



June 3, 2005

Alan Merritt
Idaho Department of Water Resources
1341 Fillmore Street, Ste. 200
Twin Falls, ID 83301-3380

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Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

Subject: Woodside School water rights

Dear Allen,

Thank you for your call yesterday regarding Application for Permit 37-2117 and the transfer of a portion of water right 37-11379. The purpose of this letter is to respond to your questions regarding priority dates and diversion rates.

Application for Permit 37-2117 was submitted to irrigate seven acres at the Woodside School. If the transfer of five acres irrigation water from water right 37-11379 is approved, two acres of irrigation at the Woodside School will be mitigated by leaving a portion of water right 37-21114 (currently diverted via the Hiawatha Canal) undiverted in the Big Wood River. We recognize that water rights 37-11379 and 37-21114 have different priority dates (July 27, 1972 and March 24, 1883, respectively). We understand that a priority call that includes the July 27, 1972 date could require that the Blaine County School District cease irrigation on a five-acre portion of Woodside School area (or to provide alternative mitigation).

Water right 37-11379 lists a maximum diversion rate based on 0.038 cfs per acre. Application for Permit 37-2117 requests a maximum diversion rate of 0.02 cfs per acre. We would like to request that the maximum diversion rate for Permit 37-2117 be raised to 0.038 cfs per acre. This will (1) allow a consistent application rate over the entire Woodside School irrigated area and (2) enable irrigation during a nighttime-only period. Irrigation during nighttime hours will allow use of the playground area during daytime hours.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Christian R. Petrich, Ph.D., P.E.
Principal Engineer/Hydrologist

CC: John Gaeddert
Jim Speck
Terry Scanlan

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