

NOTICE OF MITIGATION PLAN SUBMITTED BY SOUTHWEST AND GOOSE CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICTS IN RESPONSE TO THE SURFACE WATER COALITION WATER DELIVERY CALL

Notice is hereby given that, on February 9, 2016, Southwest Irrigation District and Goose Creek Irrigation District (collectively referred to as "SWID"), and A&B Irrigation District, American Falls Reservoir District #2, Milner Irrigation District, Minidoka Irrigation District, North Side Canal Company, and Twin Falls Canal Company (collectively referred to as the "Surface Water Coalition"), through counsel of the firms Parsons, Smith, Loveland, Stone & Shirley LLP, P.O. Box 910, Burley, Idaho, 83318, Barker Rosholt & Simpson LLP, 195 River Vista Place, Suite 204, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-3029, and Fletcher Law Office, P.O. Box 248, Burley, Idaho 83318, submitted to the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department") a *Joint Motion for Approval of Interim Mitigation Agreement for 2016* ("Motion"). Attached to the Motion are an *Interim Mitigation Agreement* and a *First Amendment to Interim Mitigation Agreement* (collectively referred to as the "Mitigation Plan"). The Department will process the Mitigation Plan pursuant to the Department's Conjunctive Management Rules (IDAPA 37.03.11). The Mitigation Plan may be viewed online at the following website link:

<http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/legal-actions/mitigation-plan-actions/SWC/SWID.html>

SWID represents numerous landowners who hold ground water rights for irrigation, commercial, and other non-*de minimis* consumptive uses located within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer and other areas of Cassia and Twin Falls Counties. Certain of these ground water rights have priority dates junior to the priority dates of surface water rights held by the Surface Water Coalition. The Mitigation Plan intends to benefit senior water rights held by members of the Surface Water Coalition involved in the Surface Water Coalition delivery call.

In 2015, the Director approved a stipulated interim mitigation plan submitted by SWID and the Surface Water Coalition. The stipulated interim mitigation plan expired December 31, 2015. The Mitigation Plan seeks to extend the stipulated interim mitigation plan for another year from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016.

The Department has not determined the adequacy of the proposed Mitigation Plan. A complete copy of the Mitigation Plan is available for review at either the Department's State Office in Boise, the Department's Regional Office in Twin Falls, or at the website link above.

Any protest against approval of the Mitigation Plan must be filed with any Department office, together with a protest fee of \$25, on or before **March 21, 2016**. The protest must include a certificate of service showing that a copy of the protest has been mailed to or served upon counsel for SWID and the Surface Water Coalition.

Gary Spackman, Director

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