ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT
Between the Province of British Columbia and the State of Idaho

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and the State of Idaho are committed to ensuring citizens have a consistent and high level of environmental protection; and

WHEREAS the State of Idaho and the Province of British Columbia share extraordinary and unique regional ecosystems seamless to a physical international boundary; and

WHEREAS both governments recognize environmental concerns and impacts respect neither geographical nor political boundaries, and that there is significant benefit in cooperation and collaboration on mutual environmental interests; and

WHEREAS the Ministries of the Province and the Executive Departments of the State wish to work together to share information in regard to respective responsibilities, and may enter into specific cooperative arrangements; and

WHEREAS the increased complexity of many environmental issues, particularly inter-jurisdictional impacts, require coordinated responses from both governments;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Province of British Columbia and the State of Idaho undertake to establish the British Columbia/Idaho Environmental Cooperation Initiative to identify, coordinate and promote mutual efforts to ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of a shared environment, to the benefit of current and future generations.

ACCORDINGLY, the parties will develop an action plan within one year of signing this arrangement that will form the basis of this effort, reflecting mutual priorities. The Parties may also enter into specific arrangements necessary to effectively address shared environmental goals.

DATED ________________________________

This ________ day of September, 2003

__________________________________ _________________________________
Gordon Campbell, Premier             Dirk Kempthorne, Governor
Province of British Columbia          State of Idaho