

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

PHILIP E. BATT GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER DIRECTOR

January 16, 1998

Frank Erwin Watermaster, Water District 36-A 2628 S 975 E Hagerman, ID 83332

Re: Regulation of Water Diverted to Curren Ditch - Winter Water Use

Dear Mr. Erwin:

On December 30, 1997, the department sent correspondence to several users on the Curren Ditch which explained that an excessive amount of water was being diverted to the head of the Curren Ditch from Billingsley Creek. You received a copy of that letter. The ditch users were given until January 7, 1998 to explain why the ditch diversion should not be limited to 21.64 cfs. Several checks of the diversion by you and department staff in December showed that over 30 cfs was being diverted to the Curren Ditch.

The department did receive two inquires from John Simpson, attorney representing Buckeye Farms and Flying Triangle Ranch, both users on the Curren Ditch system. Mr. Simpson asked for some clarification of my correspondence but did not offer any explanation about why the ditch should not be regulated. Mr. Simpson wanted to express concern on behalf of Flying Triangle that regulation of the Curren Ditch would not interfere with certain water rights from the Bar-S Ditch which are injected into the Curren Ditch below the head works from Billingsley Creek, and then conveyed to the place of use via the north pipeline. The department did not receive comment from any other user.

The purpose of this letter is to direct you to regulate the Curren Ditch diversion from Billingsley Creek to 21.64 cfs for the remainder of the non-irrigation season unless instructed differently by IDWR. This regulation to 21.64 cfs should begin on January 22. This should provide users with several days notice prior to the change, and will allow you to coordinate the change with the ditch users. For a ten foot contracted rectangular weir, a discharge of 21.64 cfs would be equal to a staff gage height of 0.76 feet. The staff gage on the south wall of the weir structure therefore should read 0.76 feet. I have enclosed a copy of a discharge table for a 10 foot rectangular weir.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to those users on the ditch which have winter water use claims or rights, including those right holders from the Bar-S Ditch. We ask that you also personally contact those users and advise them of the need to regulate the Curren Ditch diversion from Billingsley Creek. Specifically, we ask that you coordinate the regulation of the head works

with the appropriate users on the ditch. The split between the north and south pipelines may need to be adjusted so that the parties on each pipeline get the appropriate amounts of water that they are entitled to for winter use. It is my understanding that both the Spring Valley and Bar-S stock water is diverted to the north pipeline. You may want to confirm this when contacting the users. Adjusting the split should be the responsibility of the users on the ditch, but you may assist with that effort and must definitely coordinate with them as to when you will adjust the heading of the ditch.

In regard to the Bar-S Ditch diversion, the department directs you at this time to just measure the discharge to the Bar-S Ditch and report that amount to the department. The department is not instructing you at this time to make any adjustments of the diversion to the Bar-S Ditch. The Bar-S discharge injected to the Curren Ditch is the amount of water that should be delivered to the Bar-S water right holders on the Curren Ditch at this time. IDWR may provide you with further instructions regarding the Bar-S at a later date.

Although we are not directing you to adjust the Bar-S diversion, I believe that you should be aware of the winter stock water uses from this ditch. I have researched the claims from Weatherby Springs that are diverted to the Bar-S Ditch. All but one or two of these claims have been partially decreed by the SRBA court. Those several claims not partially decreed have no winter stock use. The total winter stock use available to the Bar-S ditch according to our records is 0.61 cfs. The winter stock use rights for the Bar-S are listed on an enclosed attachment.

Please advise the department immediately if the regulation deadline poses any problem with your availability or scheduling. Please call also if you need any assistance or clarification regarding this matter. I may be contacted directly at 327-7864.

Sincerely,

Tim Luke

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CURREN DITCH WATER RIGHTS

Water Rt.		Priority	Rate (cfs)	Use	Season of Use
36-00004	Spring Valley Ranch	09/10/1884	15.0	Irr. Stock*	3/15 - 11/15 11/16 - 3/14
36-00018	Buckeye Farms	04/01/1917	20.0	Irr.**	3/15 - 12/31
36-07742	Buckeye Farms	08/01/1977	20.0^^	Fish Prop.	1/1 - 12/31
36-08730	Buckeye Farms	09/24/1987	20.0^^ 20.0^^ 20.0^^	Wildlife Aesthetic Rec.	1/1 - 12/31 1/1 - 12/31 1/1 - 12/31

^{*} Spring Valley Ranch claimed 0.19 cfs for year round stock use in SRBA. The SRBA Director's report recommended 1.64 cfs for winter stock use. Spring Valley amended claim on 12/11/97 for 5.0 cfs for year round wildlife and recreation use.

NOTE: Curren Ditch is used to convey some stock water rights from Bar-S ditch. Point of injection from Bar-S Ditch to Curren Ditch is below Curren Ditch heading from Billingsley Creek.

Winter Stock Use From Bar-S Ditch/Weatherby Springs

Water Right	<u>Owner</u>	Amount	Partially Decreed
36-15157	Hoskovec, Stanley	0.23 cfs	Yes
36-00105	Smith, Sharlene	0.03 cfs	Yes
36-11142	Flying Triangle Inc	0.22 cfs	Yes
36-15454	Mavencamp, Vernon	0.13 cfs	Yes

all other claims, rights from Bar-S ditch do not include winter stock use.

^{**} Stock use not claimed in SRBA by owners.

^{^^} Total diversion under rights 36-07742 and 36-08730 not to exceed 20 cfs.

TABLES

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Table 8.—Discharge of standard contracted rectangular weiss in second-feet. Computed from the formula $Q=3.33(L-0.2H)H^{\mu\eta}$. (See sec. 15.)—Continued

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Mailing list attachment:

Buckeye Farms Dan Yore 18335 US Hwy 30 Hagerman ID 83332 John Simpson, Atty. Rosholt, Robertson & Tucker 142 3rd Ave North Twin Falls ID 83301 Stanley Hoskovec 2793 S 900 E Hagerman ID 83332

Western Legends LC aka Spring Valley Ranch PO Box 737 Hagerman ID 83332 Flying Triangle Inc Rt 1 Box 180 Hagerman ID 83332 Allen Merritt Southern Region Mgr 1341 Fillmore St Ste 200 Twin Falls ID 83301

Sharlene Smith Rt 1 Box 230 Hagerman ID 83332 Vernon Mavencamp Rt 1 Box 232 Hagerman ID 83332