

## Water Security

Security for the nation's drinking water supply, environmental quality, and the safety of dams and levees is a major element of the U.S. DOE energy and water surety mission. This mission ensures the integrity of these systems in protecting lives and water sources. This vital cornerstone of our daily life is increasingly vulnerable to naturally occurring and deliberate threats from terror groups seeking to disrupt our lives. The MWWI Water Security Program is expanding important research to protect and enhance the nation's drinking water safety and infrastructure.



*Providing the engineering, testing facilities, and water-treatment science for the nation's agencies and organizations responsible for safe drinking water and its supporting infrastructure.*



# Water Security

The Mountain West Water Institute (MWWI) is advancing science and technology to protect the nation's drinking water and its water storage and distribution systems.

MWWI continues to expand its research and development testing and evaluation portfolio for mitigation of environmental impacts associated with water security threats on the nation's population and drinking water infrastructure. For example, as an MWWI partner and in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Idaho National Laboratory (INL) has developed the Water Sample Concentrator that transforms a laboratory-scale sample concentration process into a luggage-sized automated system for use at virtually any location. This concentrator, along with INL and EPA research collaborators, was awarded R&D Magazine's 2009 R&D 100 Award for technical innovation.

MWWI is also leveraging crosscutting collaborations with EPA, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Centers for Disease Control, and the Department of Defense Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense to establish testing infrastructure to conduct independent validation/evaluation of various decontamination protocols and vendor systems capabilities.

Additionally, in support of the DHS mission to protect critical infrastructure in the United States, MWWI provides research and development to address the interrelated energy-water-environment issues for several government agencies. For example, INL has an active role with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to establish protocol and implement in situ, remote sensing tools and environmental data acquisition systems for real-time monitoring of the health of dams and levees as part of the critical infrastructure protection efforts of DHS. These accomplishments and collaborations place MWWI at the forefront of water security research and development.

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### **Web Page**

<http://www.MWWI.org>