



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Interim Director

December 5, 2011

John W. Jones Jr.
PO Box 265
Hagerman, ID 83332

RE: Failure to Maintain a Measuring Device for the Jones Irrigation Pumps near the Jones Hatchery; Incomplete 2011 Measurement Data for Jones Fish Hatchery and Irrigation Pumps

Dear Mr. Jones,

During the past several months, staff at the Idaho Department of Water Resource (Department or IDWR) have reviewed the historical measurement data associated with your diversions of water from Weatherby Springs, Three Springs and Hoagland Tunnel used for both your fish hatchery and the irrigation pumps located next to your hatchery. The review was made in response to your water delivery call for water right no. 36-7071 and the Department's on-going effort to evaluate spring source discharges and calibrate the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Model (ESPAM).

As part of the above referenced review, you provided the Department with copies of notebooks containing your field measurements for the hatchery. The Department reviewed records from 1995 through October 7, 2011. Our review of your notebooks allowed us to correct or update annual reported data. We have noted that the 2011 data did not include measurements for the irrigation pumps which withdraw water from the hatchery above the twelve-foot rectangular weir. Additionally, an IDWR field visit to your hatchery irrigation pumps on July 10, 2009 revealed that the installed meter for the irrigation pumps was not working at that time. IDWR staff advised your manager of the problem and steps to take to resolve the issue. Your manager, Phil Gossi, recently advised the Department that the irrigation pumps flow meter was not operable during the 2011 irrigation season. As a result, total flow through the hatchery during the 2011 irrigation season cannot accurately be reported. IDWR did not add hatchery diversions beyond February, 2011 to its water district diversion database. Moreover, reported diversions for both the irrigation pumps and the hatchery during the 2009 and 2010 irrigation seasons may be in question.

Please be advised that this is a formal Department notice to you that you must replace the flow meter for your irrigation pumps prior to the 2012 irrigation season. The installed flow meter must meet minimum Department standards as documented in the following IDWR website link: <http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterManagement/WaterMeasurement/PDFs/MinAccepStand.pdf> The Department further requests that you submit a plan for meter installation to IDWR on or before February 1, 2012. At a minimum, the plan should identify the meter type, size, manufacturer, and meter

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installation location. **Failure to install a standard acceptable flow meter prior to the diversion of water for irrigation in 2012 may result in the issuance of a Notice of Violation and Cease and Desist Order** for failure to comply with previous Department orders requiring measurement and reporting of diversions in Administrative Basin 36 and Water District 36-A.

The Department also requests that for each meter reading you begin recording and reporting to IDWR both flow rate and total meter volume (record in acre-feet). Measurements of the irrigation pumps must be made and recorded at least once per week and done at the same date and time when the hatchery is measured and recorded.

Additionally, please be reminded that the hatchery measurement data during the 2011 irrigation season are incomplete. You may wish to contact IDWR immediately to discuss a potential methodology for estimating the irrigation diversions and total hatchery flow for the 2011 irrigation season.

The Department looks forward to your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns please contact either me or Corbin Knowles by telephone at (208) 287-4800 or contact me by email at tim.luke@idwr.idaho.gov.

Respectfully,



Tim Luke
Water Compliance Bureau Chief

Cc: Frank Irwin, Water District 36-A Watermaster
Corbin Knowles, IDWR
Jennifer Sukow, IDWR
IDWR Southern Region
Garrick Baxter, Deputy Attorney General (IDWR)
Geoffrey Wardle, Attorney for John W Jones Jr.