

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

**IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS
FOR PERMIT 1-10725, 1-10726, AND 25-
14560 IN THE NAME OF BONNEVILLE
JEFFERSON GROUND WATER
DISTRICT**

**NOTICE OF INFORMAL
SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

On December 6, 2024, Bonneville Jefferson Ground Water District filed Applications for Permit Nos. 1-10725, 1-10726, and 25-14560 with the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department"). A protest was filed against each application by Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The Department has scheduled this case for an informal settlement conference on **February 12, 2025**, beginning at **9:00 am**. The applicant and protestant(s) must attend.

Please use the following numbers to participate via Webex. Participation options are detailed on a separate document included with this notice.

**Meeting number (access code): 2870 214 0401
Meeting password: 2025**

Agenda items for the informal settlement conference will include:

1. Review of the application and protest(s),
2. Additional informational needs,
3. Settlement options,
4. Need for additional informal proceedings or alternative dispute resolution options, and
5. Commencement of formal proceedings.

The Department encourages the applicant and protestant(s) to discuss and resolve the protest(s) before the informal settlement conference. If private discussions are not possible or do not resolve the protest(s), the informal settlement conference provides another opportunity for the applicant and protestant(s) to meet before commencing a formal hearing. Parties often settle their differences at the informal settlement conference.

If informal proceedings are unlikely to resolve this protested case, the Department will initiate formal proceedings by issuing a notice of prehearing conference and identifying a presiding officer. It is important for all parties to make the most of the opportunity to resolve the dispute informally.

The informal settlement conference will be conducted in a facility that satisfies the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations in order to attend, participate in, or understand the prehearing conference, please notify the Department at least ten (10) days prior to the conference. Inquiries about scheduling, hearing facilities, etc., should be directed to Christina Henman at 208-525-7161 or christina.henman@idwr.idaho.gov.

Dated this 31st day of January 2025

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Cefalo', written over a horizontal line.

James Cefalo
Regional Manager

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 31st day of January 2025, true and correct copies of the documents described below were served by the method indicated upon the following:

Documents Served: Notice of Informal Settlement Conference
Informal Settlement Conference Procedure- Application for Permit

BONNEVILLE JEFFERSON GROUND WATER DISTRICT C/O BRAD BUTTARS PO BOX 51121 IDAHO FALLS, ID 83405 brad@bjgwdistrict.com <i>Applicant</i>	☒ U.S. Mail, postage prepaid ☒ Email
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME C/O ERIC ANDERSON 4279 COMMERCE CIRCLE IDAHO FALLS, ID 83401 Eric.anderson@idfg.idaho.gov <i>Protestant</i>	☒ U.S. Mail, postage prepaid ☒ Email
ANN N YRIBAR DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PO BOX 83720 BOISE, ID 83720 Ann.yribar@ag.idaho.gov <i>Protestant's Representative</i>	☒ U.S. Mail, postage prepaid ☒ Email



Christina Henman
Administrative Assistant

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE PROCEDURE

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

ISSUES

Applications to appropriate the water of the state of Idaho are referred to as applications for permit and are for the development of new water rights. Section 42-203A, Idaho Code, requires the Idaho Department of Water Resources (Department) to consider the following issues in connection with an application for permit:

1. Will the proposed appropriation reduce the quantity of water under existing water rights?
2. Is the water supply sufficient for the purpose for which it is sought to be appropriated?
3. Was the application made in good faith or for delay or speculative purposes?
4. Does the applicant have sufficient financial resources with which to complete the proposed project?
5. Will the proposed use conflict with the local public interest, where local public interest is defined as interests that the people in the area directly affected by a proposed water use have in the effects of such use on the public water resource?
6. Will the proposed use be contrary to the conservation of water resources within the State of Idaho?
7. Will the proposed use adversely affect the local economy of the watershed or local area within which the source of water for the proposed use originates, in the case where the place of use is outside of the watershed or local area where the source of water originates?

BURDEN OF PROOF

The applicant has the initial burden of proof for issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 above and must provide evidence for the Department to evaluate these criteria.

The initial burden of proof on issue 5 lies with both the applicant and protestant as to factors of which they are most knowledgeable and cognizant. The applicant has the ultimate burden of persuasion, however, for all of these issues.

PROCEDURE

The Department generally conducts an informal settlement conference with the parties to determine the issues and to try to settle a protested matter before the formal hearing process starts. The formal hearing process commences with a prehearing conference, which may require parties to be represented by an attorney.

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

The purpose of an informal settlement conference is to provide the opportunity for the parties and the Department to familiarize themselves with a protested matter and to attempt to resolve the matter. At the conference, the Department and the parties will discuss the application and protests, explore settlement options, discuss additional informational needs, evaluate the need for additional informal proceedings or alternative dispute resolution options such as mediation, and discuss the commencement of formal proceedings. When attending the conference, please bring a calendar with your schedule for the next two–six month period from the date of the informal settlement conference for the purpose of scheduling follow-up conferences, if needed.

HEARING

If the parties do not resolve the matter at the informal settlement conference, a formal hearing process may be commenced according to Sections 42-1701A(1) and (2), Idaho Code and the Department's Rules of Procedure. Copies of Idaho Code and the Department's rules are available upon request or by accessing the Department's website at: www.idwr.idaho.gov. The Department records formal hearings, and copies of a hearing recording are available upon request. There may be a charge for reproducing the recording.

If necessary, the hearing will likely be conducted by a hearing officer appointed by the Director rather than by the Director himself. The hearing officer will be designated in a notice of prehearing conference that commences the formal hearing process.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Any scheduled conferences or hearing will be conducted in a facility which meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations in order to attend, participate in or understand the hearing, please notify the Department no later than ten (10) days prior to the conference or hearing.

TO USE WEBEX

Meeting number (access code): 2861 756 4990

Meeting password: 2024

Using Your Computer:

- Calendar invitations were sent to email addresses provided. Simply click the link included to join the meeting, and follow on-screen instructions.

Using the Mobile app:

- Download WebEx Meetings to your mobile device. (App is free.)
- Click Join Meeting.
- Enter Meeting Number, name, and email address.
- Click 'join'.
 - If you intend to share documents, maps, images, etc. please ensure that you have granted the WebEx app the appropriate permissions to access those documents before the meeting.

Using Your Telephone: (No video or internet required)

- Call 1-415-655-0001
- Follow Prompts

More options are included in the emailed link. If you have any questions, need a copy of the invitation sent to another email address, or otherwise need the link, feel free to contact Christina Henman at (208) 525-7161 or christina.henman@idwr.idaho.gov.