

## State of Idaho

## DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way · Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER Governor GARY SPACKMAN Interim Director

November 1, 2010

Teresa McCallum, Chairperson Elsie Riggs, Secretary/Treasurer Water User Members Cold Springs Bennett Creek Water District #61C& E

**RE:** Watermaster for 2011 Irrigation Season

Dear Parties:

At the District meeting on August 31, 2010, the District voted to have the Department staff perform the District watermaster duties for the 2011 irrigation season. If the Department Director declined the responsibility, Gary Ellis would be the elected watermaster for the new season.

Recently, I met with Administration Staff and the Director regarding the District's request for a Department staff watermaster next season. Given the current staff and budget reductions and additional future budget holdbacks, the Director has declined the request to appoint a Department staff member as District Watermaster. Mr. Ellis will be the duly elected/appointed Watermaster for the 2011 irrigation season.

To assist the new Watermaster, the Department will assign a staff member to provide a 1 day onsite preseason training, and the regional office will provide technical support as needed. However, I want to emphasize the Department's resources are very limited. If there is an unfortunate midseason resignation of the Watermaster, the District will need to expedite the search/election of a replacement.

Enclosed is a measurement and controllable works order that was issued for Cold Springs Creek in January of 2002. Please be advised, the order will continue to be applicable for the 2011 new season. Department staff and the Watermaster will be checking to make sure wateruser diversions meet the necessary measurement and controllable works standards.

Should you have questions or concerns please contact me at the Western Regional Office, phone 334-2190.

Sincerely,

John Westra, Manager

Enclosure: measurement/control device order