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July 25, 2002

RECEIVED
JUL 26 2002
Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

Allen Merritt
Idaho Department of Water Resources
1341 Fillmore Street, Suite 200
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-3380

Re Bill Jones's diversion on Almo Creek/Raft River

Dear Mr. Merritt;

Thank you for going out to look at Jones's diversion on July 22. One thing that I'm not sure that you looked at with us was when Bill asked me what I meant when my letter said that water was leaking through the dam by the pump. Rod and I looked behind the dam at the water which was there and Rod assured me that that was Raft River water, not water leaking through the dam. As you can see in this photo, when there is water in Raft River it goes up through the dam into the area where the pump is.



The pump shuts itself off when it runs out of water and the pressure drops, so it would continue to pump if water were coming into it from Raft River. Raft River's water level would rise quite a bit if there were a significant stream flowing in it because of the restriction in the channel which causes the ponding which can be seen in the photo. Therefore there is a great possibility that they take Raft River water whenever it is available. I still find it hard to believe that this is a water right which pertains to the Almo Creek decree referred to in the Jobe Adams decree, considering the distance between the pump or even the recommended POD and the real decreed water rights on Almo Creek.

Again, thank you for your fast response the other day.

Sincerely,


DAVE SUNDBERG