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Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

SOUTHEAST REGION

1345 Barton Road
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

C.L. "Butch" Otter / Governor
Virgil Moore / Director

December 5, 2011

Blake Jordan
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region
900 North Skyline Drive, Suite A
Idaho Falls, Idaho
83402-1718

RE: Transfer No.77048 and Application for Permit 13-7783

Dear Mr. Jordan,

This week, my office became aware of and reviewed applications for water right transfer number 77048 and permit number 13-7783. These applications are related through a common applicant and place of use. The application proposes to divert 0.20 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water from the spring source of Whiskey Creek to be used Oct 1 through April 19. This diversion would be used to maintain water level storage of 12.1 ac-feet per year in two artificial ponds. This particular spring is also the source of water for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Grace Fish Hatchery, a major fish production facility. Consequently, we have a keen interest in this proposal. Unfortunately we learned of this application after the November 7 deadline for filing comments. However, it is our hope that these concerns would still be considered in your decision.

Without the opportunity to provide comment on this application before the November 7 deadline, we note our expectation that should this application be approved and subsequent harm to our senior water right is demonstrated, the IDFG will expect that appropriate measures be implemented to assure the delivery of our full water right to serve the needs of the Grace Fish Hatchery.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Jim Mende in the Southeast Regional Office at 232-4703 or via e-mail at jim.mende@idfg.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Gamblin".

Mark Gamblin
Regional Supervisor, Southeast Region

Keeping Idaho's Wildlife Heritage