



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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

Phone: (208) 334-2190 • Fax: (208) 334-2348 • Web Site: [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

March 30, 2012

C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN  
Director

RON SHURTLEFF  
102 N MAIN  
PAYETTE, ID 83661

**RE: Watermaster Appointment 2012— Payette River #65**

Dear Mr. Shurtleff:

Enclosed is your Watermaster Certificate of Appointment for the 2012 season.

You will take charge of the water of the district and distribute the same in accordance with the laws of Idaho and decrees of the courts. Distribution shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the user's respective rights, and as may be required by the Department of Water Resources. You should note that the enclosed Certificate of Appointment authorizes delivery of natural flow and also stored water pursuant to Section 42-801, Idaho Code.

During the 2011 session, the legislature made several significant changes to the Watermaster Statutes in Chapter 6. In summary the following changes were made:

- Under IC42-605, new watermasters will continue to file an oath of office with the Department. However, a duly appointed watermaster that is reelected in consecutive years will no longer be required to file additional oaths each year.
- Under IC 42-608, a wateruser no longer is required to submit a written Petition for Watermaster Services to the Department when calling the Watermaster. The wateruser now calls the watermaster directly when there is a necessity for control and distribution of water within the district.
- Under 42-615, the watermaster no longer have to submit the district proposed budget to the Department. They are to prepare a proposed budget 14 days in advance of the annual meeting. The proposed budget and distribution should be submitted at the annual meeting for consideration by the water users.

These changes definitely will eliminate significant paper work and time for all parties. Feel free to contact our Western Regional Office if you need assistance during the irrigation season, phone 334-2190.

Sincerely,

John Westra,  
Western Region

Enclosures: Certificate of Appointment