



**State of Idaho**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**  
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**PHILIP E. BATT**  
GOVERNOR

**KARL J. DREHER**  
DIRECTOR

April 20, 1998

Dear Rock Creek Wateruser:

At this year's annual 47-O Water District meeting there was discussion about the need for wateruser's to provide adequate control works and measuring devices for use by the watermaster in delivery of your water as required by statute. At the meeting the IDWR agreed to field check the existing diversions and provide recommendations for repair/replacement of existing facilities. On April 2, 1998, Cindy Hodges from IDWR met with Chuck Helman, watermaster, and field checked the existing facilities. Attached is a copy of a memo detailing the department's findings. I recommend that the work outlined that can be considered routine maintenance or easily accomplished be completed prior to delivery of water this year or as soon as possible. The work that will require significant construction may be delayed until the fall but must be completed prior to the 1999 season as agreed at the annual meeting.

Regarding the control and measurement of pump diversions, as Cindy's memo indicates, the practice has been to count sprinkler heads and limit diversions based on sprinkler capacity. Control is by removal of pumps from creek. This practice appears to be reasonable and appropriate as long as no serious problems develop. If problems with this current method develop, pump users will either have to install meters and gates on the pumps or pump from ponds or sumps which are supplied water diverted via headgates and weirs/flumes. In making this determination IDWR has considered past experience that meters are expensive and for surface water require continuous maintenance. Construction of ponds with control works and weirs/flumes will be expensive for small pump diversions. To improve the measurement via sprinklers it is recommended that the watermaster obtain pressure gages and use standard charts to determine discharge. Each system should be rated at the worst case by the watermaster and water use charged accordingly. If more accurate measurement is desired by the user the other methods described above should be installed by the wateruser.

If you have specific questions you may call Cindy at (208-327-5406) or Jim Stanton at our local office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen Merritt". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Allen Merritt, PE  
Southern Region Manager