



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1118 F STREET • LEWISTON, IDAHO 83501 • (208) 799-4370

JAMES E. RISCH, GOVERNOR
TONI HARDESTY, DIRECTOR

March 30, 2007

Mr. Gregg N. Teasdale, Ph.D., P.E.
Teasdale Environmental Associates
P.O. Box 446
Genesee, ID 83832

RE: Water Right Application

Dear Mr. Teasdale,

DEQ has received your information and request for our comments on the approval of the application to appropriate water from French Creek in the Salmon River basin for a small private hydropower project. 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, the French Creek water body identification number is 17060209SL023. This segment of French Creek is listed in section 3 of the 2002 Integrated Report and is not assessed.

We agree that the USGS flow estimation for this section of French Creek is significant enough that diverting 2.0 cubic feet per second should not impact the water quality of the creek. At no time however, should the proposed action be allowed to impair existing beneficial uses of French Creek. Stream flow adequate to sustain existing aquatic life shall be maintained at all times.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kerby M. Cole". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kerby M. Cole, P.E.
Regional Administrator

CC: Keith Franklin, IDWR
Ray Hennekey, IDFG

RECEIVED

APR 04 2007

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION