United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Snake River Area Office
230 Collins Road
Boise, Idaho 83702-4520

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

JAN 28 2005

PN-3906
LND-8.00

Subject: Release of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Minidoka North Side, Minidoka Project, Burley, Idaho

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed you will find the RMP for the Minidoka North Side. As you may be aware, a planning process has been on-going for the last 2½ years involving Federal, state, local government, Tribes, and interested members of the public, to develop alternatives for managing the land and recreation resources around Burley, Idaho. This document presents the conclusion of this effort. The RMP will serve as a guide for managing the natural and cultural resources, recreation facilities, and public access for the next 15 years.

The RMP emphasizes natural and cultural resource enhancement while maintaining current recreational opportunities on Minidoka North Side land parcels. Some facility improvements are proposed. The plan addresses agricultural and grazing leases, location of sand and gravel extraction sites, and the location of drain water wetlands. The plan also identifies means for better management and enforcement of ad hoc camping, day use and off road vehicle use to protect natural resources, and efforts to eliminate current, and prevent future, trespass and encroachment onto Reclamation lands. The plan specifies that land with higher wildlife habitat values would generally not be converted to, or degraded by, other uses.

The RMP can also be viewed on Reclamation's website at www.usbr.gov/pn. The document is also available at the public library in Burley and at Reclamation's Burley, and Boise Offices. For questions about the RMP, or to request additional copies of the document, please contact: Vicki Kellerman, Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1150 N. Curtis Rd, Suite 100, Boise, ID 83706, or by phone at 208-378-5326, or e-mail at: vkellerman@pn.usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Jerrold D. Gregg
Area Manager

Enclosure