

# **Reuse Permitting in Idaho**

**Water Reuse Conference 2010  
Richard Huddleston  
DEQ Wastewater Program Manager**

# How did we get here and who can we blame?

- Pre-1988 No permitting rules but approvals by “DEQ”. Approval requirements in the Water Quality Standards at the time. Still in IDAPA 58.01.16.600, Wastewater Rules.
- 1988 Wastewater Land Application Permitting rules promulgated and guidance developed. Required all existing facilities to be permitted in 1 year. Accomplished by the 6 DEQ regional offices.
- 1992 DEQ reorganized with permitting moved to the State Office. 2 staff.

- 1992 -1993. 3 additional staff added. We wonder how to get from overloaded fields to a land treatment program.
- Fall 1993-1995. Guidance work group established to update Guidance. After 2 years and countless hours and meetings our guidance expanded 10-fold. 120 permits expired.
- 1996 – 2010. Strive for better permits, better land treatment practices, and to eliminate backlog of expired permits. Currently, about 10-12 staff doing inspections, annual report reviews, permits, complaint and technical assistance, enforcement, and additional guidance development.

# NPDES

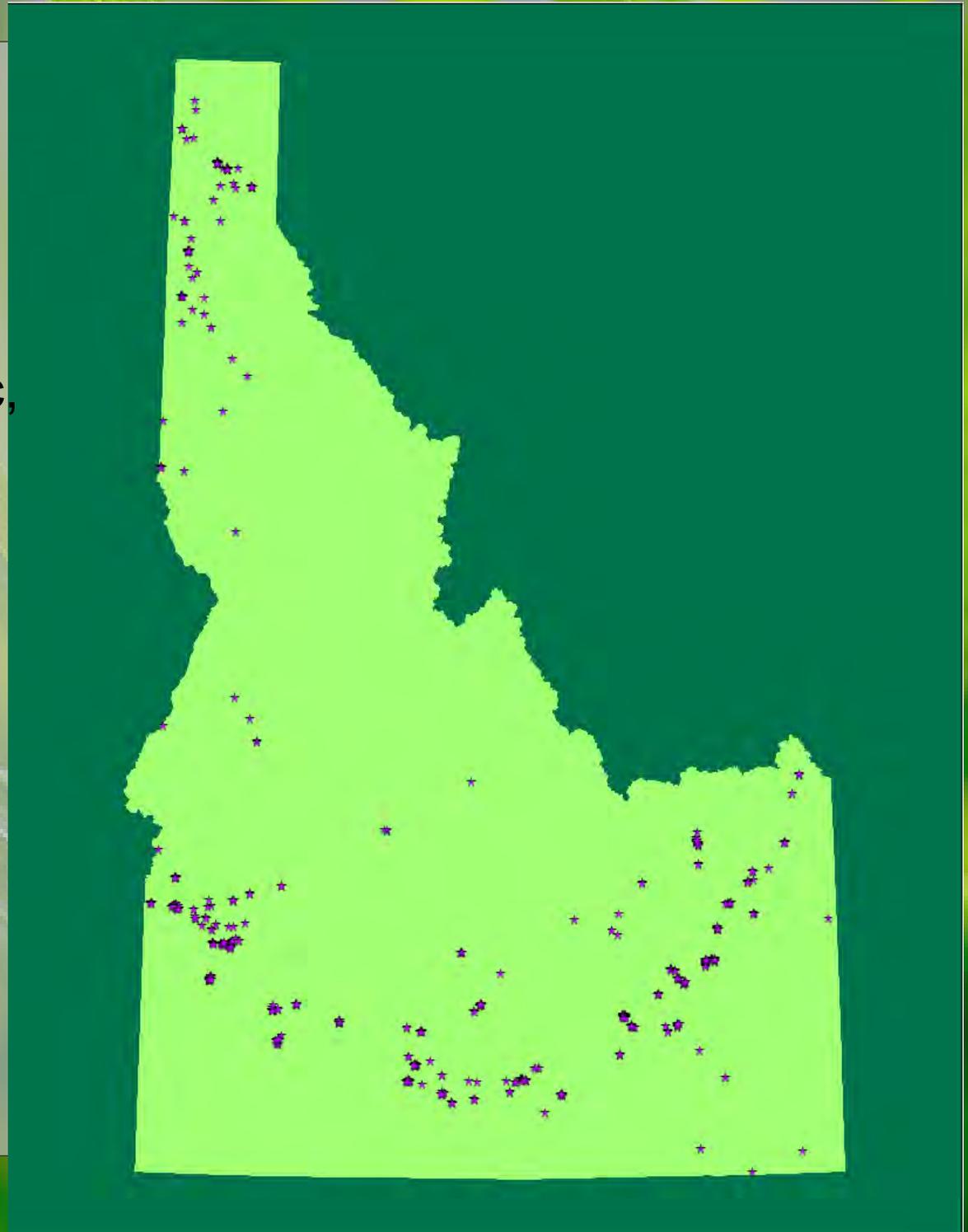
- NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
  - EPA Primacy Program to track and limit pollutants into surface water
- DEQ Reuse Program
  - Idaho Surface Water Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

# Pollutants Eliminated and Reused

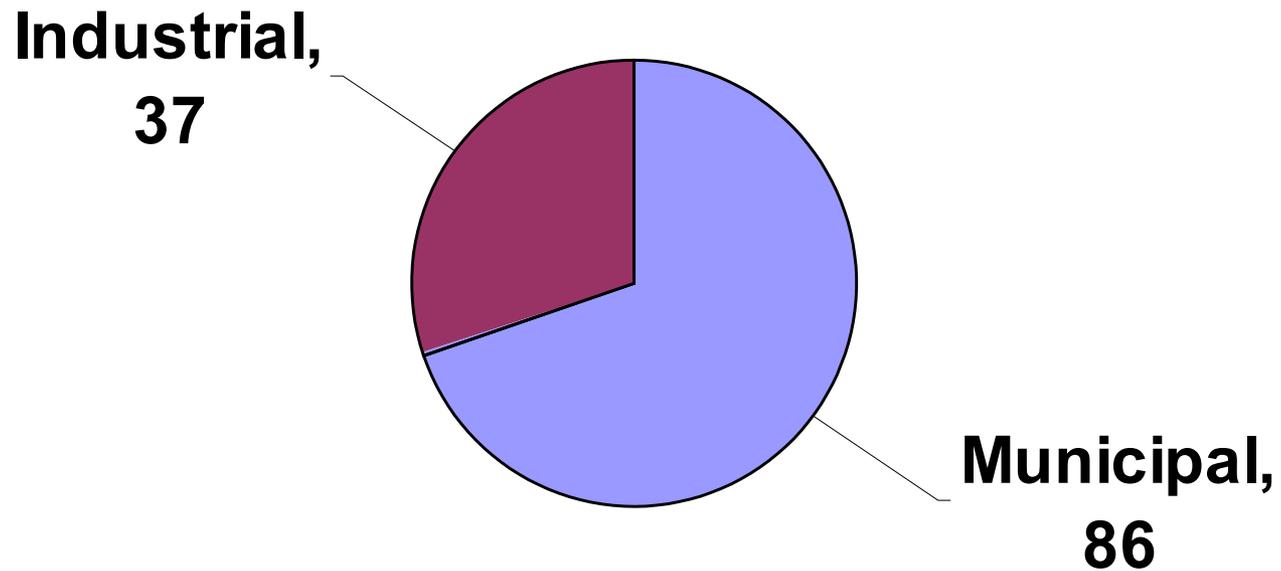
- Nitrogen 5.6 million pounds
- Phosphorus 1.5 million pounds
- COD 146.6 million pounds
- Water 8.5 billion gallons

# Statewide Distribution

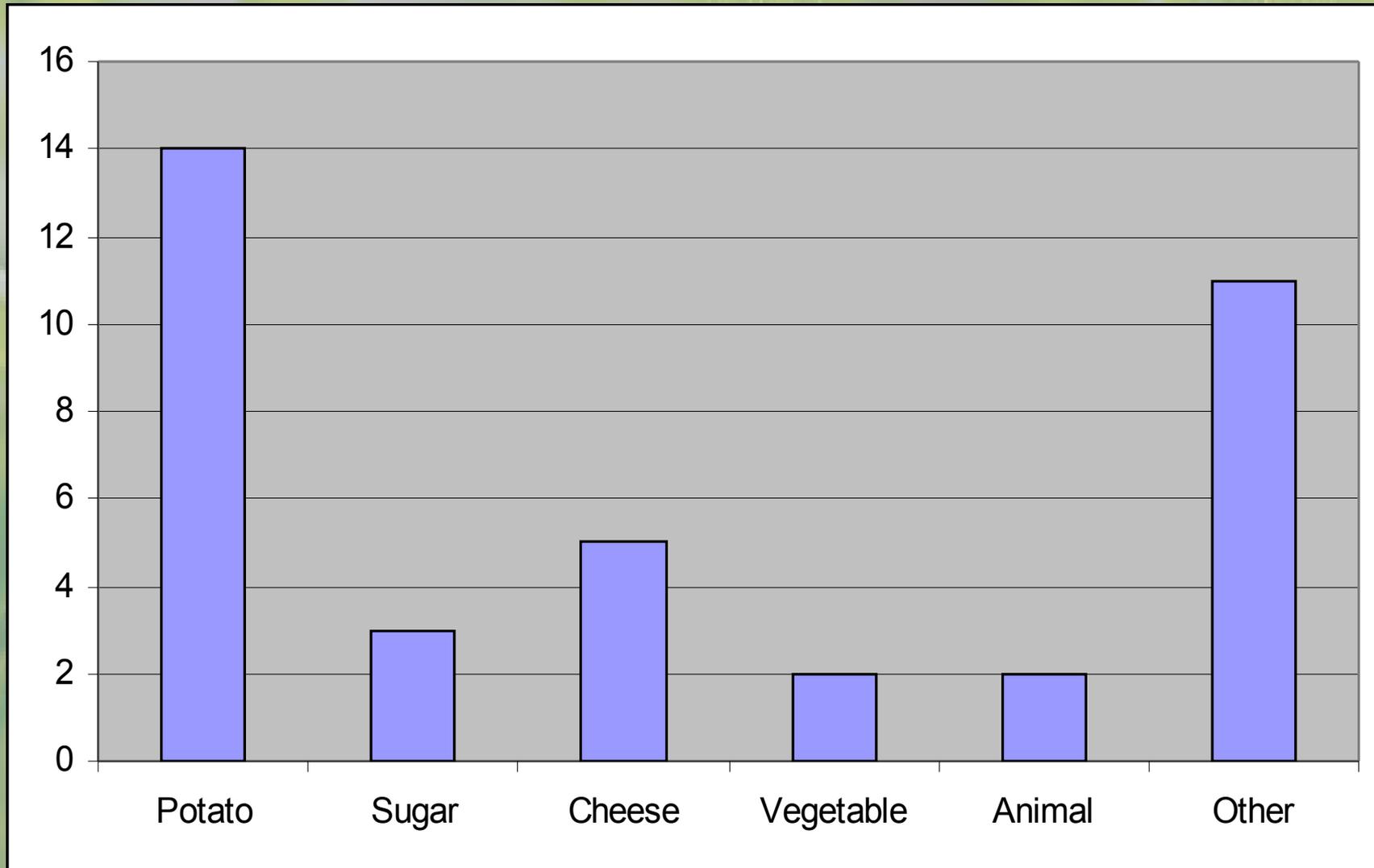
- North Idaho – all domestic, mostly smaller
- SW Idaho – fairly evenly distributed with domestic and industrial (rendering, cheese, sugar beet, onions)
- SC and Eastern Idaho – domestic, potato, cheese, sugar beets, Idaho National Laboratory



# Reuse Permit Types



# Industrial Permits



# Typical Crops

- Grass and Alfalfa
- Native evergreen and poplar trees
- Grains

# Size

- From 1 acre to 2000 acres



11 14:31



OCT 22 2003



GROWSMART

At Life Now

LANDRY









The image features a background of vibrant green grass blades, some in sharp focus and others blurred. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the word "END" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**END**