



State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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PHILIP E. BATT
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

December 26, 1995

Harley Riggs, Watermaster
Water District 61-C, Bennett Creek
P.O. Box 1161
Mountain Home, ID 83647

RE: Letter from Mr. Corey Arellano

Dear Mr. Riggs:

This office has received a request from Mr. Corey Arellano for water to be released past the Teapot Reservoirs on Bennett Creek (copy enclosed).

Our initial investigation in this matter has revealed that the diversion works for the Arellano irrigation system have been dysfunctional for many years, but there is a possibility that a year-around instream stockwatering right exists for Mr. Arellano's property in Section 15, T5S, R8E. On November 27, 1995, Mr. Arellano filed with this office a Snake River Basin Adjudication claim to an instream stockwater right, with priority date of December 19, 1908. A copy of this claim, which has been numbered A61-11831, is enclosed.

The purposes of this letter are to advise you of the request from Mr. Arellano, and to ask if you are aware of the historic use of water on the Arellano property for stockwatering purposes. Please advise Mr. Ron Howerton of this office, who is conducting the adjudication investigation on these claims, regarding your information on historic use. By copy of this letter I am also requesting historic use information from the owners of the upstream storage reservoirs, Bennett Creek Farms. Based on the responses that we receive, we will determine an appropriate reaction to Mr. Arellano's request.

Sincerely,

David R. Tuthill, Jr., P. E.
Manager, Western Region Office

Enclosure: SRBA Claim No. 61-11831, Letter from Corey Arellano

cc: Bennett Creek Farms, Ron Howerton, Corey Arellano