

Gary
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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

**GARDEN CREEK & CHALLIS CREEK
WATER DISTRICT No. 72-A
P. O. Box 910
Challis, Idaho 83226-1220**

April 16, 2007

Gary Spackman, Administrator
Water Management Division
Idaho Department of Water Resources
P. O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0098

Dear Gary:

I wanted to express my gratitude for the time you took to meet with Gary Chamberlain, Norm Semanko and myself last Thursday regarding the Nick Miller situation. I do not envy the job facing the Department with regard to establishing head gates, measuring devices and reporting procedures on the hundreds, perhaps even thousands, of uncontrolled diversions in Basins 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75. It was difficult enough doing so in just the Garden Creek and Challis Creek drainages and we began that in the late 90's.

In that light I am sure you can appreciate why one would question the sheer logic behind any Department employee feeling it in the least bit necessary to become involved in virtually the only sub-district that cannot only already do what you seek for all these Basins but do so electronically with the computer software to supply flow data in literally any format desired now – today. Will we need help, direction and guidance in the future? Of course! However, if and when that is needed we will ask minimizing the Department's need to become involved thus allowing those other current pursuits of far, far greater importance.

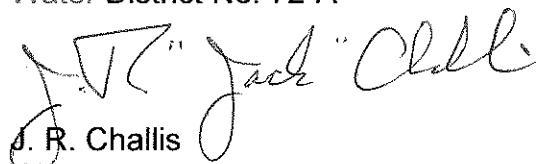
While I probably do not need to emphasize this I do want to mention I have been a rather successful businessman most of my life, the majority of that prior to building our Ranch here in Idaho. As such I did not realize that success allowing personal feelings to override sound and logical business judgments and/or decisions.

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That having been said I readily admit the dealings between our neighbor, Robin Wegner, and her "friend", Gary Thor, have been less than amicable. However, anyone with any significant degree of knowledge of the situation will readily tell you we have and will continue to go to whatever lengths **reasonable** to avoid legal action. Be that as it may the Watermaster decisions relating to Ms. Wegner are based upon the same rules, regulations and guidelines that are being applied to all the water right owners in this sub-district. While they have tried (and will likely continue to do so) to make this into a "harassment" issue it is nothing more than their continually trying to circumvent the "system", something of which they do on a rather consistent basis and, like in the case of every other water right owner, have been and will be treated just like everyone else.

Again, thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Garden Creek & Challis Creek
Water District No. 72-A


J. R. Challis
Watermaster