



State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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

PHILIP E. BATT
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

July 20, 1998

TO: ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION LIST

Dear Water User:

Enclosed are two Orders establishing control over the lateral ditch supplying your irrigation water. The first Order includes the appointment of a lateral manager (Manager) by the Squaw Creek Watermaster (Watermaster). The second Order provides the Manager's instructions to the water users. All of the lateral water users are included because all of the users' shares are delivered to a common point at the head of the lateral. I hope you can attend the meeting noted in the Manager's Order - we can discuss the lateral details at the meeting.

The statutes provide for Watermaster appointment of the Manager for a particular year. By implementing the controls necessary to fairly distribute lateral shares, the hope is that the water users can select their manager by next April for the 1999 irrigation season as outlined in Section 42-907, Idaho Code. Perhaps the 1998 experiences will provide guidelines for what works and what does not work to improve delivery conditions on the lateral.

I want to commend the Watermaster for his efforts in trying to address the lateral ditch problems. He made considerable efforts to respond to concerns raised by the water users while operating within the limits of his watermaster duties described by Idaho law. His efforts are appreciated.

Please review the attached information. Note that gravity flow diversions from the lateral require lockable headgates and measurement weirs. The Manager will investigate controllable and measurable pumps on a case specific basis with the pump owners. Controllable and measurable diversions will be discussed at the Manager's meeting to which you are invited on July 23 in Sweet.

The Manager will regulate all diversions from the lateral system. This will include regulation of the outlet pipes from the pond. He will make the necessary adjustments to diversions from the lateral and pond based on your calls. He will also serve as your contact person if you need to call for more shares of water from the Squaw Creek Ditch Company. The Manager will work with you to reach an agreement for written rotation schedules if this becomes necessary. IDWR can provide suggestions about rotation practices as requested.

Note that payment for the Manager's services will be determined on a per call basis - the more he is called, the more it will cost. At the end of the irrigation season, the Manager will provide a report to the Watermaster. The report will document all calls for service, data regarding water measurement, mileage figures, miscellaneous expenses and any relevant field notes for each visit to the lateral. The total cost of the Manager's services will be partly assessed on shares of water and partly assessed to individual callers. A water user calling for the Manager's assistance will therefore pay at least half of the charge for an individual visit by the Manager.

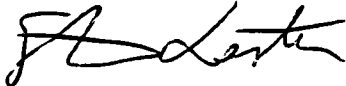
July 20, 1998

Page 2

If you have problems regarding the delivery of your shares to your point(s) of diversion, please call the Manager in Emmett at 365-4020. Messages can be left at that number if he is not available when you call.

A summary of recent field visits to the lateral is attached. Also attached are notes about V-notch weirs. The Manager and IDWR will work with you to implement the Orders. The Manager will contact you soon after the July 23, 1998 meeting to discuss your progress in these matters. It is my hope that we can make improvements in this situation by working together. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,



Steve Lester
Water Rights Supervisor

Enclosures

DISTRIBUTION LIST

ARTHUR & BONNIE BEAL
PO BOX 9
SWEET ID 83670

CAROLINE & ERVIN CARSKADDON
7720 SWEET-OLA HWY
SWEET ID 83670

KIRK & SHERRI DARNELL
PO BOX 13
SWEET ID 83670

JOSEPH & LOUONA ELLIOT
7205 SWEET-OLA HWY
SWEET ID 83670

ANNIE & MAX HYMAS
PO BOX 8
SWEET ID 83670

DIANE LOWRY
9455 HAYS ST
SWEET ID 83670

KAREN & PAUL SHAY
PO BOX 64
SWEET ID 83670

KAYE WENNSTROM
PO BOX 100
SWEET ID 83670

HANK BERNTSEN
LATERAL MANAGER
1553 SUNSET DR
EMMETT ID 83617

ERIC HERR
WATERMASTER #65A
8917 BUTTE RD
SWEET ID 83670

JANICE LANE
SECRETARY SQUAW CK DITCH CO
7950 SWEET RD
SWEET ID 83670