



**IDAHO FISH & GAME**

600 South Walnut / Box 25  
Boise, Idaho 83707-0025

Receipt - 6042 969

\$25.00

Philip E. Batt / Governor  
Stephen P. Mealey / Director

July 28, 1998

RECEIVED

JUL 29 1998

Department of Water Resources

Mr. Karl Dreher, Director  
Idaho Department of Water Resources  
Statehouse Mail

RE: Notice of applications 01-7131 through 01-07141; 02-07473 and 02-07474; and 21-07574 through 21-07580

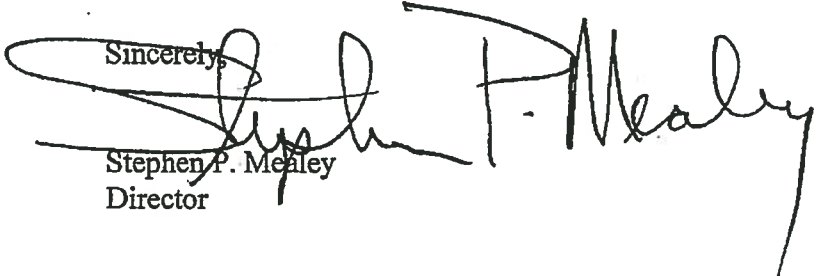
Dear Karl:

Idaho Department of Fish and Game personnel have reviewed the legal notice for the above-referenced water right applications. Based on that review, I protest their approval at this time. The Department protests these applications so that we may become full parties to the proceedings and subsequent discussions to determine potential impacts to fish, wildlife, and riparian resources.

The water rights, as advertised, (i.e., diversion throughout the year up to the maximum diversion capacity of the canal systems) could cause significant impacts to fish and wildlife in the South Fork Snake, Henry's Fork, Fall, and mainstem Snake rivers. Detailed information is needed to determine the exact nature and extent of any potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources. Please provide us with copies of all the applications and the specific Aquifer Recharge Plans for each application so we may provide a more detailed review.

We welcome the opportunity to continue to work with your staff to discuss our concerns about the applications and opportunities to mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources if mitigation is warranted. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen P. Mealey  
Director

SPM:cr