

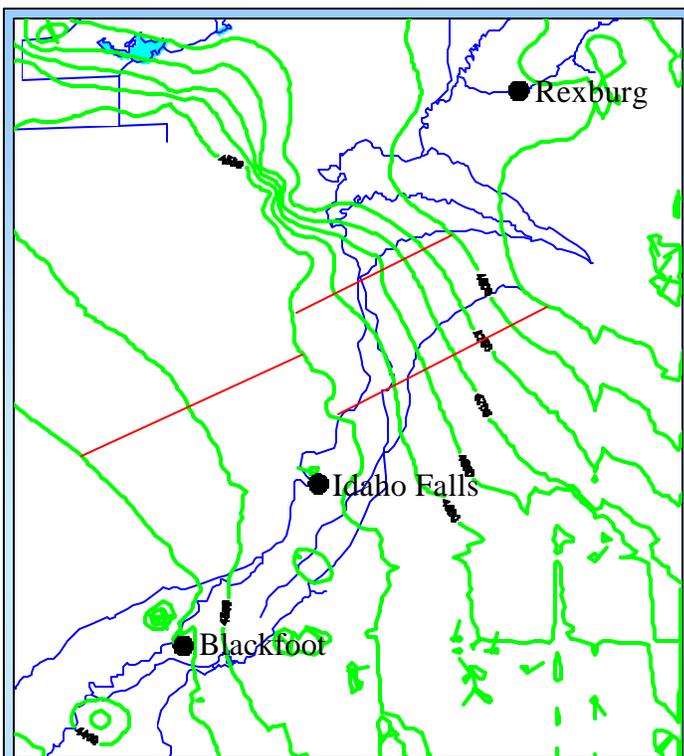
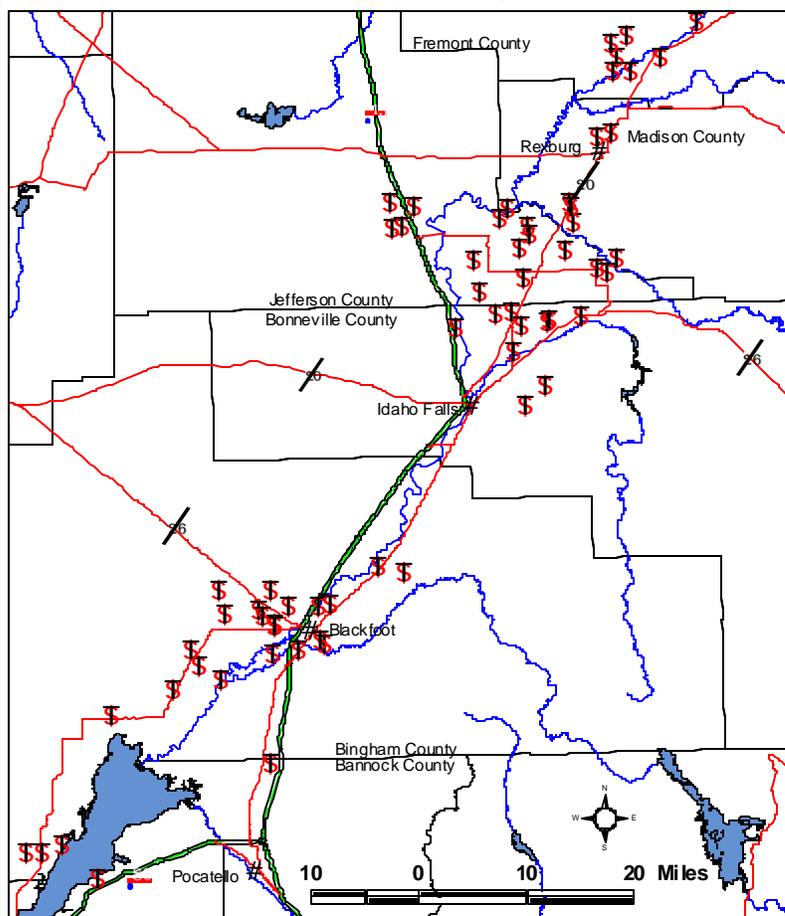
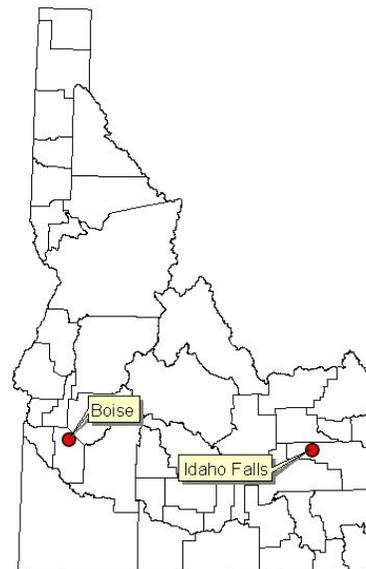


Ground Water Fact Sheet Idaho Falls and Blackfoot area

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This fact sheet summarizes pesticide detections in ground water found by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) in the Idaho Falls and Blackfoot area. Idaho Falls is located in Bonneville County, and Blackfoot is located in Bingham County (refer to map on right).

Idaho Falls and Blackfoot are located within the Eastern Snake River Plain (ESRP). The ESRP geology consists of layered basalt flows, which can reach up to 5,000 feet thick (Rupert, 1998). Large volumes of water can be obtained from the ESRP basalt aquifer from wells and springs (Rupert, 1998). The regional ground water flow direction is to the southwest and is eventually discharged into the Snake River (Rupert, 1998).



The map above shows ISDA well sampling locations of the ESRP Aquifer project. ISDA sampled 64 wells in the project area from 1998 to 2002 for various constituents including pesticides and nitrate. This fact sheet focuses on the wells located between Blackfoot and Rexburg.

During 2001, approximately 1,235 static water level measurements of the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer were taken by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The map above uses the 2001 USGS data to construct ground water flow contour lines, shown in green. The direction of the ground water flow is indicated by the red arrows. Ground water flow is predominately to the southwest.

Before using any pesticide,

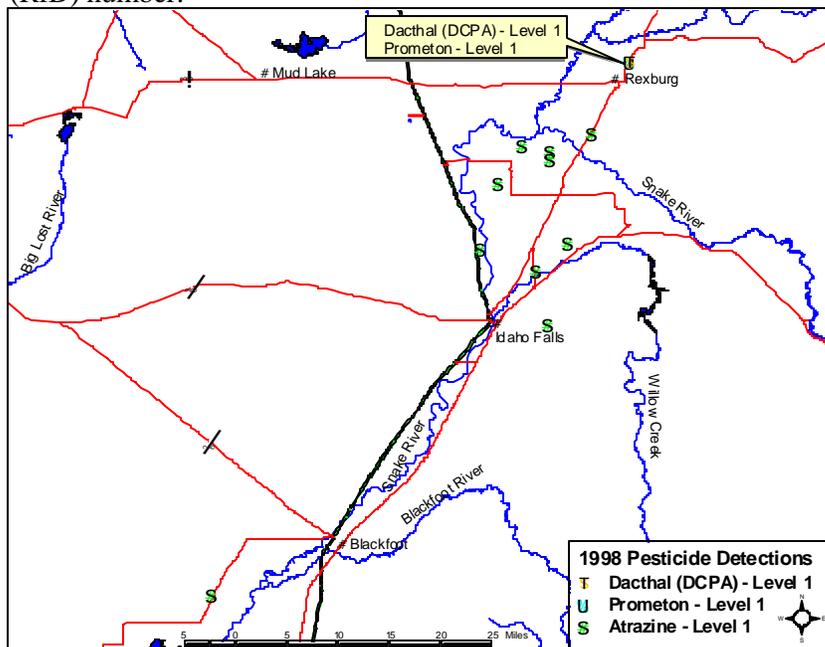


READ, AND FOLLOW THE LABEL!



Idaho Falls and Blackfoot Area Pesticide Detections and Idaho's Pesticide Management Plan

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is the lead agency in developing the *Idaho Pesticide Management Plan (PMP) for Ground Water Protection*. ISDA has the authority to implement pesticide programs through a cooperative working agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Idaho state laws and department rules. The Idaho PMP outlines processes to protect ground water from pesticides and defines pesticide detections based on the concentration of the detection compared to a reference point. A Reference Point refers to health based concentrations. Idaho has adopted the Environmental Protection Agency's Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) in the Idaho Ground Water Quality Rule (1997). Where no MCL exists, the ISDA will use EPA Health Advisories Levels (HAL) first if they exist, and then an EPA Reference Dose (RfD) number.

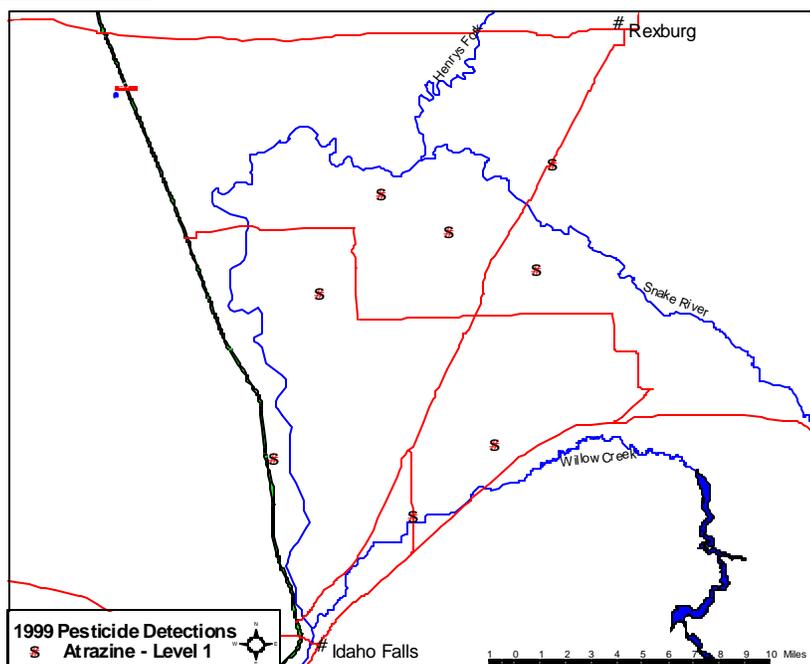


1998 ISDA Pesticide Detections

In 1998, 62 wells in the ESRP aquifer project area were tested for pesticides. The map to the left shows pesticide detections from the 1998 ISDA sampling. Atrazine was detected in 10 wells, and prometon and dacthal (DCPA) were both found in one well located north of Rexburg. All detections were below any health standards set by the EPA or the state of Idaho. All detections are within the level 1 category established by the Idaho PMP, which is a detection that is less than 20% of a reference point. In response to level 1 detections, ISDA will notify and educate well owners, assess historical data, and educate pesticide applicators. **It is important for applicators to follow the pesticide label and for ISDA to continue to work with applicators to protect ground water.**

1999 ISDA Pesticide Detections

Eleven wells in the Idaho Falls area were tested for pesticides in 1999. These wells were chosen because of pesticide detections found in the wells the previous year. The map to the right shows pesticide detections from the 1999 ISDA sampling. Atrazine was the only pesticide detected in 1999, and was found in eight wells. All detections were below any health standards set by the EPA or the state of Idaho. All detections are within the level 1 category established by the Idaho PMP.



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1998. Probability of detection
Atrazine/Desethyl Atrazine and elevated concentrations of nitrate (NO₂ + NO₃-N) in ground water in the Idaho part of the Upper Snake River Basin: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 98-4203, 32p.