



State of Idaho

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN  
Director

March 6, 2015

Joseph F. James  
Brown & James  
130 Fourth Ave. West  
Gooding, Idaho 83330

Re: Members of Big Wood & Little Wood Water Users Association, Diverting from the Big Wood River, Request for Administration of Water Rights under the Prior Appropriation Doctrine

Dear Mr. James:

The Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department") received your letter dated February 23, 2015, requesting administration of water rights under the prior appropriation doctrine ("Call Letter"). The Department will treat your Call Letter as a new delivery call pursuant to the Department's Conjunctive Management Rules and will initiate a new contested case proceeding. IDAPA 37.03.11. The Department has assigned a docket number to this contested case. Please file all pleadings under the following docket number: CM-DC-2015-001. The Department is in the process of identifying and notifying potentially affected ground water users. The Department will issue an order setting a date for the initial status conference soon.

Upon initial review of water rights diverting from the Big Wood River listed in the Call Letter, Department staff noticed that one of the rights—water right no. 37-0673—includes no information regarding the owner, diversion rate, priority date, or water use. Review of Department water right records reveals that water right no. 37-0673 was superseded by water right nos. 37-10641 and 37-22384, which were claimed and decreed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication. Please clarify your intent regarding the superseded water right as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Spackman".

Gary Spackman  
Director