WHEREAS, Idaho is vulnerable to flood events every year, with the majority of recent presidential disaster declarations in Idaho being caused by this natural hazard; and

WHEREAS, geographical, environmental and historical evidence indicates the state of Idaho continues to be threatened by flood events, many of which have the potential for loss of life and considerable damage to property; and

WHEREAS, the potential for loss of life and damage to property can be greatly reduced if appropriate flood control and flood mitigation measures are taken before, during and after a flood, including the purchase of flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program and adherence to prudent land use planning; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Water Resources, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Bureau of Reclamation, among others, conduct flood hazards research and forecasting, and the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security conducts mitigation actions, provides training programs, coordinates disaster response and informs Idahoans of preparedness measures to lessen the effects of flood events; and

WHEREAS, flood hazard risk, vulnerability and preparedness information can be obtained from the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security and many other State and federal agencies, and this information should be used by Idahoans to prepare their homes and communities throughout the year in order to reduce injuries, loss of life and property damage during flood events, landslides and ice jams; and

WHEREAS, Idaho first responder and emergency management agencies continue to prepare for potential flood events through training, exercises, mitigation and public education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim March 15-19, 2010, to be:

Idaho Flood Safety Awareness Week

and encourage all Idahoans to consider preparing their homes and communities for flood events, and to recognize emergency management, water resource management and predictive agencies, fire department, emergency medical service, law enforcement and building code officials and the important role they play in public safety, everyday and in times of disaster.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 4th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-fourth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred nineteenth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YXJRSA
SECRETARY OF STATE