



State of Idaho

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

322 East Front Street • P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 287-4800 • Fax: (208) 287-6700 • Website: [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN  
Director

December 22, 2015

**Re: Rescheduled Notice of Public Hearing for the Proposed Water District Creation for Basin 61 and Part of Basin 63 Ground Water Rights**

Dear Water User,

Enclosed please find a copy of the Notice of Public Hearing regarding the above referenced matter. The records of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) show that you own or have an interest in one or more ground water rights that are diverted within the proposed water district.

As the hearing notice states, the public hearing will be held Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 6:00PM at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Mountain Home, Idaho (see location directions below). You may have received a previous notice stating the hearing was scheduled earlier this month. However, due to an administrative oversight, not all water right owners or interested parties were notified of the original hearing. The hearing has been rescheduled so all water right holders and interested parties have the opportunity to understand IDWR's proposed action and participate in the hearing.

Please refer to the attached hearing notice for more information.

If you have questions regarding the water district creation or the upcoming hearing, please contact the IDWR State office at 208-287-4800 or the regional office in Boise at 208-334-2190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy J. Luke". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Tim Luke  
Water Compliance Bureau

Directions to Hampton Inn and Suites 3175 Foothills Ave, Mountain Home, ID 83647:

From I-84 Eastbound/Westbound: Take I-84 toward Mountain Home, ID. Take exit 95: Hwy 20/Mountain Home-Fairfield. Turn north onto Hwy 20 (Sun Valley Highway). Turn east onto Foothills Ave.

From Hwy 20: Take Hwy 20 into Mountain Home city limits, toward I-84/Exit 95 interchange. Turn east onto Foothills Ave (just north of I-84/Exit 95 interchange).

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED )  
CREATION OF A WATER DISTRICT FOR )  
ADMINISTRATION OF GROUND WATER )  
RIGHTS IN THE MOUNTAIN HOME AREA, )      NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ADMINISTRATIVE BASIN 61 AND PART )  
OF ADMINISTRATIVE BASIN 63 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

The Director (“Director”) of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (“IDWR”) is authorized to divide the state into water districts for the purpose of distributing water among appropriators under the laws of the State of Idaho. Idaho Code § 42-604 vests the Director with authority to create, revise the boundaries of, or abolish a water district or combine two (2) or more water districts.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-604, that IDWR will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed creation of a water district as follows:

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED CREATION OF A WATER DISTRICT FOR  
ADMINISTRATION OF GROUND WATER RIGHTS IN THE MOUNTAIN HOME AREA,  
ADMINISTRATIVE BASIN NO. 61 AND PART OF ADMINISTRATIVE BASIN NO. 63**

**Date:**            Tuesday, January 12, 2016  
**Time:**            6:00 PM  
**Location:**      Hampton Inn and Suites  
                         3175 Foothills Ave  
                         Mountain Home, ID 83647

The authority to create water districts applies to those streams, or other water sources including ground water, for which the priorities of appropriation have been adjudicated by court decree. Both surface water and ground water rights in Administrative Basin Nos. 61 and 63 (“Basin 61” and “Basin 63”) have been adjudicated by the Snake River Basin Adjudication (“SRBA”) Court. The SRBA was completed on August 25, 2014.

The Director proposes to create a new water district in Basin 61 plus a portion of Basin 63 as shown on the map attached hereto as Attachment A. The proposed water district will include all ground water rights within Basin 61 and part of Basin 63 except for ground water domestic and stock water rights as defined under Idaho Code §§ 42-111 and 42-1401A (11).

The new water district is required to properly administer the ground water uses and ground water rights within Basin 61 and part of Basin 63. Ground water rights in Basin 61 and Basin 63 have not been included in water districts and are not currently subject to any administration or regulation. The water district is also needed to facilitate the measurement and reporting of water use diversions. Much of Basin 61 is included in the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area and the Cinder Cone Butte Critical Ground Water Area where specific water management programs or objectives may be necessary under Idaho law, including the measurement and reporting of ground water withdrawals.

Upon creation of the water district, a meeting of the holders of water rights in the district will be held for the purpose of electing a watermaster and advisory committee.

It is important that holders of water rights understand the proposed action and participate in the hearing process. Cindy Yenter, IDWR Water Rights Supervisor, Twin Falls, will serve as the hearing officer. Persons attending the hearing will have an opportunity to present oral comments regarding the proposed action. Written comments may be submitted to the hearing officer at the hearing or at any time prior to the close of the written comment period on January 22, 2016. Written comments not presented at the hearing should be sent to the Director, Department of Water Resources, PO Box 83720, Boise, Idaho, 83720-0098.

IDWR will present information at the hearing about why it is proposing creation of the water district, a time frame for district formation and operation, and proposed water measurement requirements. The hearing will be held in accordance with IDWR's Rules of Procedures (IDAPA 37.01.01). These rules may be viewed at the Idaho Department of Administration's website as follows:  
<http://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/37/0101.pdf>

The hearing will be conducted in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Should you require special accommodations in order to attend, participate in, or understand the hearing, please contact IDWR at least five days prior to the hearing.

This notice of hearing has been sent to all ground water right holders of record in Basin 61 and part of Basin 63 as shown on the map in Attachment A except ground water domestic and stock water rights defined under Idaho Code §§ 42-111 and 42-1401A (11).

If you have questions concerning this notice, please call the IDWR State Office at (208) 287-4800. You can also contact IDWR's regional offices in Boise at (208) 334-2190 or Twin Falls at (208) 736-3033.

DATED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 2015



Gary Spackman  
Director

## Attachment A Proposed Water District Boundary for Administration of Ground Water Rights

