
From: Office of the President <noreply@m.uidaho.edu>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2026 6:01 AM
To:
Subject: IWRRI elevating water research across the state

Letter from the President



Office of the President, president@uidaho.edu
March 6, 2026

Dear Vandals,

Whether she's paddling through Payette River whitewater in her kayak or meeting with Idaho policy makers in Boise, Kendra Kaiser's agenda usually revolves around water.

Since joining the University of Idaho as director of the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute (IWRRI) in 2024, Kaiser has continued to build connections with stakeholders around the state and created waves of momentum for water research.

"We want to ensure our water resources are sustained for future generations," Kaiser said. "We're bringing a wide range of people to the table and that's the most important thing we can do to come up with solutions."

As one of 54 water research and technology centers in the U.S., IWRRI partners with the state, public and private organizations to deliver research to water users and managers.

Thanks to funding from the Idaho Legislature, faculty members from the U of I, Idaho State University and Boise State University launched projects exploring water quality, water hazards and water scarcity through IWRRI. This research will support decision-makers across the state to help protect drinking water and recreation, preserve agriculture, safeguard communities and plan for growth.

Working together under a unified research agenda, over 14 faculty members and seven graduate students and post-doctoral researchers are collaborating on research projects. Three staff scientists specializing in hydrogeology, water quality and data analytics joined the IWRRI team to work on high-priority research projects.

“One of our goals is to integrate water data from across the state and support our smaller cities and remote counties with information they need,” Kaiser said. “We need to improve access to water data and we’re excited to work with U of I Research Computing on that.”

The U of I’s water expertise covers everything from irrigation to fish habitat, erosion to hydrologic modeling. Kaiser’s passion for elevating that research intersects with her love of spending time on Idaho’s rivers and lakes.

“In order to make changes in how we use water, we need to talk to the people actually making the decisions,” Kaiser said. “Through our projects, we are engaging with communities to identify specific needs. We’re building strong roots in Idaho.”

U of I research delivers insights into Idaho’s most precious resources. We’re proud to deliver practical water solutions and

partner with the public in making sure our water remains our state's lifeblood for generations to come.

Go Vandals!

C. Scott Green
President



Snapshots

U of I team builds virtual solutions for Micron

Prospective Micron employees can now take virtual tours of the Boise-based company's facilities thanks to a team from the U of I. Led by Professor Jean-Marc Gauthier, the group is developing large-scale virtual projects that include a Micron fabrication facility where semiconductors are manufactured.

[Learn more.](#)

Vandal women earn No. 1 seed for Big Sky tournament

The U of I women's basketball team tied a school record with its 15th straight victory in the regular season finale on Monday. The Vandals beat Eastern Washington 75-64 to clinch the top seed for the Big Sky Conference Tournament in Boise. Idaho will face Weber State or Portland State on Sunday at 11 a.m. Pacific time.

[Learn more.](#)

Volunteer at Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival

The 59th Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival takes place April 22-25 in Moscow and volunteers are needed. No experience is necessary and volunteers receive one free concert ticket for every four hours of service.

[Learn more.](#)

**Did
you?
know**

U of I graduate student Zoe Froh took first place at the statewide Three Minute Thesis competition last month. Froh earned \$2,000 for the win and also took home the People's Choice Award.



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