



James R. Hall
Director

Parks & Recreation
1104 Royal Boulevard
Boise, Idaho 83706-2840

Phone
208/384-4240

Fax
208/384-4127

TDD/TTY
800/377-3529

Web
www.cityofboise.org/parks

Mayor
David H. Bieler

City Council
President
Maryanne Jordan

Council Pro Tem
Alan W. Shealy

Vernon L. Bisterfeldt
Elaine Clegg
David Eberle
TJ Thomson

Boise Parks & Recreation

March 9, 2010

Steve Lester
Water Rights Supervisor
Idaho Dept of Water Resources
2735 Airport Way
Boise ID 83705

RECEIVED

MAR 12 2010

DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

RECEIVED

MAR 15 2010

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

RE: Application for Transfer No. 69327, Water Right No. 63-9276

Dear Mr. Lester,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated February 19, 2010 and received by this office on February 22, 2010. In that letter, IDWR rejects the Department's mitigation plan for the supplemental use of a ground water well at the Warm Springs Golf Course.

This transfer is for a supplemental water use and therefore should not be held to the same standards as a primary right. This water use requires a mitigation solution that is flexible enough to reflect the realities of supplemental use.

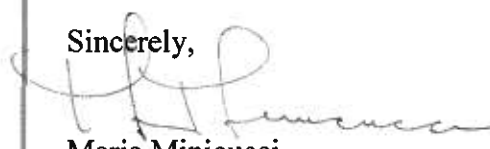
IDWR's concerns about water availability in "short" water years apply to any water user who might not have enough water to get them through the irrigation season. The Department would be in the same position as any other water user if rental water is not available – irrigation would stop when the primary source of water becomes unavailable.

IDWR's proposed solution of a long-term contract for storage water is not acceptable to the Department for a number of reasons. In summation, the Department is not willing to commit taxpayer dollars for a long period of time when IDWR's mitigation policies are in a state of transition and currently based on an unsigned draft memorandum.

The Treasure Valley CAMP will address many of the City's concerns about water use in the Lower Boise. It is anticipated that one outcome of the CAMP will be increasingly accurate measurement of diversions from the Boise River. As surface water users become more efficient in their delivery operations, mitigation requirements can be targeted with specific temporal and spatial goals, rather than the blanket requirements now in place. In addition, we anticipate that the accounting system will begin to take into account the many unlined park ponds that function as unofficial recharge sites, as well as the discharge from the City's waste water treatment facility.

In conclusion, the Department proposes that it purchase Rental Pool water until the CAMP is finalized, when potential mitigation plans can be finalized.

Sincerely,


Maria Minicucci
Property Administrator