



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

322 East Front Street • P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 287-4800 • Fax: (208) 287-6700 • Website: www.idwr.idaho.gov

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

December 4, 2017

JOHN M & KAYE RITCHIE
377 W 150 N
BLACKFOOT ID 83221

RE: Ownership of Water Rights: 35-13993 and 35-13995

Dear Water User,

The purpose of this letter is to request from you confirmation that you remain the holder of title (owner) of portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 currently leased to the Water Supply Bank (Bank). Enclosed with this letter is a map that outlines portions of the above listed water rights that were leased to the Bank by you in 2014. The following summarizes Idaho Department of Water Resources (Department) findings from a recent review of your Bank lease contract for water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995.

In June 2014, the Department received from you applications to lease water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 into the Water Supply Bank through 2018. Water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 authorize diversions of ground water for irrigation purposes. The Department's 2014 review of your lease proposal revealed that irrigation had not ceased across the entire irrigable place of use authorized under water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995. As such, only the portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 that were not irrigated during 2014 were accepted for lease to the Water Supply Bank (refer to the enclosed map).

During 2016, the Department processed an ownership change application for a portion of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995, submitted by Doug and Barbara Hodges. Documentation submitted by the Hodges with their ownership change application indicate that they acquired from you their portion of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 in May 2007, prior to your 2014 Water Supply Bank lease applications. As such, it appears that your 2014 lease of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 included portions of these water rights that no longer belonged to you. Furthermore, per current Bingham County Assessor records, the acres upon which the leased portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 remain appurtenant are also no longer owned by you (see enclosed spreadsheet outlining Bingham County acre ownership records).

The Department is thus seeking from you confirmation of the extent of your current ownership of the portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 under lease to the Water Supply Bank. Please respond in writing to this letter and confirm whether you continue to hold legal title to the portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 leased to the Water Supply Bank, or alternatively, confirm if the portions of these water rights currently leased to the Bank were conveyed by you to the land owners on the enclosed spreadsheet when they acquired from you ownership of the relevant acres.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me at (208) 287-4918.

Sincerely,

Remington Buyer
Water Supply Bank Coordinator

Enclosures: Map – Lease Extent of Water Rights 35-13993 & 35-13995
Spreadsheet – Post Split 35-13993/95 & 35-14468/69

Buyer, Remington

From: Buyer, Remington
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 10:13 AM
To: 'krazykaye@q.com'
Cc: Condon, Mary
Subject: Information Request - Water Right Ownership Confirmation
Attachments: Information Request Letter - John & Kaye Ritchie.pdf

Hello John and Kaye,

Attached to this email is a copy of an information request letter going out by mail today, in which the Department of Water Resources is seeking from you confirmation of the extent of your current ownership of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995. **Please confirm whether you are still the holder of title to portions of water rights 35-13993 and 35-13995 leased to the Water Supply Bank, else, confirm if the leased portions were sold to the owners of the land to which these leased portions are appurtenant.**

You can contact me by email or, at the phone number below if you have any questions about this matter.

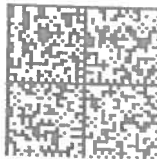
Regards,

Remington Buyer
Water Supply Bank Coordinator
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street, Boise, ID, 83720
T: (208) 287-4918 | F: (208) 287-6700

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
322 East Front Street, P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
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November 22, 2017

JOHN M & KAYE RITCHIE
PO BOX 1068
BLACKFOOT ID 83221

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Remington Buyer
Water Supply Bank Coordinator

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Spreadsheet – Post Split 35-13993/95 & 35-14468/69

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The USDA-FSA Aerial Photography Field office asks to be credited in derived products.

Date: 11/21/2017

