



State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082 - (208) 334-2190
FAX (208) 334-2348

February 18, 1997

PHILIP E. BATT
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

MARY BLACKSTOCK
SINKER CREEK WATERMASTER
HC 79 BOX 118
MELBA ID 83641

RE: *Attached Correspondence from Mr. Jay Hulet*

Dear Mary:

I received the attached letter from Mr. Hulet requesting a shared control of the Hulet Reservoir gatehouse during the irrigation season. The operational protocol we have developed for Sinker Creek does not presently include this privilege. I have serious concerns about the ability to properly regulate natural flows under a shared control arrangement.

Also, Mr. Hulet has raised the issue of Watermaster availability and the handling of emergencies. Since the Sinker Creek Water District presently has no firm policy on either of these issues, perhaps now is a good time to respond by drafting some guidelines for delivery calls and Watermaster response.

As Watermaster, would you please comment on the above two issues. For purposes of drafting delivery call guidelines, please provide the following information:

- the best time of day for you to receive calls or messages from water users, and the time you can return calls if necessary (for example: mornings, leave messages; afternoons 2-3 pm and evenings, 6 to 7 pm)
- the time of day you are generally available to deliver water
- the latest time of day a call for water may be received and still be delivered on that day (otherwise it is assumed the delivery will be made on the following day)
- any circumstances which might prevent deliveries from being made within 24 hrs

Please submit your comments in writing so that I can document the file. After I hear from you, I will respond to Mr. Hulet.

The process of setting delivery call guidelines must involve the entire Water District. The procedure should have been discussed at this year's Water District meeting but I neglected to do so. Therefore, beginning with Mr. Hulet, I will collect feedback from the water users and hopefully will have an interim policy for use this year. I will propose that the final guidelines be formally adopted at next year's Water District meeting.

Thanks for your help. Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Hodges
Sr. Water Resource Agent

Enclosure