



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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SOUTHERN REGION

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

August 1, 2003

William Williams
3128 N 3200 E
Twin Falls, ID 83301

RE: Rock Creek Flows

Dear Mr. Williams:

I have received your letter dated July 10, 2003 regarding your concern about the decreasing flows in the lower reaches of Rock Creek. As you are well aware the lower reaches of Rock Creek below the foothills have historically enjoyed wastewater from the Twin Falls Canal Company System. As farmers in this area convert to sprinklers and the TFCC lines and seals their canals this waste is bound to diminish. There is no process to prevent these kinds of improvements that I know of.

I have printed out for your review the water rights on Rock Creek including the decreed rights that are administered by the watermaster of 47-0 water district. As you know your diversion is not currently regulated by this watermaster. As you may find on inspection your right is relatively junior to others on the creek. Ultimately once the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) decrees the rights in the basin all rights on the creek may be regulated by a watermaster and possibly rights junior to yours may be curtailed if such action will provide you delivery.

On inspection of the list you may note that there are relatively few rights developed junior to your rights.

I note your concern and as new applications are filed you are provided the statutory opportunity to file timely protests. Likewise you will be provided opportunity to object to any recommendations you feel improper in the SRBA.

If you wish to discuss this matter further I welcome your visit to our office. If you wish to have the printed out list in an electronic format I have saved it in an excel spreadsheet and can provide it to you on disk if you would like.

Sincerely

Allen Merritt, PE
Southern Region Manager

RECEIVED

July 10, 2003

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Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

RE: ROCK CREEK WATER RIGHTS OF W.T. WILLIAMS, INC.

The members of W.T. Williams, Inc. are deeply concerned about the decreasing amount of water in Rock Creek in Section 20, T 11 S, R 18 E. The large number of sprinklers that have been put in and are being put in along the creek, partly paid for by the government, is drying up the creek and wet lands. Except for a very short period of time in the spring, Rock Creek in Section 20, is only seepage and run-off water from the Highline Canal.

We have not had enough water for portions of the last few years, and have even left some ground unwatered fearing we would not have adequate water to pump our 1950's water rights. We feel under no circumstances should any more, later water filings be allowed to pump out of the Rock Creek drainage seepage streams. Also, under no circumstances should a filing be allowed to be moved downstream to new water sources, which would only cause even more problems to an already serious situation!

William J. Williams

3128 N 3200 E

Twin Falls, Idaho 83301



Williams J. Williams for W.T. Williams, Inc.