

MARKETING, GRAIN QUALITY & ENERGY COMMITTEE

SUBSECTIONS:

M = Marketing

GQ = Grain Quality

En = Energy

Approved 11/18/2025 by Tim Freeburg, Chair

MARKETING

Marketing Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports:

- increased federal funding to the U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) and the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) to continue their market development efforts,
- efforts to promote the whole-grain health benefits of wheat, barley, and other cereal grains,
- the development of new agricultural-based industries and technologies that will benefit rural economies,
- the market and trade development programs administered by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and requests their continued cooperation and collaboration with the Idaho Wheat Commission and Idaho Barley Commission,
- continued investment in grain storage and related infrastructure along the Columbia and Snake River System which provides increased economic activity and marketing opportunities for Pacific Northwest grain producers,
- maintaining or increasing funds administered by the USDA for the Foreign Market Development (FMD) and the Market Access Program (MAP).

The Idaho Grain Producers Association encourages:

- the continuation of food aid using agricultural commodities.

Resolution No M1 – World Trade Organization (WTO) (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA) supports the concepts of the U.S. negotiating objectives in the WTO agricultural trade negotiations. IGPA supports U.S. negotiators pursuing a comprehensive trade reform package that addresses market access, export subsidies, state trading, and equalization of domestic subsidies.

Resolution No M2 – Hard White Wheat (HWW) Classification (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports creating separate market classifications for hard white winter wheat and hard white spring wheat.

Supporting Statement

Both Hard White Spring Wheat and Hard White Winter Wheat are currently priced according to the hard red winter wheat market. Quality differences and demand for identity preserved Hard White Spring justifies class distinction. We encourage the USDA to segregate statistics on HWW and soft white wheat (SWW).

Resolution No M3 – General Sales Manager (GSM) Credit Program (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports continued availability of the USDA administered GSM credit program.

Resolution No M4 – Pacific Northwest Wheat Marketing Center Legislative Tours (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association, in collaboration with the Idaho Wheat Commission, supports conducting legislative tours of the Pacific Northwest Wheat Marketing Center.

Supporting Statement

IGPA encourages collaboration with all entities involved with cereal grains for the purpose of industry education and promotion toward key government officials.

Resolution No M5 – Disruption of Federal Grain Inspection Service Weighing & Inspection Services (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association requests that the USDA take all actions necessary to fulfill its statutory obligation to provide official inspection and weighing services at grain export elevator facilities, including prompt replacement of official personnel from other designated or delegated official agencies, or with FGIS official personnel, if a designated or delegated official agency does not provide such service.

Supporting Statement

American farmers, grain handlers, exporters, and foreign customers depend upon accurate, timely, and cost-effective delivery of mandated impartial third-party official inspection services administered by FGIS and its designated and delegated agencies.

Resolution No M6 – US Mexico Canada Agreement (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association strongly supports the USMCA and its renewal, which is extremely important to the agricultural industry, both in Idaho and the United States.

Resolution No M7 – Free Trade Agreements (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports all free and fair-trade agreements, and swift negotiation of agreements to increase agricultural trade.

Resolution No M8 – Food Labeling (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the monitoring of food labeling standards. IGPA opposes state-based food labeling that is not aligned with federal labeling standards.

Resolution No M9 – Plant Breeding Education (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association encourages consumer education on innovative and safe plant breeding practices.

Resolution No M10 – Lifting Trade Embargoes (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association encourages lifting all trade embargoes, tariffs, or sanctions which inhibit the free export of U.S. agriculture products.

GRAIN QUALITY

Grain Quality Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) rules that require grain samples to be maintained for a minimum of 10 days,
- the USDA-FGIS licensing of facilities that can provide official samples for the grain industry,
- regulations that require end-use testing for all future new grain releases,
- the efforts of the Idaho Wheat Commission and Idaho Barley Commission to encourage grain storage that preserves the quality and marketability of Idaho wheat and barley through the development of alternatives to open outside storage,
- the Idaho Wheat and Barley Commissions continuing research, identification, and education of wheat and barley varieties that best suit the needs of end users and producers,
- the Idaho Wheat Commission and the Idaho Barley Commission continuing the crop quality survey,

- the efforts of the Idaho Wheat Commission in educating producers, buyers, and end users with regard to falling numbers issues and the options available to them,
- the mission of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Lab,
- the development of other cereal grain quality standards,
- the responsible use of covered outside storage for Idaho grain in a manner that preserves the export and milling quality of the grain.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes

- the use of oils as dust suppressants,
- the use of malathion or other non-licensed or off-label chemicals in farm-stored grain.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will monitor

- USDA-FGIS rule changes and notify growers of proposed changes,
- dockage charges by grain buyers.

Resolution No GQ1 – Functionality Test (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports timely end-use functionality tests for wheat and barley, including variety development and commercial delivery.

Resolution No GQ2 – Wheat Quality Tests (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports standardized wheat quality tests that are consistent, timely, and reliable.

Resolution No GQ3 – Falling Numbers (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports further research into the causes of low falling numbers.

Supporting Statement

Falling numbers affect the marketability of grain. We need further research into potential environmental and/or genetic causes.

Resolution No GQ4 – Pacific Northwest Wheat Quality Council (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the collaboration with, and goals of, the Pacific Northwest Wheat Quality Council.

Supporting Statement

The Pacific Northwest Wheat Quality Council is a not-for-profit organization comprised of wheat breeders, cereal chemists, producers, marketers, inspectors, processors, and users of wheat. The Council aims to solicit and evaluate advanced-generation wheat breeding lines, thereby providing direct feedback to the merits of individual breeding lines and more general information as to the technical requirements of wheat end-users.

Resolution No GQ5 – Standardized Grain Sampling Method (2025)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports a standardized mechanical probing method for sampling grain in order to reduce human error.

ENERGY

Energy Policy Statement

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports

- economically viable renewable energy sources,
- and promotes utilization of Idaho’s agricultural biomass for industrial uses.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association will monitor

- development efforts for cellulosic ethanol and biofuel.

Resolution No En1 – Utilization of Biomass (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports federal and state incentives for the production and the utilization of Idaho’s agricultural biomass in industrial products.

Supporting Statement

Such utilization would reduce dependence on foreign oil imports, revitalize rural economies, and provide new markets and revenue streams for grain producers.

Resolution No En3 – Private Renewable Energy Development (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes any statewide moratorium on additional renewable energy generation.

Supporting Statement

The IGPA supports private property rights and believes zoning decisions affecting renewable energy sources remain at the local level.

Resolution No En4 – Nuclear Power (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the use of safe, responsible nuclear power.

Resolution No En5 – Power Rates (2025)

Stable power rates are essential for farmers to accurately budget and plan for the production year, thus the Idaho Grain Producers Association opposes any increases in power rates during the agricultural growing season. The IGPA supports growers working collaboratively with utility providers and the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to maintain stable rates and reliable service.

Resolution No En6 – Public Utility Commission Power Rate Changes (2023)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association shall take an active role in challenging future power rate increases for irrigators.

Resolution No En7 – Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (2024)

The Idaho Grain Producers Association supports the mission of the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission in regulating the exploration, drilling, and production of oil and gas resources on private, state, and federal land.

Supporting Statement

Administered by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), the Commission oversees the efficient recovery of oil and gas, the protection of correlative rights, and the protection of fresh water supplies per Idaho law.