



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

900 N Skyline Dr., Ste A, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402-1718

Phone: (208) 525-7161 FAX: (208) 525-7177 www.idwr.idaho.gov

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

February 6, 2014

MERLIN SMITH SR
833 S STOUT
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221

MERLIN SMITH JR
JENNIFER SMITH
399 N 500 W
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221

Re: Transfer No: 78973, 78977, 78980, 78982, 78983, 78984, 78989, 78991
Transfer Approval Notice

Dear Water Right Holder:

The Department of Water Resources has issued the enclosed approved Transfer of Water Right(s). Please be sure to thoroughly review the conditions of approval and remarks listed on the approval document.

The Transfer of Water Right(s) is a PRELIMINARY ORDER issued by the Department pursuant to section 67-5243, Idaho Code. It can and will become a final order without further action by the Department unless the APPLICANT petitions for reconsideration or files an exception and/or brief within fourteen (14) days of the service date as described in the enclosed information sheet.

ANY PERSON aggrieved by any decision, determination, order or action of the Department and who has not previously been afforded an opportunity for a hearing on the matter may request a hearing pursuant to section 42-1701A(3), Idaho Code. A written petition contesting the action of the Department and requesting a hearing shall be filed within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the denial or conditional approval.

If the transfer approval includes a condition requiring measuring and recording devices, such devices shall comply with specifications established by the Department. Detailed specifications are available on the Department's home page on the Internet, or you can request a copy by contacting any office of the Department. Please be sure to thoroughly review the specifications to avoid unnecessary costs for reinstallation or modification due to non-conforming or improperly installed devices.

Please note that water right owners are required to report any change of water right ownership and/or mailing address to the Department within 120 days of the change.

Failure to report these changes could result in a \$100 late filing fee. Contact any office of the Department or visit the Department's homepage on the Internet to obtain the proper forms and instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (208)525-7161.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JC', is written over a faint, larger blue ink signature that is partially obscured.

James Cefalo
Water Resources Program Manager

Enclosure

JC:sc

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on February 6, 2014 I mailed a true and correct copy, postage prepaid, of the foregoing TRANSFER APPROVAL to the person(s) listed below:

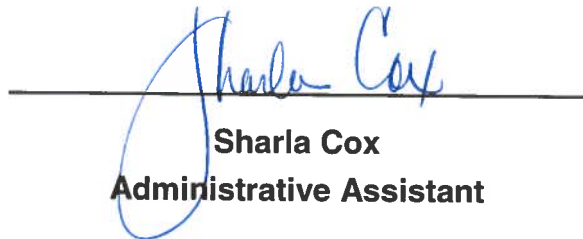
Re: Transfer No.: 78973, 78977, 78980, 78982, 78983, 78984, 78989, 78991

**MERLIN SMITH SR
833 S STOUT
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221**

**MERLIN SMITH JR
JENNIFER SMITH
399 N 500 W
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221**

**JARED HARRIS
266 W BRIDGE
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221**

**WATER DISTRICT 120
900 N SKYLINE DR STE A
IDAHO FALLS ID 83402**



**Sharla Cox
Administrative Assistant**

EXPLANATORY INFORMATION TO ACCOMPANY A PRELIMINARY ORDER

(To be used in connection with actions when a hearing was **not** held)

(Required by Rule of Procedure 730.02)

The accompanying order or approved document is a "**Preliminary Order**" issued by the department pursuant to section 67-5243, Idaho Code. **It can and will become a final order without further action of the Department of Water Resources ("department") unless a party petitions for reconsideration, files an exception and brief, or requests a hearing as further described below:**

PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Any party may file a petition for reconsideration of a preliminary order with the department within fourteen (14) days of the service date of this order. **Note: the petition must be received by the department within this fourteen (14) day period.** The department will act on a petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of its receipt, or the petition will be considered denied by operation of law. See Section 67-5243(3) Idaho Code.

EXCEPTIONS AND BRIEFS

Within fourteen (14) days after: (a) the service date of a preliminary order, (b) the service date of a denial of a petition for reconsideration from this preliminary order, or (c) the failure within twenty-one (21) days to grant or deny a petition for reconsideration from this preliminary order, any party may in writing support or take exceptions to any part of a preliminary order and may file briefs in support of the party's position on any issue in the proceeding with the Director. Otherwise, this preliminary order will become a final order of the agency.

REQUEST FOR HEARING

Unless a right to a hearing before the Department or the Water Resource Board is otherwise provided by statute, any person aggrieved by any final decision, determination, order or action of the Director of the Department and who has not previously been afforded an opportunity for a hearing on the matter may request a hearing pursuant to section 42-1701A(3), Idaho Code. A written petition contesting the action of the Director and requesting a hearing shall be filed within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the denial or conditional approval.

ORAL ARGUMENT

If the Director grants a petition to review the preliminary order, the Director shall allow all parties an opportunity to file briefs in support of or taking exceptions to the preliminary order and may schedule oral argument in the matter before issuing a final order. If oral arguments are to be heard, the Director will within a reasonable time period notify each party of the place, date and hour for the argument of the case. Unless the Director orders otherwise, all oral arguments will be heard in Boise, Idaho.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

All exceptions, briefs, requests for oral argument and any other matters filed with the Director in connection with the preliminary order shall be served on all other parties to the proceedings in accordance with IDAPA Rules 37.01.01302 and 37.01.01303 (Rules of Procedure 302 and 303).

FINAL ORDER

The Director will issue a final order within fifty-six (56) days of receipt of the written briefs, oral argument or response to briefs, whichever is later, unless waived by the parties or for good cause shown. The Director may remand the matter for further evidentiary hearings if further factual development of the record is necessary before issuing a final order. The department will serve a copy of the final order on all parties of record.

Section 67-5246(5), Idaho Code, provides as follows:

Unless a different date is stated in a final order, the order is effective fourteen (14) days after its service date if a party has not filed a petition for reconsideration. If a party has filed a petition for reconsideration with the agency head, the final order becomes effective when:

- (a) The petition for reconsideration is disposed of; or
- (b) The petition is deemed denied because the agency head did not dispose of the petition within twenty-one (21) days.

APPEAL OF FINAL ORDER TO DISTRICT COURT

Pursuant to sections 67-5270 and 67-5272, Idaho Code, if this preliminary order becomes final, any party aggrieved by the final order or orders previously issued in this case may appeal the final order and all previously issued orders in this case to district court by filing a petition in the district court of the county in which:

- i. A hearing was held,
- ii. The final agency action was taken,
- iii. The party seeking review of the order resides, or
- iv. The real property or personal property that was the subject of the agency action is located.

The appeal must be filed within twenty-eight (28) days of this preliminary order becoming final. See section 67-5273, Idaho Code. The filing of an appeal to district court does not itself stay the effectiveness or enforcement of the order under appeal.