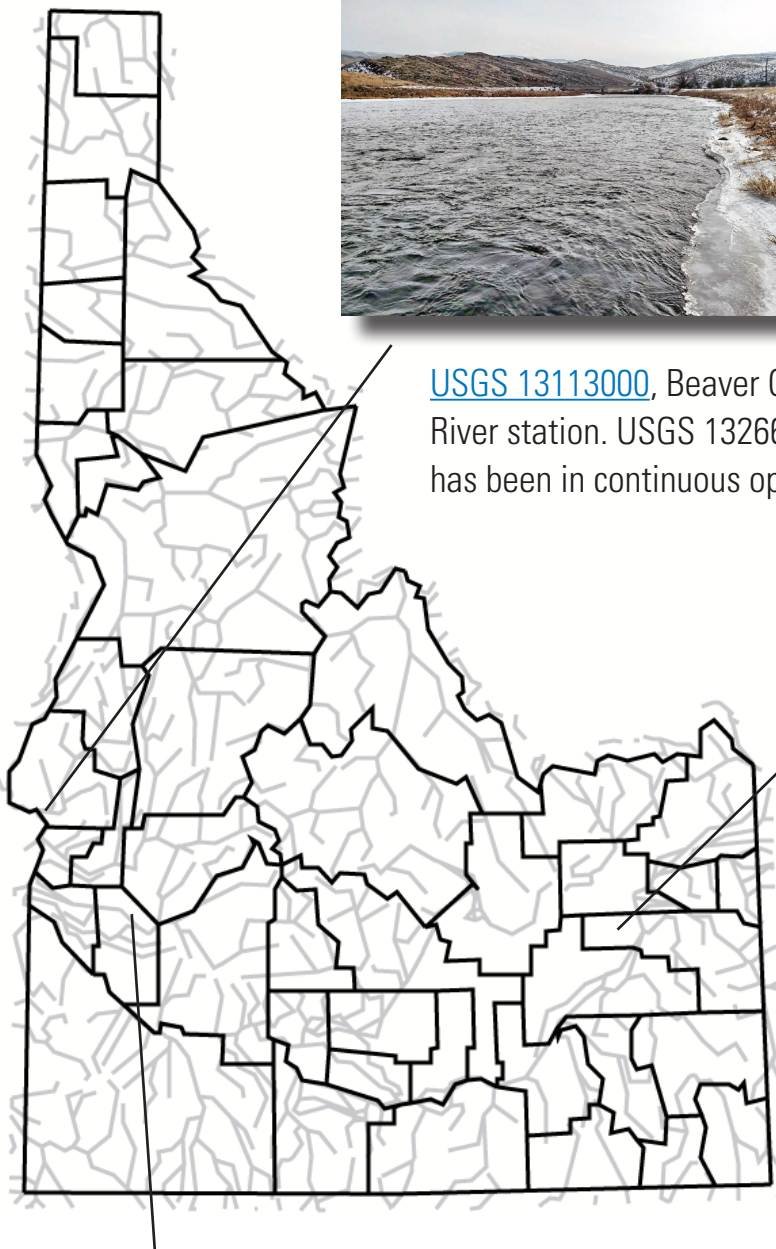


Idaho Hydrologic Update for December 2019



[USGS 13266000](#), Weiser River near Weiser, will continue to operate year-round. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reduced funding for the station, which would have cut the station from year-round to January through June. Instead, we are discontinuing a seasonal station,

[USGS 13113000](#), Beaver Creek at Spencer, to preserve the Weiser River station. USGS 13266600 was established in March 1890 and has been in continuous operation since October 1952.



This month, we are [collecting additional lithologic core samples](#) for paleomagnetic and geochemical analyses. These data can be used to characterize and to correlate successive stratigraphic basalt flow groups that form the eastern Snake River Plain aquifer.



Beginning January 5, Center Director [Kyle Blasch](#) will serve a 120-day detail as the Deputy Regional Director of the USGS's Northwest-Pacific Island Region. [Christian Schmidt](#) will serve as our Center Director during Kyle's assignment.

[More >](#)

Owyhee Canyonlands Streamflow Study Nearing Completion

In 2012, the Bureau of Land Management came to us to help them [define the minimum streamflows](#) necessary to maintain outstanding remarkable features within Wild and Scenic stream segments in the Owyhee Canyonlands wilderness. The remote and rugged nature of the study area meant that many of the streams lacked sufficient streamflow data. It also meant that installing and maintaining standard streamgages was unrealistic. Instead, we collected short-term streamflow data at selected sites and, at other sites, indexed collected data to nearby streamgages to produce synthetic streamflow records and streamflow statistics.



Measuring peak flow on Wickahoney Creek, February 2017 (Photo courtesy Bureau of Land Management)



Packing equipment in to measure Deep Creek, October 2018 (Photo by Connor Molloy, USGS)

Even so, collecting data across the necessary range of hydrologic events was a logistical challenge. Trying to catch peak flows meant keeping one eye on the weather and another on crew availability to mobilize on short notice. BLM and USGS personnel put in many long days of driving, hiking, and kayaking into sites with the necessary equipment.

We published our initial reports in [2013](#) and [2014](#). In 2020 we will be able to fill the remaining data gaps and update the statistics and regression models. Our final report is scheduled to be published in 2021, and we will continue to work with BLM to add streamflow measurements they provide to our [National Water Information System](#) database.

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