

John Westra



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

322 East Front Street • P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 287-4800 • Fax: (208) 287-6700 • Web Site: www.idwr.idaho.gov

C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

DAVID R. TUTHILL, JR.
Director

December 18, 2007

Director Cal Groen
Idaho Department of Fish & Game
600 S Walnut PO Box 25
Boise Idaho 83707

RECEIVED

DEC 19 2007

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

RE: Roswell Marsh- 9/19/07 Letter

Dear Director Groen:

I would like to respond to your 9/19/07 letter that addressed securing water source options for Roswell Marsh. After discussions with my staff at the Western Regional office, I would recommend one or a combination of the following water source processing options:

Ground Water

Your agency filed a ground water application for permit #63-32185 (3 wells) as a potential source for the marsh in 2005. Due to a variety of reasons, the application was placed on a "hold" status. Applications for new consumptive uses of ground water in the Boise River Basin have been held by our agency since 1996 because of aquifer level and reduced natural river flow concerns. However, with the completion of the Treasure Valley Ground Water Study and the Snake River Basin Adjudication, we will begin limited processing of "held" applications starting in 2008. If desired, your application could be included in the limited processing.

Surface Water

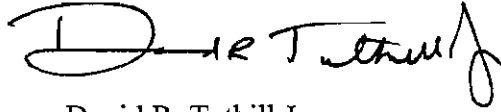
There is surface water available for new appropriations from the Boise River downstream of Star Bridge. If a point of diversion and conveyance to the marsh can be established, staff can routinely process an application from this source.

Existing Water Rights

An existing surface or ground water right(s) could be moved to the marsh through the water right transfer process. The elements of the moved water right can also be changed to reflect wildlife use and fall/winter diversion by this process.

I am hopeful that one of the above processes will successfully secure a water source for your project. Please contact John Westra at our Boise Regional Office for additional specifics and application processing timeframes, phone 208-334-2190.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Tuthill Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David R. Tuthill Jr.
Director

Cc: S Reinecker; J. Westra
Cc Address:

Scott Reinecker
Idaho Department of Fish & Game
3101 S Powerline RD
Nampa ID 83686