



WD 65 (94)

**State of Idaho**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

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CECIL D. ANDRUS  
GOVERNOR

R. KEITH HIGGINSON  
DIRECTOR

March 25, 1994

JOY PALMER  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
SOUTHWEST IDAHO REGIONAL OFFICE  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
ID DEPT OF HEALTH & WELFARE  
1420 N HILTON  
BOISE ID 83720-1410

Dear Joy:

As a part of improving water management on the Payette River, the Department of Water Resources is currently in the process of initiating a water accounting system on the main stem from Cascade Reservoir to the mouth. This accounting system uses existing natural flow rights and storage ownership to track all flows and uses on a daily basis. By monitoring such uses, a more efficient use of water should occur, thus allowing additional supplies to become available for designated uses.

A critical point in the river is near the town of Letha, below which return flows supply most of the uses downstream. An accurate measurement of the flow at Letha is necessary to properly target releases at Cascade/Deadwood as well as to determine low flow conditions in that reach of the river.

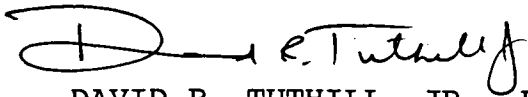
We are hoping to obtain funding for the installation and annual operation/maintenance of a USGS gage at Letha. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will fund most of the installation of the gage and Water District 65 will fund a portion of the annual O & M. Annual O & M for FY 1994 (6mos) will be \$3,950, and for FY 1995 (12 mos) it will be \$8,300 (see attachment). With USGS match, an additional \$1,975 for FY 1994 and \$4,150 for FY 1995 will be needed. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has also committed to fund satellite telemetry equipment installation and O & M (see attachment).

This letter is to request that a portion of the installation and annual O & M for the Letha gage be funded through the ongoing DEQ Cascade Reservoir Project. Knowledge of the flow regime at Letha and the direct benefits of improved management on the Payette appear to be consistent with and would specifically assist the goals of the Cascade Reservoir study. Additional water supplies made available through better management would contribute to flexibility of operation at Cascade and the Letha measurement itself will permit

examination of larger issues on the Payette River. An amount of \$2,000 for FY 1994, which would include assistance for installation costs, and an amount equal to 25% of the additional annual O & M for 1995 and subsequent years might be appropriate. For FY 1995 this would be \$1,075.

It is our intent to begin installation as soon as funding for the gage has been secured, hopefully by May 1, 1994. Once the gage is installed, satellite telemetry will provide almost immediate access to the data through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's HYDROMET system. Thank you for your review of this request.

Sincerely,



DAVID R. TUTHILL, JR., P.E.  
Manager, Western Regional Office

DRT:st

# Costs for Gaging Station(s)

13250000 Payette River near Letha

## Construction and Installation:

### Construction:

labor:	days	labor cost	per diem	total
<i>techs(4)</i>	6			
<i>Doyle</i>	1			

subtotal (construction labor): \$1,182.00

mileage:	miles	rate
<i>Trucks(3)</i>	300	

subtotal (construction mileage): \$135.00

### hardware:

<i>Calif shelters</i>	build in Boise	150
<i>20' 18" -stilling well</i>	rehab needed	150
<i>materials</i>	steel for brackets, etc	150

subtotal (construction hardware): \$450.00

### instruments:

	inst. cost
<i>Sutron 8200 d' logger</i>	0
<i>GOES card</i>	0
<i>Shaft encoder</i>	0
<i>Electric tape (I.G.)</i>	100
<i>Float and float tape</i>	80
<i>Wire weight gage</i>	750

subtotal (construction instruments): \$930.00

total (construction): \$2,697.00

### District and Headquarter Support charges:

*charge* \$2,391.68

**TOTAL (C&I): \$5,088.68**

## Operation and Maintenance:

	rate	months	
<i>Gage (1.0)</i>	7900	6	\$3,950.00

*Can match 1/2  
of O & M  
= \$1975*

**TOTAL COST FOR 1994 FY: \$9,038.68**

## Fiscal Year 1995 Costs

### 1995 Operation and Maintenance:

	rate	months	
<i>Gage (1.0)</i>	8300	12	\$8,300.00

*Can match 1/2  
= \$4150*

**TOTAL COST FOR 1995 FY: \$8,300.00**

From: Dan Lute (DLUTE)  
To: RWELLS  
Date: Monday, March 14, 1994 10:33 am  
Subject: TELEMETRY COSTS FOR LETHA GAGE

TELEMETRY COSTS FOR PAYETTE RIVER NR. LETHA, USGS #13250000

I. EQUIPMENT COSTS

1. SUTRON DCP, MODEL 8200 W/GOES CARD	3045.00
2. SUTRON SHAFT ENCODER, MODEL 8500	552.00
3. NEMA 4 INSULATED ENCLOSURE W/SHELF AND BATTERY VENT	225.00
4. BATTERY, 12 VOLT	80.00
5. SOLAREX PANEL AND BRACKET (95+28)	123.00
6. VITEL ANTENNA, MODEL V-2TH	359.00
7. CABLES	
A. SHAFT ENCODER	8.50
B. POWER SUPPLY	18.50
C. ANTENNA, 40 FEET	50.00
8. MISC. HARDWARE, CONDUIT AND FITTINGS	100.00
9. INSTALLATION BY VITEL INC.	NC

TOTAL EQUIPMENT COSTS \$4561.00

II. ANNUAL O&M COSTS

1. FY94, APRIL-SEPTEMBER, 6 MONTHS @ \$215.00	1290.00
2. FY95, 12 MONTHS @ \$214.00	2568.00

WE WILL BE NEGOTIATING A NEW CONTRACT FOR THE PERIOD  
FY1996-2000 NEXT YEAR. THE O&M COSTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT THE  
SAME OR A LITTLE LOWER FOR THAT PERIOD.