

Director
Department of Water Resources
Northern Region
7600 Mineral Drive, Suite 100
Coeur D' Alene, Idaho 83815
July 15, 2015

RECEIVED

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IDWR / NORTH

Re: Application # 96-9568
Larry and Gail Treiber
P.O. Box 311
Hope, Idaho 83836

I would like to comment on the proposed above application. I am a long term, year around resident of East Hope who lives down the hill from the applicant's property. The small stream that he applicant would like to withdraw water from adjoins my property. Over the years I have immensely enjoyed the benefits of having this stream flowing by. The wild life, such as the deer, use it constantly for a water source and also to eat the abundant watercress and other plants that grow in it and besides it. It also attracts a number of different species of birds that are drawn to its riparian habitat. I also enjoy the aesthetic beauty of watching and listening to the sound of the stream as it continues down the hillside thru the downstream wetland area on its way to Lake Pend O' Reille. I have noticed in the last several years that the summer flow has been greatly reduced. The stream with the exception of some winter/spring water runoff has always been very steady and consistent. This summer has been a dryer summer which we all know. However this year the stream has almost totally dried up for long periods and then it starts flowing some but at a much reduced amount than any other year in my recollection. It is my understanding that the applicant already has in place a diversion system to withdraw water to irrigate/water his lawn. Perhaps it would be possible for the applicant to divert some water to water his lawn, but it should not be to the detriment of the wildlife habitat and other residents of East Hope who also enjoy the beauty of this small stream in our suburban landscape. The CFS applied for was for about 14 gallons per minute. Where this would be a reasonable amount on a larger body of water such as Lake Pend O' Reille or the Pend O' Reille River, it is an excessive amount on such a small stream. The City Of East Hope has a municipal water system which all East Hope residents are connected to. The water is available for household use and to water their lawns or gardens.

I would like the Department of Water Resources to consider the benefits to the wild life and other residents of East Hope in determining the amount of water that can be diverted from this small but important stream. I feel that maintaining a desirable stream flow is in the stream's best interest and hence the interest of the wildlife and residents of East Hope. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Pamela Gray
649 Lakeview
East Hope, Idaho 83836
208-255-8189