

June 7, 1995

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Department of Water Resources
Eastern District Office

Don Aikele, Chairman
Big Lost River Irrigation District

Doug Rosenkrance, Water Master
Idaho Dept. Of Water Resources, District 34

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to formally advise you of my concerns regarding the flood dangers posed by the UC Canal to our home/property. Specifically, I believe that the Irrigation District's action to dam off the natural course of Antelope Creek (South branch), at it's crossing point of the UC Canal, for purposes of filling the canal with Antelope Ck waters, has resulted in a serious flood hazard to our home/property at 3592 3600 North in Darlington, Idaho.

For the past two weeks I have repeatedly contacted various representatives of the Irrigation District (Don Aikele, George Gilbert, Don Scarr), the IDWR Water Master (Doug Rosenkrance) and the Butte County Commissioners (Seth Beal) to voice my concerns over the general flooding problems in the vicinity of the Antelope Ck (So. Branch) crossing of the UC Canal and specifically over the excessively high water level created in the UC Canal by the Irrigation District dam on Antelope Ck at this crossing point. The canal has remained full to the point of seepage along the top of the bank at it's low point bordering on the Rhoades and Huffaker properties and to the point of backing up (westward) into the borrow pit along 3600 North adjacent to my property. The unquestionable cause of this situation is the Irrigation District action to divert the waters of Antelope Ck, from their normal/natural course, into the UC Canal.

It is my understanding from conversations with each of ^{you} that you are fully aware of my concerns, the hazards and the legal risks associated with the UC Canal blockage/disruption to the normal/natural course of flow for Antelope Creek.

I ~~am~~ understand and appreciate the difficult decisions facing the Irrigation District and Water Master; however, these decisions absolutely must result in aiding the Antelope waters to their inevitable destination in the Big Lost River and absolutely cannot result in allowing the UC Canal itself to become a hazardous barrier to the natural course of Antelope Creek. From my perspective, if gates, dams, crossing choke points or the banks of the UC Canal present barriers which result in unnatural flood hazards, then these obstacles must be removed.

I have tried, and will continue to try, to remain reasonable and helpful during this difficult period and I trust that you, the Chairman of the Big Lost River Irrigation District and Water Master of IDWR District 34, will insure that neither the structure nor the contents of the ~~UC~~ Canal are the cause of any flooding damage to our home/property. ^{UC}

copy to: Seth Beal

Sincerely,

W.A. Rhoades
W.A. RHOADES
PO Box 831
ARCO, Idaho
83213