

Nelson, Dan

From: Nelson, Dan
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2003 10:26 AM
To: Spackman, Gary
Cc: Western Region
Subject: Stream Channel Water District stuff.

Hi Gary,

I wanted to ask Erv Ballou if there was anything I should mention at my water district meeting today concerning Stream channel things. Erv told me that things have changed in the Stream Channel area. Water Districts and irrigators can now only work on their diversions. For example, if the an irrigator fixed his dam and worked on his headgate, he would probably be ok. However, if he dredges out the stream or creates a levee, he would be considered illegal.

The Army Corp's fines are much greater than ours and could result in tens of thousands of dollars, and the Army Corp also needs to contact other federal agencies if a violation occurs. Water District 37 and 01 are currently negotiating a fine with Army Corp and the EPA over work they did this year. The work they were doing had been done for years, but they are no longer allowed too. This is a new time and the fines are much higher and may include sevral federal agencies if a mistake is made. Erv asked me to please ask the water district users to contact him at 327-5448 or Idaho Department of Water Resources, ATTN: Erv Ballou, 1301 N. Orchard, Boise, ID 83706 before any work is done. It will save them a great deal of heart ache and money in the long run to get approval ahead of time.

Dan Nelson
Western Region