

**Payette River Basin, State of Idaho
State Water District No. 65**

102 North Main Street
Payette, Idaho 83661

Watermaster
Ron Shurtleff

RECEIVED

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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
Phone 208-642-1465
Fax 208-642-1042

E-mail, waterdist65@srvinet.com

October 2, 2013

Mr. Tim Luke
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0098

Re: Payette River Accounting, specifically the Seven Mile Slough

Tim
Dear Mr. Luke,

During the past several years the Water District No. 65 has installed measuring and monitoring devices on four additional canals which divert from the Seven Mile Slough. As we gain additional real time data, it is becoming apparent that we are capable of diverting more water from the slough, than we put in at the head and middle slough. This is possible because there is a significant amount of return flow which re-enters the slough from upstream diversions from the slough.

At present we are treating the slough much like a canal. Whereas; we account for water diverted into the slough and for water returning back to the river, while the thirteen diversions from the slough are set up to balance, thus, the system lacks the ability to account for reach gain.

In a continued effort to perfect our accounting system, I have proposed to my advisory board, that we should make special effort to achieve real time monitoring on the remaining six diversions from the Seven Mile Slough. In addition, I would like to suggest to the Department of Water Resources that the accounting model might be redesigned and set up to account for reach gain within the Seven Mile Slough.

I realize this is a very brief explanation of the conditions on this subject. If you would like to learn more about the reasoning behind my suggestion, I would enjoy sharing in more detail, what I believe might be a more equitable accounting method. Thank you for your attention to this subject.

Sincerely,

Ron Shurtleff
Ron Shurtleff