



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, P.O. BOX 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0098  
Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

August 11, 1997

PHILIP E. BATT  
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER  
DIRECTOR

PAUL NETTLETON  
MURPHY ID 83650

RE: *Additional Watermaster Protocol for Sinker Creek*

Dear Mr. Nettleton:

I received the attached letter from Sherl Chapman expressing concerns about Watermaster administration of the rights on Sinker Creek. Cindy Hodges has reviewed the letter and the most recent years' Water District records and has clarified the Watermaster Report form and its guidelines for use to better assist the Watermaster in making her deliveries.

Specifically, the Watermaster has been instructed that total Joyce Livestock diversions may not exceed the previously decreed amount of 21.07 cfs. Flows diverted in excess of that amount must be released by you to fill junior priority rights. Also attached you will find Cindy's instructions to the Watermaster and a copy of the new reporting form.

Note that you will still be permitted to operate your Sinker Creek diversions without controlling works so long as there is no objection from downstream users regarding timely delivery of flows. You will be required to make adjustments to those diversions as directed by the Watermaster within two hours of the Watermaster visit.

Please contact Cindy at 208-327-5406 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Norman C. Young  
Administrator  
Water Management Division

cc: Mary Blackstock  
Sherl Chapman  
Jay Hulet  
Western Region WD File



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DIRECTOR

MARY BLACKSTOCK  
HC 79 BOX 118  
MELBA ID 83641

*RE: Updated Watermaster Report Form*

Dear Mary:

Attached is an updated Watermaster Report Form and Water Allocation Worksheet. Please discard any old forms and begin using the new forms on your next scheduled visit.

A clarification has been included in the Water Allocation Worksheet in the form of an additional condition of delivery which states ".the total Joyce diversion may not exceed 21.07 cfs when Joyce is diverting to Reach A and Hulet is diverting." As you are aware, Sinker Creek downstream from Hulet Dam gains total available flows due to irrigation return flows from Joyce Livestock lands. It is possible for Joyce to fully satisfy their decreed rights of 21.07 cfs when inlet flows to Hulet Reservoir are somewhat less than that amount. Nevertheless, Joyce Livestock has no right which authorizes diversions in excess of 21.07 cfs and any excess flows which are generated below Hulet Dam must be used to satisfy junior rights.

In the past, you have been instructed that Mr. Hulet's calls on gaining flows downstream from Hulet Dam were futile. However, we have failed to recognize that those excess flows are sometimes available at MMC for diversion under Mr. Hulet's right 57-00181, as long as both the Edwards (Tyson) and Nahas rights are satisfied. Effective as of the date of this letter, please take the following additional steps when completing the Watermaster Report to ensure correct priority deliveries:

1. Check that the sum of D3 and QA does not exceed the inlet flow (or estimate of flow) at QI.
2. Joyce is limited to 18.61 cfs until Edwards (#3) and the first Nahas right (#4) are satisfied, and 21.07 cfs maximum total diversion. Check to see that the sum of D3 and JLL Total does not exceed the prescribed limit.