



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1118 F Street • Lewiston, Idaho 83501 • (208) 799-4370

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Toni Hardesty, Director
RECEIVED
APR 29 2008
IDWR/North

April 25, 2008

Mr. Tom Larson
3335 North Ave. W.
Missoula, MT 59804

RE: Comments, Application for Approval of a Water Appropriation

Dear Mr. Larson:

We received your request for comment along with a copy of your application describing your intent to apply for a water appropriation permit to withdraw 0.10 cfs or 5 acre feet per annum from a spring tributary to Papoose Creek. The water will be collected with a funnel and hose to fill a 500 gallon tank truck from May 1 to November 30 annually for drill water for mineral exploration and mining. Assuming all federal, state and local permits have been obtained, regulations met, and reviews completed, we offer the following comments.

In the Idaho Water Quality Standards, Papoose Creek is included in waterbody ID 17060303CL0041. This water body ID is listed in section 2 of Idaho's 2002 Clean Water Act Integrated Report as fully supporting most beneficial uses including aquatic life and contact recreation.

DEQ agrees that the withdrawal of 0.10 cfs should not impact water quality of the spring and Papoose Creek. At no time however, should the proposed action be allowed to impair the existing aquatic life and contact recreation beneficial uses of Papoose Creek.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your application. If you have any questions regarding the Idaho Water Quality Standards, please call us at (208) 799-4370.

Sincerely,

Kerby M. Cole, P.E.
Regional Administrator

CC: Keith Franklin, IDWR
Ray Hennekey, IDFG
Marti Bridges, IDEQ