

MEMORANDUM

TO: TIM LUKE AND RON CARLSON

FROM: NORM YOUNG

RE: BEAR RIVER CENTRAL DIVISION ADMINISTRATION

DATE: APRIL 21, 2001

This memorandum is a follow up to our discussion about the work that needs to be done this spring to address the issues raised at the Bear River Commission meeting this week. Representatives from Wyoming expressed their belief that inaccurate/inadequate measuring and reporting of diversions and out flow in Idaho has reduced the allocations Wyoming rightfully should have under the Compact. The department and watermaster have the responsibility to assure that timely measurements are made with accuracy and that the results are faithfully reported to the Commission's Engineer/Manager. Idaho agreed to take the following actions to meet Wyoming's concerns:

1. Work with the USGS to determine if a better location can be found for the "Border" gauge. The channel section at the present location changes because of silt deposition during the season requiring frequent measurement to adjust the stage/discharge curve. If a better location can be found nearby, the gauge will be move. We expect the USGS representative to contact Hal Anderson to set a field visit. If Hal wants participation from our Division, he will notify us of the date and time.

2. All headgates and measuring devices for diversion in Idaho from Bear River in the Central Division will be checked to determine if the flow can be controlled and accurately measured. If repairs/replacements are needed, IDWR will seek prompt action from owners. Tim Luke will take the lead to arrange a field inspection involving Pete Peterson and IDWR regional office staff as needed. The inspections will be completed during early May with needed repairs required to be made prior to May 25.

3. The reliability of the measurement of outflow from the Central Division needs to be improved. The gauge in the Rainbow (?) canal is in a reach that has very little gradient when Mud Lake is full. The gauging station needs to be re-established at a point near the Rainbow (?) diversion into the canal and a measuring device (weir or flume) needs to be placed in the return flow channel from the Black Otter canal to allow the measurements now being made to be augmented and checked. Tim Luke will work with Pete Peterson to determine what will be required to provide these measurements. Ron

Carlson will check on the availability of an adequate flume or weir for the Black Otter return flow.

4. A particular concern is that the distribution in Idaho is accurately measured and reported when the diversions of the meadow rights are curtailed. Tim Luke will coordinate with Pete Peterson to review the diversions being made and reported at that time of the season.

5. Tim Luke will review Pete Peterson's field recording procedures to obtain an explanation for the apparent discrepancy between the amounts reported to the Engineer/Manager at the time of the measurements and the amounts reported to IDWR Hydrology section later in the season.

6. Relative to the Lower Division, Tim Luke will coordinate with Pete Peterson and IDWR Hydrology section to insure that appropriate data are available this season to respond timely to "mock" emergency delivery calls.