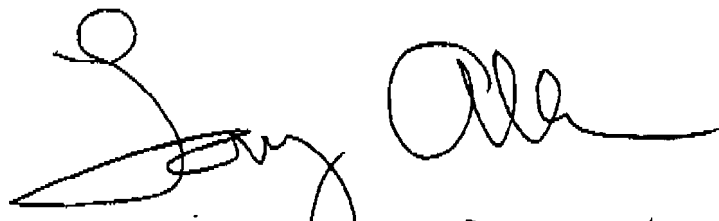


ATT:

ANGIE

GRIMM

THIS IS NEW LETTER
FROM FISH AND GAME.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" written in a more compact, stylized manner and the last name "Allen" written more fully.

LARRY J ALLEN
451-0673
983-2581

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

CLEARWATER REGION

3316 16th Street

Lewiston, Idaho 83501

C.L. "Butch" Otter/Governor

Cal Groen/Director

June 18, 2009

Mr. Larry Allen
8 Mount Idaho and Cemetery Road
Grangeville, Idaho

RE: Draft Application for Approval of Water Appropriation, Revised comments

Idaho Department of Fish and Game visited the site of your proposed expansion of an existing pond from 8 acre feet to 16 acre feet for wildlife and fire protection. The existing pond impounds water in an unnamed tributary to Teepee Creek. We observed that the pond also receives considerable surface runoff and groundwater recharge in addition to the inflow from the intermittent stream.

In our initial comments, IDFG recommended against the proposed expansion of the pond. IDFG generally recommends against permitting construction of ponds that directly intercept stream channels. Small streams, including intermittent streams like the one impounded by your pond, serve many important biological and hydrologic functions that deserve protection. We anticipated that doubling the volume and increasing the surface area of the pond might exacerbate some of those adverse effects.

During the field review, however, you indicated where you would like to expand the pond. It did not appear to us that the surface area would nearly be doubled. The existing pond also supports trout, despite not having been stocked for many years. This indicated to us that water temperatures and other water quality parameters support cold water fish; therefore, we do not anticipate that the additional surface area indicated would have significant impacts downstream. The pond is in the headwaters of the unnamed stream, so the existing dam is not a barrier to fish access to significant additional habitat.

Based on additional information obtained during our field visit, Fish and Game will inform Idaho Department of Water Resources that we have no objections to your proposed expansion of the pond.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact Ray Hennekey, Environmental Staff Biologist, at this office (208-799-5010) if you have any questions regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Cadwallader".

Dave Cadwallader

Clearwater Regional Supervisor

DC/rh/gl

c: Keith Franklin, IDWR CDA
John Cardwell, DEQ Lewiston
Sharon Kiefer, IDFG HQ

Keeping Idaho's Wildlife Heritage

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