

DISTRICT COURT
SNAKE RIVER BASIN ADJUDICATION
STATE OF IDAHO



JOHN M. MELANSON
PRESIDING JUDGE
(208) 736-3011
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SRBA CHAMBERS
P.O. BOX 2707
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83303-2707

Dear Water Right Claimant:

To help you with your water right claim(s) in the Snake River Basin Adjudication, this letter of explanation is being sent to you along with information sent by the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). Included are the following important documents which I ask you to please read carefully because they give you the opportunity to save a great deal of time and money:

1. **Preliminary Recommendation.** This is IDWR's *initial* finding and conclusion about your water right and how it should be reported to the SRBA Court. This preliminary recommendation is not filed with the court, but is provided to you to help correct errors or resolve any disagreement you may have over its content. This document has been prepared following IDWR's investigation and may be different than the claim(s) you actually filed.

Therefore, please review this preliminary recommendation carefully to find any errors or disagreements you have with IDWR's findings.

2. **Error Correction/Settlement Process.** This preliminary recommendation is a special service provided to you by IDWR to help you correct errors and resolve any other disagreement you have before the actual recommendations are ultimately filed with the court.

A description of how to work with IDWR is included. Our experience in the SRBA shows that by working in cooperation with IDWR most errors and differences can be addressed before coming into court. It's well worth your time to take full advantage of IDWR's helpful service. If your disagreement cannot be resolved, you will be able to file an objection to IDWR's actual recommendation when it is filed in court and have the final decision made by the Presiding Judge.

This error correction service is an important opportunity for you to work together with IDWR to make sure your water right claim(s) are decreed accurately. There is no cost to you other than your time reviewing the preliminary recommendation and talking to IDWR about any problem you see. Of course, you may always employ the services of an attorney if you wish.

The goal of the SRBA is to see that your water right(s) are decreed by the court as accurately and fairly as possible. It is important to me that this is done efficiently in order to reduce your costs and present you with your decree.

I strongly encourage you to take full advantage of this opportunity to use the fine and courteous services provided by IDWR.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Melanson
Presiding Judge
Snake River Basin Adjudication