



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

SOUTHWEST REGION
McCALL OFFICE
555 Deinhard Lane
McCall, Idaho 83638

C.L. "Butch" Otter / Governor
Cal Groen / Director

April 10, 2007

Mr. Dan Nelson
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Western Region
2735 Airport Way
Boise, ID 83705-5082

RE: Water Right Application # 78-12291

Dear Mr. Nelson;

We have been contacted by Linda Schweich regarding a new application for an irrigation water right on the Little Salmon River (LSR). The proposed location was approximately two miles south of the town of Riggins. The stated withdrawal amount was 0.2 cfs and 1 acre foot per year pumped from the river for irrigation.

The LSR is an important anadromous resource for the citizens of Idaho, annually several million hatchery smolts pass by the proposed intake site. The section of the LSR where the proposed diversion lies is not in an anadromous spawning area but fry could be present. If the intake is screened with 3/32 inch mesh opening (NOAA Fisheries standard) we will not protest the application. The Department has a program to assist with fish screening in anadromous waters and the local contact in Riggins; is Fritz Kettenburg at (208) 628-3404. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to install and maintain the fish screen in functioning condition.

If you have further questions or need further information please contact Dale Allen, Regional Fishery Manager in McCall at (208) 634-8137.

Sincerely,

Scott Reinecker
Southwest Regional Supervisor

SR/da

Cc: Linda Schweich

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WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

Keeping Idaho's Wildlife Heritage