



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

322 East Front Street • P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 287-4800 • Fax: (208) 287-6700 • Website: www.idwr.idaho.gov

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

Governor

GARY SPACKMAN

Director

JUNE 29, 2013

ROGER TOTTEN
WATERMASTER, WATER DISTRICT NO. 34
P.O. BOX 53
MACKAY, ID 83251-0053

VIA EMAIL TO: WATERDIST34@ATCNET.NET

RE: 2013 ANTELOPE CREEK FUTILE CALL REQUEST

Dear Roger:

This letter responds to your request for a futile call for delivery of water from Antelope Creek to senior users on the Big Lost River. You made the request during a telephone conversation yesterday and supplied delivery records and other pertinent information in an email yesterday and another telephone conversation this morning. Based on the information you have provided, it appears that senior users on the Big Lost River are not receiving water from Antelope Creek as of this morning. Allowing users on Antelope Creek to divert out of priority with the Big Lost River will not reduce the amount of water available to users on the Big Lost River, but will allow junior Antelope Creek users to put that water to beneficial use. Therefore, your request to administer Antelope Creek separately from the Big Lost River is granted.

The information you provided is as follows:

1. On June 28, 2013, you were delivering a priority of 5/1/1886 on both the Big Lost River below Mackay Reservoir and on Antelope Creek. At that time, users on Antelope Creek were diverting approximately 26.4 cfs and several users with rights of 5/1/1886 and senior were not diverting but intended to turn on the next day or two. This would result in up to an additional 16.8 cfs of water diverted from Antelope Creek. Approximately 5 cfs was making it into the Big Lost River via the South Channel. No Antelope Creek water was making it to the Big Lost River via the North Channel, as only approximately 1 cfs was leaking past the Hanrahan diversion.

2. On Saturday, June 29, we spoke on the telephone and you stated one of the users with 5/1/1886 or senior rights had turned on and water was no longer making it to the Big Lost River.

The flow in Antelope Creek will likely continue to decline, and the upstream, in priority demand on Antelope is already in excess of the available flow. So, granting a futile call will not likely raise the deliverable priority date on Antelope Creek, but it will allow users to be regulated based on the supply in the creek, rather than the river. This will simplify delivery and provide flexibility to the users on the creek without injuring users on the Big Lost River.

Mr. Roger Totten
June 29, 2013
Page 2 of 2

Please note, however, that deliveries on Antelope Creek and tributaries must continue to be regulated to ensure that water is delivered within the amounts authorized by the water rights and is delivered in priority with all other water rights on Antelope Creek.

Sincerely,



Nick Miller
Water Distribution Section

cc: IDWR Eastern Region – Idaho Falls

M:\Water Districts by Basin\Basin 34\WD 34\Correspondence\2013\062913_AntelopeFutleCall.docx