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Department of Water Resources

May 16, 2005

**Mr. Shelley Keen
Water Rights Supervisor
Department of Water Resources
Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720**

Dear Mr. Keen,

I really appreciate the opportunity to visit with you concerning the water right situation on the Jevne Ranch at Carey, ID. It is great to be able to visit with people and share views and information about things, especially items of such significant impact to the ranch.

As I told you on the phone, I grew up as a dry land farmer in ND and met Darlene through my brother. My son has learning disabilities and Darlene worked with us on his program. My son is a college graduate and works for a pharmaceutical firm. So, I am pleased to have found someone as good as she is. I live in Billings and go to the ranch at least six or seven times a year as well as spending all of July there with the summer program.

I have been working/playing at the ranch since 1992 and enjoy every minute of it. I am extremely familiar with the ranch and especially the irrigation setup. Nothing makes you more familiar than starting up the system each spring and closing it down each fall. In addition, a number of times we were without an irrigator during the season and I got to pinch hit in the actual field work. My son, Chad, also spent part of the summer of 2001 working the pipes at the ranch.

I will be going to the ranch this weekend and get material for you to view concerning our setup. I will put together a packet of this information including pictures, drawings, letters attesting to our situation, and other materials as needed. I expect it to take two weeks. I will FedEx the materials to you as soon as I can.

Again, thanks for your help. Also, if you know of any young individuals who might want to attend the summer program, let me know as we still have a couple of openings. The camp runs from July 7 thru July 28 and is a wonderful experience.

I look forward to working with you and your department on this matter.

Sincerely,


**Allan Smetana
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Billings, Mt. 59105
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