



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, Statehouse Mail, Boise, Idaho 83720-9000

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

September 13, 1996

PHILIP E. BATT
GOVERNOR

Judy Davis
Box 92978
Long Beach, CA 90809

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

Re: Proposed Measuring Device on Willow Creek

Dear Mrs. Davis:

Our office is assisting the Big Wood River Water District (Water District 37) in obtaining the necessary permits and approvals for installation of a measuring device on Willow Creek. We are working with watermaster Lee Peterson on this matter. It is our understanding that you are the owner of Spring Creek Ranch, and own the property adjacent to the proposed measuring device site. We also understand that Mr. Peterson may have contacted you or the Spring Creek ranch manager regarding this subject.

The proposed measuring device is to be located at the Willow Creek bridge toward the west end of your ranch, about one-half mile upstream from the confluence of Willow Creek and the Big Wood River. The measuring device is needed because the Big Wood River gaging station above Magic Reservoir is being moved from its present location to the Highway 20 bridge at Stanton Crossing. Since the new location is above the confluence of Willow Creek and the Big Wood River, the gage will not measure Willow Creek flows. Measurement of Willow Creek is important for proper distribution of water rights.

The District is proposing to install a concrete weir or sill within the existing concrete bridge structure. We estimate that the construction may take three to four days. A coffer dam and bypass channel may need to be constructed to route creek flows around the bridge during the construction period. The District is looking at construction dates during the latter half of October if funds can be secured. If funding can not be obtained, then construction may be delayed until sometime next year.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the District is filing a stream channel alteration permit with the State of Idaho and the US Army Corps of Engineers. It is also working with Dr. Charles Brockway, consultant and University of Idaho engineer, with details regarding any channel alterations and the design and construction of the weir.

A deputy Attorney General assigned with the Department of Water Resources will probably contact you within the next few

weeks, and prior to any construction at Willow Creek. Some type of consent agreement and/or right of way will be proposed in order to install the weir and provide future access to the watermaster and US Geological Survey staff so that they can read and maintain the weir.

If you have any immediate questions regarding this matter, please contact Tim Luke or Bob Sutter, Idaho Department of Water Resources, at 208-327-7864. You may also contact Lee Peterson at 208-886-2451.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tim Luke".

Tim Luke

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cc: Lee Peterson, Watermaster
Bob Sutter, IDWR
IDWR Southern Region