rates being capped at or below 88% of the average county cash rental rate. We support county acreage caps.

Resolution No Cons 2 – Conservation Reserve Program Best Management Practices (BMPs) (2025)

In order to protect surrounding farmland and improve wildlife habitat, the Idaho Grain Producers Association supports enforcement of BMPs on CRP lands to control insects and weeds. We also support the early and late grazing of CRP.

Resolution No Cons 3 – Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports CSP as a consistent, equitable, and fully funded stand-alone program. IGPA also supports CSP as a continuous sign up program.

Resolution No Cons 4 – Conservation Reserve Program Funding (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports cuts to the Conservation Reserve Program and State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) program funding in an equitable percentage to other farm programs.

Resolution No Cons 5 – Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports voluntary, incentive-based conservation as delivered through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, including funding for technical assistance through the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

IGPA urges Congress to maintain and strengthen EQIP in the next Farm Bill, ensuring continued access to technical and financial assistance for producers.

Resolution No Cons 6 – Conservation Early Adopters (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports voluntary conservation practices and early adopters should be rewarded and remain eligible for incentives and payments.

Resolution No Cons 7 – Conservation Easements (2023)

IGPA supports the use of voluntary conservation easements and/or the agricultural protection areas concept to preserve agricultural and open lands.

Resolution No Cons 8 – Sustainable Agricultural Practices (2025)

Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the voluntary use of regenerative and/or sustainable agriculture practices.

ENVIRONMENT

Environment Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- the recovery of salmon using the combination of native and non-native genes and utilization of improved collection and transportation systems,
- increasing efforts to combat predators in salmon recovery efforts,
- current U.S. food safety regulations and opposes stricter regulations that could reduce our ability to compete in world markets,
- substantial reform of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA),
- alternative crop protection products,
- the reduction of non-point source pollution,
- the full authorization and permitting of mines supplying agricultural raw materials,
- modifying the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to take into consideration the economic impact of recovering endangered species.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association is opposed

- to increased state or federal rules regulating dust from agricultural production practices.

Resolution No Env 1 – Crop Residue Disposal (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the use of burning as a Best Management Practice in managing heavy residue for effectively and efficiently eradicating and preventing pests and diseases while maintaining yields, protecting water quality, decreasing chemical use, and decreasing soil erosion on productive farm acres. IGPA continues to support the Idaho DEQ Crop Residue Burning Advisory Board and its use of reasonable and safe air quality standards for determining acceptable burn days.

Resolution No Env 2 – Dam Removal (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association actively supports the dams on the Snake and Columbia River systems.

Resolution No Env 3 – Flow Augmentation (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes mandatory flow augmentation as a method to promote fish habitat and survival.

Resolution No Env 4 – Climate Change (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will monitor climate change policy and support policies that acknowledge agriculture’s critical role in carbon management. Any climate policies must not adversely impact the viability of Idaho grain growers. Furthermore, farmers should be rewarded for their role in carbon management and any program that emerges must be a net benefit. Early adopters should be rewarded and remain eligible for incentives and payments.

Supporting Statement

The evaluation of agriculture’s carbon emissions should take into account the ability of the agricultural enterprise to sequester carbon. Efforts to combat climate change must focus on innovative solutions rather than taxes.

Resolution No Env 5 – Navigable Water (Waters of the United States-WOTUS) (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes removing the term “navigable” from the Clean Water Act and any attempts by Congress or federal agencies to redefine or otherwise make any changes to this term that would negatively impact U.S. agriculture.

Resolution No Env 6 – EPA Chemical Application Permitting (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association urges the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) chemical application permit and process that is flexible, practical, and adheres with current state application programs.

Supporting Statement

IGPA supports exploration into the State of Idaho taking primacy over the NPDES permit process for chemical applications.

Resolution No Env 7 – Endangered Species Designation (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the use of comprehensive peer reviewed studies and scientifically sound data in determining a designation of any species as endangered or threatened.

Supporting Statement

Any determination must also include an analysis detailing the economic impact of such designation on agricultural production within the affected area.

Resolution No Env 8 – Agriculture as a Non-Point Source (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the ongoing designation of crop production practices as non-point sources of pollution. Historically, crop production has been regarded that way under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

Resolution No Env 9 – Pesticide Use (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the safe and effective use of pesticides according to their approved label.

Resolution No Env 10 – Fugitive Emissions (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports production practices that minimize the release of dust and carbon into the atmosphere. We oppose environmental rules and regulations seeking to penalize farmers for fugitive emissions from dust deriving from generally accepted and responsible agriculture practices.

Supporting Statement

The IGPA supports the adoption of Idaho DEQ rules exempting growers from fugitive dust regulations if said growers are in compliance with NRCS guidelines.

Resolution No Env 11 – Invasive Species (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports full funding for Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Invasive Species Program and favors a federal approach to stop invasive species at their source. In its absence, IGPA backs Idaho's current program.

Resolution No Env 12 – Crop Protection (2023)

We support the safe, labeled use of crop protection chemicals and science-based approaches to labeling and registration, including the environmentally safe and efficient chemical glyphosate.

Resolution No Env 12.5 – Weed Management (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the containment, control or eradication of noxious weeds and invasive species and supports private landowners and local, state and federal agencies working to prevent the spread and control of noxious weeds and invasive species on private, state and federal lands.

CROP PROTECTION

Crop Protection Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- the use of science-based data in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's pesticide registration and re-registration process,
- and encourages Congress and the USDA to monitor and ensure that EPA decisions are based on the best available science,
- the Idaho State Department of Agriculture retaining regulatory authority for pesticide use in Idaho,
- working with the Idaho Department of Agriculture to conduct the pesticide licensing and education program,
- emergency use of pesticides as provided under Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA),
- the administration rule change that removes Section 7(a)(2) consultation requirements under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for new chemical registrations,
- continued enforcement of organic standards for certification by the regulating authority,
- the intention and regulations of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

Resolution No Crop 1 – Pesticide Harmonization (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports and encourages continued action on the efforts of stakeholders and other officials to harmonize the rules, regulations, labels, and other provisions governing the use of crop chemicals and inputs across interstate and international borders.

Resolution No Crop 2 – Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the continued authorization and goal of PRIA to create a more predictable evaluation process by the Environmental Protection Agency for affected pesticide decisions and promotes a shorter decision review period for reduced-risk applications.