



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082 - (208) 334-2190

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January 16, 1998

PHILIP E. BATT  
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER  
DIRECTOR

MR ED RANEY  
WATERMASTER #78-A  
3498 RANEY RD  
NEW MEADOWS ID 83654

**RE: WATER RIGHT APPLICATIONS FOR TRIBUTARY SOURCES**

Dear Mr. Raney:

Normally this office sends watermaster comment letters for applications that propose to divert water from the regulated stream in a water district (Big Creek, for example). Other surface water applications, typically for small projects, that propose diversions from tributary water do not result in watermaster comment letters. These tributary sources are generally not regulated in a water district, although any approvals issued by this agency include conditions of approval that make the new use subject to watermaster control. Typically, such applications include springs or runoff, often labeled as unnamed streams.

There is a heightened concern about small ponds and other non-irrigation development in several water districts such as yours. Do you want to be notified for all surface water applications in your district that involve sources other than the regulated stream but considered tributary to that stream? We want to avoid sending you unnecessary mailings if you do not have a concern about such applications.

Please let me know what you think about this matter and this office will take the appropriate steps when such applications are filed. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Steve Lester  
Water Rights Supervisor