



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

April 13, 1999

Craig Shuler
255 W 4 South St
Soda Springs, ID 83276

Re: Documents You Requested

Dear Craig:

I enjoyed the opportunity to visit with you last week in Soda Springs. Pursuant to our discussion, I have enclosed a copy of the Department's Watermaster Handbook and a draft outline of watermaster duties for Water District 13-T, Bancroft-Lund.

The Bancroft-Lund district is unique in Idaho at this time since it really is the only district where ground water is the only source of water for the water rights. The book should provide you with a more comprehensive understanding of water districts, as well as the general role and duties of a watermaster. Much of the material in the book is applicable to surface water diversions and regulation and thus may not be of particular interest to you.

The draft outline of the Water District 13-T duties was prepared after last year's annual meeting. I drafted it and presented it to the advisory committee for some final comments or decisions. The outline was never fully implemented. I believe it is probably too ambitious given the district's budget and your availability. I intend to revise this outline and get it to the advisory committee within the next few weeks.

Please contact me at 208-327-7864 if you have questions regarding this material.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tim Luke'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Tim Luke

Cc: Bart Christensen
Terry Rindlisbaker

Enclosure: Watermaster Handbook
Water District 13-T Watermaster Duties Outline, Draft 1998

Draft: April 1, 1998
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**Water District 13-T, Bancroft-Lund
Watermaster Duties and Assignments
for 1998 Irrigation Season**

I. Water Level Measurements & Monitoring

Monitor water levels on a weekly basis for the following wells:

1. Warren Lloyd irrigation well and old unused well
2. Keith Lloyd well
3. Holsten unused/observation well (IDWR may possibly set up a continuous recorder at this site with watermaster, charts would have to be changed by watermaster and recorder checked weekly)
4. Curtis Stoddard well (formerly Calvin Lloyd)

Monitor water levels on either a bi-weekly or monthly basis for the following wells:
(advisory committee may decide on frequency)

5. Carl Jorgensen north well
6. Terry Rindlisbaker Longenbohn well (located along Hwy 30 next to storage bins)
7. Don Rigby unused well (located near Pond well)
8. Gem Valley Farms (either Home Place or Stanton wells, use easiest well)
9. Well near Bancroft

- we were measuring Max Rigby landfill/CRP well but this well is difficult to measure. Also, the Date Yost well south of Bancroft had a probe lost in well in 1996 and should no longer be used. Suggest David Modersitzki irrigation well, or one of Gordon Yost wells (North Schenk or well in either 9S 39E sec. 2 or sec. 10), or there may be an unused well located in 8S 39E sec. 14, SWSW (would be about 1 mile east of Modersitzki well).

On all wells, measure static water levels and pumping levels if the well is pumping at time of measurement. Watermaster must record all measurements using forms that are acceptable to IDWR. Such forms must show water level depths; whether measurement is static or pumping; notes about whether well was recently pumped or not, if measurement is static; type of measurement probe used; and other ownership/locational information. Forms may be developed by either watermaster or IDWR (IDWR staff normally uses USGS forms).

IDWR will work with watermaster on format for annual submittal of data to IDWR.

Note: The USGS monitors ^{5?}four wells in the area which are measured on a quarterly basis. These wells include the Marvin Smith well (operated by Ben and David Lloyd), Von Simonson irrigation well, Carl Jorgensen south well, and a domestic well within the management area near Alexander, *also Gem Valley Deep well*

These wells do not need additional measurement by the watermaster.

II. Enforcement Duties

- 1) Make spot checks of water right irrigated place of use and points of diversion for each system at least once per season and additionally as time permits or in response to water user complaints.
- 2) Compare actual water use to decreed, licensed, permitted point of diversion and place of use, and report any discrepancies to IDWR. Work with IDWR and users to obtain compliance.

Wells owned or operated by the following users must be checked on a regular basis:

- Gem Valley Farms
- Von or Eric Simonson
- Carl Jorgensen
- Gordon Yost
- Don Rigby (wells near Talmadge)

III. Implement Reporting Requirements

A) Use IDWR standard reporting forms to record flow meter readings for those wells equipped with flow meters (about 4 wells). Read flow meters once a month, record totalized volume and instantaneous flow rate if well is in operation at time of visit.

B) Use IDWR standard reporting formats for all users where IDWR is using power records to estimate seasonal withdrawals. Reports require reporting of power accounts numbers, flow meter serial numbers, irrigated acres, crop type, and description of any system changes if applicable.

C) Use copy of database file developed by IDWR to record reported crop and acre information, volume and flow rates from flow meters, system changes, well and water right ownership changes etc. Submit copy of updated database to IDWR by January 15, 1999.

Note: IDWR will compile and produce annual water use report and have available prior to annual water district meeting. Completing this report will depend on timely submittal of information by watermaster.

IV. Inventory of Irrigation Wells

Inventory any irrigation wells which IDWR or watermaster did not inventory in 1996 or 1997. (There are just a few wells which may still need investigation) Collect well pump and motor data, power meter data, system description and schematic, photograph and site tag each well (IDWR will GPS).