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JUL 11 2005

Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY

921 North Lincoln • Jerome, Idaho 83338 • (208) 324-2319

29 June 2005

Larry Pennington
North Side Canal Co.
921 North Lincoln
Jerome, Idaho 83338

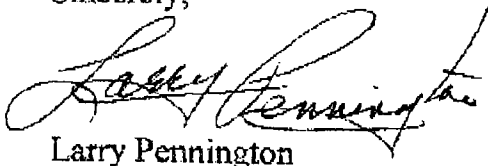
Steve Thompson
District Conservationist
820 Main
Gooding, Idaho 83330

Dear Steve:

This letter is in support of the project on the end of the our W canal that ends at Malad State Park, where the excess delivery water will replace spring water in the irrigation of land below the canyon rim.

Presently any delivery water in excess of our needs enters the Park and flow into the Malad River. As we have discussed earlier, most of the excess flow will occur in the early and late portion of the delivery season. The North Side Canal Co. usually delivers water from 15 April to 15 October -- this season may vary dependent upon the yearly water supply.

Sincerely,



Larry Pennington



DIRK KEMPTHORNE
governor

Robert L. Meinen
director

Dean Sangrey, Administrator
operations division

David Rickert, Administrator
management services division

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION**

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street address
5657 Warm Springs Avenue

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June 13, 2005

Todd Maguire, State 319 Coordinator
Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, ID 83706-1255

RE: W Drain Project, Gooding Soil Conservation District

Dear Mr. Maguire,

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) is writing this letter in support of the W Drain Project proposed at Malad Gorge State Park and surrounding area. This cooperative effort will utilize wastewater currently spilling into the Malad River to satisfy irrigation needs as well as the potential to improve the areas water quality. Additionally, IDPR believes that these water features will enhance wildlife habitat and provide for recreational benefits.

It is our understanding that the overall funding of this project will be from three sources:

- Water Quality Planning for Agriculture (WQPA)
- Private landowners
- 319 funds

Furthermore, IDPR intends to develop a maintenance agreement for these improvements prior to construction.

A site visit needs to be scheduled with all parties to discuss the location and size of the ponds. Ultimately, IDPR will need to approve the engineering plans and time frames for construction. It will be important to consider appropriate times for construction that does not interfere with park visitation and that the design contributes to the recreational effectiveness of the park.

The ponds will be developed to improve habitat with vegetative plantings and be accessible to the public for recreation. Future development of the park may include a campground and day use opportunities adjacent to the ponds. IDPR believes that the pond environment will provide added value to the public during their visit to the park. IDPR would also like to interpret this project to visitors to raise public awareness of the importance of water quality.

IDPR appreciates the opportunity to be involved in this project. Our contact for this project is Lonnie Johnson, Park Manager at Thousand Springs State Park. Lonnie can be reached at (208) 837-4505.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Meinen, Director
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

Cc: Lonnie Johnson, Park Manager
Steve Frost, South Region Manager
Stephen Thompson, District Conservationist

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
820 Main Street, Gooding, ID 83330-6155
Telephone: 208-934-8481 FAX: 208-934-4327

Date: June 13, 2005

To: **Department of Environmental Quality**
Attn: Todd Maguire
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

This correspondence is to certify that the USDA-NRCS field office, located in Gooding Idaho is assisting the planning and implementation effort of the W Drain project. This project will enhance surface water quality to the Mid-Snake River region in addition to benefiting a small component of the current water quantity issues under discussion. Energy savings is another resource savings which will also receive benefits.

The goal of this project is to eliminate nutrient impacted waters from returning to the surface water system. This will be accomplished by exchanging this water for pristine spring waters which will be allowed to flow to the surface system. The canal water will utilized to create habitat within the State Park and applied on pasture and cropland which is in alignment with the assigned beneficial use of the water.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen N. Thompson".

Stephen N. Thompson
District conservationist



MID-SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP

601 Pole Line Rd, Ste #2
Twin Falls, ID 83301
Phone (208) 736-2190
FAX (208) 736-2194

February 7, 2005

Todd Maguire, State 319 Coordinator
Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

RE: W Drain Project: Gooding Soil Conservation District

Dear Mr. Maguire:

On behalf of The Mid-Snake Watershed Advisory Group, I would like to extend the WAG's support for the above-named 319 project. The WAG has reviewed the presentation and has concluded that it meets the criteria as a surface water protection project for The Upper Snake Rock Management Plan.

This project has the potential to greatly reduce the amount of sediment being introduced into the Snake River. A drain that now flows into the Malad River will be put into a wetland complex on the Malad State Park and during the irrigation season used as irrigation water in the Hagerman Valley area.

As a part of our support, we fully intend to review the project on an annual basis.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Larry Pennington, Chairman
Mid-Snake River Watershed Advisory Group

cc: Mike Etcheverry, Implementation Coordinator DEQ

LP/ME/lp



Gooding Soil Conservation District
211 University Ave. - Gooding, ID 83330-6155 - Phone (208) 934-8481

Date: February 2, 2005

To: **Department of Environmental Quality**
Attn: Todd Maguire
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

This correspondence is to certify that the Gooding Soil Conservation District, located in Gooding Idaho, is sponsoring the planning and implementation effort of the W Drain project. This project will enhance surface water quality to the Mid-Snake River region in addition to benefiting a small component of the current water quantity issues under discussion. Energy savings is another resource savings which will also receive benefits.

The goal of this project is to eliminate nutrient impacted waters from returning to the surface water system. This will be accomplished by exchanging this water for pristine spring waters which will be allowed to flow to the surface system. The canal water will utilized to create habitat within the State Park and applied on pasture and cropland which is in alignment with the assigned beneficial use of the water.

Sincerely,

Bob Bolt,
Gooding SCD

Date: 1/25/05

To: Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Todd Maguire
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

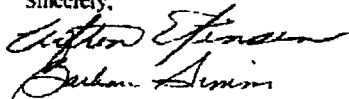
Dear Sir:

I am writing to express my dedication and intent to complete the W- drain project. This project has multiple benefits addressing energy savings, water quality, water quantity and habitat development within the State Park.

Partnerships have been formed with private landowners, State and Federal agencies and corporations to the benefit of the private and public interest.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Clifton E. Jensen
17825 A US Highway 30
Bliss, Id. 83314

Barbara Simms
17816 US Highway 30
Bliss, Id. 83314
