



UPPER SALMON BASIN WATERSHED PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Idaho Department of Water Resources
PO BOX 83720
Boise, Id. 83720-0098

February 12, 2018

Re: Upper Salmon Water District 170 Expansion/Modification to include Water District 74

Dear Hearing Office James Cefalo:

On behalf of the Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC), I would like to confirm that our group has seen IDWR's proposal to expand Water District 170 (WD170) to include the Lemhi Basin. The WAC is a community driven partnership founded in 1992 through a grass roots effort, with landowners voluntarily working together with local, state and federal partners. Our mission statement is to 'provide a public framework for coordination and cooperation among local, private, state, tribal, and federal fish, wildlife, and land managers, land users, and landowners in the management of biological, social, and economic resources in protecting, enhancing, and restoring anadromous and resident fish habitat and wildlife.'

At a public hearing held February 1, 2018, the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) presented proposals related to the expansion of WD170 to include all surface and groundwater rights in IDWR Administrative Basin 74, with the exception of domestic and stockwater rights. Proposals included designating the existing B74 water districts as sub-districts of WD170, adding ground water administration to sub-districts, and combining existing water districts 74U-Andrews and Slough Ditch 74K-Pattee Creek and 74Y-Yearian Creek into Water District 74.

The expansion of WD170 is necessary to satisfy the mandate of the Wild and Scenic Agreement to include Upper Salmon Basins 71-75. The expansion of WD170 directly and positively influences the USBWP's mission and the conjunctive management of surface water and ground water rights is timely.

Please enter these comments into the record of the February 1, 2018 Public Hearing.

Sincerely,

Shannon K Williams

Shannon Williams
WAC Chair
955 Riverfront Dr. Suite B
Salmon, Idaho 83467
(208)756-6322
www.modelwatershed.org