

Water District No. 65

*Payette River Basin, State of Idaho
102 North Main Street
Payette, Idaho 83661*

*Watermaster
Mark Limbaugh*

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June 1, 2001

Mr. Frederick (Dave) Ringel
P.O. Box 582
Cascade, ID 83611

Re: Chipps Creek Water Rights Administration

Dear Mr. Ringel:

In reviewing my files the other day, I was reminded of our conversation last August concerning the Chipps Creek water rights and our proposed solution to the administration of those rights. As this is one of the driest years on record for the Payette River Basin, I thought it wise to send you a letter reviewing my recommendations from last year before we ran into any problems up in Round Valley this season.

My August 2000 letter to you requested your cooperation in assisting me in administering the Chipps Creek water rights, protecting the priority water rights on the creek while allowing for the efficient and cost-effective delivery of these water rights, including yours. I recommended the following actions for the administration of Chipps Creek:

- 1) An amount sufficient to keep Chipps Creek channel moist should flow in the main channel of Chipps Creek at all times during the stockwater season. This can be accomplished by allowing some bypass flow at your headgate on Chipps Creek to flow to the main channel. A minimal flow in the main channel should allow the creek bed to remain "wet" in case the natural flow in the creek drops and the timely delivery of the Ellis stockwater right must be made through the creek's main channel. Obviously, you are entitled to the delivery of your water rights in the manner in which you are accustomed to, so long as this small amount of water remains in the main creek bed. How you manage the balance of the Chipps Creek water and the delivery of the Ellis' water right downstream (see #2 below) is up to you, in accordance with your water rights.
- 2) Ellis shall install a readable measuring weir at the end of their field at the road, at which the amount of water necessary for the delivery of the Ellis stockwater right shall be maintained while the creek has sufficient water to deliver their priority right. The minimum amount of overpour at the weir shall be approximately .05 cubic feet per second (2.5 miners inches), or about 1.2 inches of overpour on the 6" rectangular weir, at all times during the stock

watering season. This weir shall be readable from the road in order that all parties may evaluate this water delivery at any time.

I believe the weir was installed last year, so these two recommendations should be achievable. I do not know the current state of the runoff in your area, but I hope this simple reminder of our discussions last year will help alleviate any possible problems during this difficult year.

If you have any further questions or have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (208) 642-4465.

Sincerely,

Mark Limbaugh

cc: Gary Spackman, IDWR