



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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SOUTHERN REGION

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

August 13, 2004

Dave Parrish
Idaho Department of Fish & Game
868 E Main Street
Jerome, ID 83338

Dear Mr. Parrish:

The Department currently has a package of several pending transfer applications involving groundwater rights or Big Wood River water rights that are used to irrigate land located north of Hailey. Three of these applications involve proposed changes in points of diversion that involve moving points of diversion further up the Big Wood River drainage. The Department is currently processing these applications and would like to solicit comments from the Fish & Game regarding impacts that these proposed changes may, or may not, have on fish and wildlife resources. The applications have not yet been advertised and any submitted comments will not impact the ability to protest the applications at a future date if desired.

These three transfer applications, assigned numbers 69269, 69272, and 69308, can be summarized as follows...

Transfer #69269, filed by Riverview-Cloverly Irrigation Inc proposes changing the recorded place of use and point of diversion of portions of water rights 37-521, 37-522, and 37-523. The change in place of use consists of modifying the recorded place of use on the historically irrigated lands (more or less a paper change to reflect historical practices). However, the proposed change in point of diversion consists of changing the location from the Purdum #25 head gate located just south of the Deer Creek Road (along the north edge of Section 32, Township 03 North, Range 18 East) to the head of the Purdum Slough located approximately 1.3 miles to the north. Essentially, the transfer proposes moving the point of diversion from the current headgate from the slough, to the head of the slough, approximately 1.3 miles further upstream. The enclosed memo provides more detail regarding this proposed change in point of diversion.

Transfers #69272 and #69308 propose changing the recorded place of use and point of diversion of 1.0-acre portions of water rights 37-521, 37-522, and 37-523. These two applications propose changing the place of use from land in the SENW of Section 32

(T03N, R18E) to land located in Section 07 (03N, R18E). In addition the applications propose changing the point of diversion from the Purdum #25 head gate located just south of the Deer Creek Road (along the north edge of Section 32, Township 03 North, Range 18 East) to pumps located in a side channel of the Big Wood River in Section 07 (03N, R18E). Basically, the applications each propose moving 0.06 cfs (total for rights 37-521, 37-522, and 37-523) used to irrigate 1.0 acre of land approximately 3.5 miles up the Big Wood River drainage.

If possible, the Department would like to review and consider your agency's comments before continuing processing the applications. I have enclosed copies of the applications for your reference. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corey Skinner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a stylized "S".

Corey Skinner, PE
Water Resource Engineer

Enclosures

cc: Charles G. Brockway