



## State of Idaho

### DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

PHONE: (208) 334-2190 FAX: (208) 334-2348 [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

C.L. "BUCKE" OTTER, Governor

GARY SPACKMAN, Director

RECEIVED

MAY 10 2013

GIVEN BY [illegible]

May 9, 2013

MICHAEL P. LAWRENCE  
GIVENS PURSLEY LLP  
PO BOX 2720  
BOISE ID 83701-2720

RE: Demand for Delivery of Water, Morrow Reservoir

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Thank you for your letter of May 2, 2013. This reply discusses department actions regarding your letter and outlines future recommendations discussed at our April 29, 2013 meeting.

#### Actions

On April 30th, Rob Whitney and I contacted Rusty Trail, District Watermaster. We asked the Watermaster to evaluate the availability of additional creek water to provide water for diversion to Morrow Reservoir (Batrue) if possible. The Watermaster should check with creek water users to determine their irrigation schedules and what additional flow might be available. The Watermaster agreed to make the evaluation. By mid-afternoon, a voice mail confirmed the Watermaster had raised the Morrow Reservoir headgate to divert additional flow. The information was forwarded to your office. On May 5th, I confirmed water was flowing down the Morrow ditch at the county road culverts.

#### Future Recommendations

As discussed at our recent meeting, Little Canyon Creek has a long history of watermaster turn over and issues. Measurement and regulation of water by the district has become too informal and lax, leading again to conflicts. All water users need to install proper headgates and measurement devices for water rights to be properly delivered.

Currently, the water district budget allocates \$1050.00 for 14 watermaster calls. Next season, the water users will need to re-evaluate the level of watermaster regulation that is required. Experience shows that in

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small water short districts, assessments can soon outweigh the value of the water if not kept in check. Mr. Batruei should be an active participant in district functions to insure his water rights are administered properly and his interests are protected.

Should you have questions please contact me at the Western Regional Office 334-2190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Westra".

John Westra, Manager

Cc: Rusty Trail, Watermaster