



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

June 10, 2004

WALTER J WATKINS
HC 79 BOX 2105
OREANA ID 83650

RE: Water right number(s): 57 7655

Dear Water Right Holder(s):

The purpose of this letter is to notify you in advance that present drought conditions in Eastern Idaho may result in the flow of the Snake River falling below the minimum stream flow of 3,900 cubic feet per second ("cfs") established by the Swan Falls Agreement at the Murphy gage on the Snake River. Your water right bears a later priority date than July 1, 1985, the priority date for the minimum stream flow. As a result, if the flow falls below 3,900 cfs, the department will send you another letter advising you to cease diversion of water.

This notice is being provided so that you have advance warning to make arrangements to minimize impacts to growing crops or other loss that could occur if your water diversion is curtailed. Such arrangements may include temporary transfers as provided under Section 42-222A, Idaho Code, for areas declared a drought emergency. Declaration of a drought emergency can be initiated by petition of the Board of County Commissioners to the director of this department subject to approval by the Governor.

There are many variables that affect stream flows in the Snake River. Normally, the flows in the Snake River at Murphy gage are lowest during June and July.

Information about your water right can be found on the department's website at the following address: <http://www.idwr.state.id.us/apps/ExtSearch/SearchWRAJ.asp>. Real time flow data for the Murphy gage can also be found at the following address: <http://www.idahopower.com/riversrec/waterlevels/streamflow/showgraph.cfm>

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the department.

Sincerely,

Gary Spackman
Water Allocations Bureau Chief