



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

March 4, 2014

«OwnerName»
«StreetAddress1»
«StreetAddress2»
«StreetAddress3»
«City» «StateCode» «PostalCode»

RE: Notice of Potential Curtailment of Ground Water Rights in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer

Dear Water Right Holder,

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the latest water supply conditions as they relate to the Surface Water Collation (SWC) delivery call. You are the water right holder of record for one or more water rights that received a letter dated January 28, 2014 informing you that your water right could be subject to curtailment during the 2014 irrigation year (November 1, 2013 – October 31, 2014) as a result of the SWC delivery call. The SWC delivery call applies to ground water rights that affect reaches of the Snake River in the American Falls area that are hydraulically connected to the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) and lie within the Surface Water Coalition trim line and within the area of common ground water supply. The Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (Department) is administering water rights by priority as required in the order of June 23, 2010, issued in response to the water delivery call made by members of the SWC, which includes the A&B Irrigation District, the American Falls Reservoir District #2, the Burley Irrigation District, the Milner Irrigation District, the Minidoka Irrigation District, the North Side Canal Company, and the Twin Falls Canal Company. A copy of the order can be found on the Department's website:

www.idwr.idaho.gov/News/WaterCalls/Surface%20Coalition%20Call/2010/06Jun/20100623_AmendedFinalOrder.pdf

The SWC called for delivery of their water rights under the Department's Rules for Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources (IDAPA 37.03.11). The call applies to ground water rights for irrigation, commercial, industrial, municipal, non-exempt domestic uses, and other consumptive uses. Non-consumptive uses and culinary in-house uses of water are not subject to curtailment under the order.

The Director is required to predict the extent of material injury reasonably likely to occur to members of the SWC during the 2014 water year as a result of depletions caused by the diversion of water under junior priority ground water rights. The Director will issue his first prediction in April 2014 following the issuance of the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and United States Army Corps of Engineers Joint Forecast of unregulated inflow volume at the Heise Gage for the

period of April 1 through July 31. Depending on the forecasted runoff, the determination could result in the curtailment of consumptive ground water rights during the 2014 irrigation season.

The Department has completed preliminary curtailment predictions based on the current water supply conditions as of February 20, 2014. Curtailment scenarios were based on years with similar carryover conditions and had similar runoff forecasts published by NRCS. The NRCS daily guidance forecast published on February 20, 2014 was used to predict the Snake River at Heise runoff volume from April – July. Based on those predictions, there is a better than 90% chance that no curtailment will be required.

A copy of this notice has been sent to all ground water right holders who received a letter in January 2014. The Department will continue to provide updates regarding this matter on its website at: <http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/news/curtailment/curtailment.htm>. No further written notice is anticipated this irrigation season given the very remote chance of curtailment.

I hope this letter assists you in planning your beneficial use of water during the remainder of the year.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Spackman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Spackman
Director

¹ On November 25, 2013, the Department approved an interim mitigation plan for Southwest Irrigation District (SWID) and Goose Creek Irrigation District (GCID). Accordingly, junior ground water users who are members of SWID and GCID will be excluded from any potential curtailment ordered this year in response to the SWC delivery call.