IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

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Governor Brad Little **Director Mathew Weaver**

January 22, 2024

DIANE & BRUCE HERMESTON
1255 SANBORN CREEK RD
PRIEST RIVER ID 83856

RE: Clark Fork-Pend Oreille River Basin Adjudication (CFPRBA)
Evidence of Priority for Notice of Claim **97-8257**

Dear Claimant(s):

As you may be aware, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) is currently in the process of reviewing Clark Fork-Pend Oreille River Basin Adjudication (CFPRBA)claims in your area (Basin 97). My initial investigation uncovered a couple of issues regarding claim 97-8257 that need addressed.

1) Our initial investigation indicates that you may now be the owner of the property that this claim is applicable to. According to our records, the property to which I am referring to was most recently owned by the BETTY JO BLISS. The legal description is as follows:

T56N R04W S6 SW¼ SE¼
Parcel #: RP56N04W068850A

We recommend that if, in fact, you now own the property in question, and do use the water for the purposes claimed, you file a "Change in Ownership" (enclosed) with IDWR in order that we may send all further correspondence to the appropriate owner(s).

If you do not own the property applicable to this water right claim, you may disregard the remainder of this letter.

2) If claim 97-8257 is applicable to your property, then you will need to submit evidence of priority. The claim indicates water usage is based on "Beneficial Use". Water rights of this type are established by the historical use of water, dating back to when water was first used for the purpose claimed, at or on the place of use identified on the claim. The date the water was first put to use, known as the priority date, has not been confirmed by a license, Decree, or Permit. For this reason, proof must be provided supporting the priority date. **As the claimant, you are responsible for submitting the necessary proof to support the priority date.**

The Department can not recommend the Notice of Claim be decreed by the court if no evidence of a priority date is submitted.

If you have any questions not covered by this letter or the enclosed pamphlet, please feel free to contact me at (208) 287-4871.

Respectfully submitted,

Jared Klay
Water Resource Agent
Adjudication Section

Enclosure(s); Printout: Notice of Claim 97-8257
Notice of Change in Water Right Ownership Form