



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Interim Director

NOVEMBER 24, 2009

RE: WATER DISTRICT NO. 170 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Dear Mr. Vanek,

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of a public meeting to be held in Clayton, ID on December 16, 2009 and to schedule a meeting of the Water District No. 170 Advisory Committee to be held immediately thereafter.

During the last Water District No. 170 Advisory Committee meeting (held on January 27, 2009) we discussed the prospect that, as measurement and control are implemented in WD170, the district will need to begin funding staff to perform measurement and reporting. At that time, the plan was to form a number of sub-districts to accommodate differing local needs. Toward that end, we discussed scheduling a follow up meeting to develop recommendations for future sub-district boundaries. As the purpose of the December 16th public meeting is for the users on the East Fork and tributaries to discuss formation of a sub-district, it seems the time is right to hold that follow up meeting. Additionally, it would be beneficial for members of the WD170 Advisory Committee to be present at the public meeting to provide input and to participate in the discussions regarding an East Fork sub-district, particularly with regard to how potential other sub-districts might affect the decision to pursue an East Fork sub-district and how such a district might be structured.

I have enclosed the public meeting announcement for the December 16th meeting in Clayton and have also enclosed a map showing potential boundaries for additional sub-districts. The boundaries shown on the map are based on my review of the water rights and are meant only as a first step in considering where boundaries might make sense. I look forward to your input and consideration of whether additional sub-districts should be pursued and how those sub-districts might be structured to best serve the interests of the water users in each area and the district as a whole.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact either me (208-287-4956) or Bob Foster at the IDWR Salmon Office (208-756-6644).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Miller', is written over a white background.

Nick Miller, P.E.
Staff Engineer, IDWR
Watermaster, Water District No. 170

NOVEMBER 17, 2009

RE: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF WATER USERS ON THE EAST FORK AND TRIBUTARIES

Dear Water User:

This letter provides notice of a public meeting of water users to be held December 16, 2009 in Clayton, ID. The Purpose of the meeting is to discuss creation of an East Fork sub-district within Water District No. 170. A sub-district is an organizational unit within a water district that allows users in an area to elect and fund a local watermaster to provide watermaster services. Sub-districts allow users a greater degree of local control over water delivery and reduce or eliminate the need for those users to contribute to the costs of the larger district.

TIME AND PLACE:

When: 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Where: Clayton Community Center, Clayton, ID

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE:

On April 6, 2006, the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) issued an order creating Water District No. 170 (WD170). WD170 was created to administer water rights from the Salmon River and tributaries (including groundwater) upstream of the confluence with the Pashimeroi River. Because WD170 encompasses such a large geographic area, the order creating WD170 anticipated that a number of sub-districts could be created within the larger district to facilitate administration, limit costs associated with the district, and provide a level of local control. The meeting in Clayton is held to discuss whether water users from the East Fork and tributaries want to pursue organization into a sub-district within WD170.

IDWR has agreed to provide watermaster services for WD170 for a limited initial period, after which users will elect and fund a WD170 watermaster. Currently, the WD170 Watermaster is performing the measuring and reporting duties in the East Fork area and is funded by IDWR. Although IDWR will continue to provide watermaster services for WD170 during 2010, the costs associated directly with measurement and reporting in some parts of Basin 72 will be funded by the users starting in 2010. Organizing into a sub-district will provide the East Fork users more control over the cost of performing those activities.

Existing and Potential SubDistricts in Water District No. 170

- SWD71 - Stanley Area: Possibly expand duties to measure Big Casino Creek
- SWD72A - Garden and Challis Creeks: Expand as shown and possibly incorporate area shown as "SWD72S4".
- SWD72F - Morgan Creek: Expand as shown.
- SWD72EF - East Fork and Tributaries
- SWD72S1 - Salmon River and Tributaries above the East Fork
- SWD72S2 - Salmon River and Tributaries below the East Fork and above the Challis Irrigation Canal
- SWD72S3 - Lands to the south/east of the Salmon River, (roughly the area served by the Challis Irrigation Company) and Warm Springs Creek.
- SWD72S4 - Lands to the north/west of the Salmon River from the Gini Ditch downstream to Challis Creek. This area might better be combined with 72A, since some lands are served by both Challis Creek and the Gini Ditch.
- SWD72YF - Yankee Fork and Tributaries.



Legend

-  Existing Sub-districts
-  Garden and Challis Creek and Tributaries
-  Morgan Creek
-  Stanley Area Sub-district
-  Draft Sub-district Areas

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