BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

IN THE MATTER OF A DECLARATION OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY FOR CAMAS COUNTY)	ORDER DECLARING DROUGHT EMERGENCY
	_)	

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Camas County requested that the Governor of Idaho ("Governor") and the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Director") declare a drought emergency for Camas County to allow administrative actions to lessen the impacts of drought conditions in the county; and

WHEREAS, Camas County is included within and relies upon water supplies from the Camas Creek and South Fork Boise River drainages; and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2025, the United States Department of Agriculture notified the Governor that under 7 C.F.R § 759.5(a) and section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Camas County is declared a contiguous natural disaster county due to recent drought; and

WHEREAS, Camas County is experiencing drought conditions due to a very dry and warm April. Precipitation for April 2025 was the 5th driest on record since 1895, and temperatures during April were in the 82nd percentile¹; and

WHEREAS, total snow water equivalent (SWE) levels in both the Camas Creek and South Fork Boise River drainage basins on April 1 were 124 percent of the median, and by May 1, SWE levels were respectively 78 and 105 percent of the median; and

WHEREAS, water year precipitation levels as of August 1 in the Camas Creek drainage are 92 percent of the median and in the South Fork Boise River drainage are 91 percent of the median; and

WHEREAS, June through September stream flow volume forecasts for Camas Creek near Blaine and the South Fork Boise River at Anderson Ranch Dam are respectively estimated to be 88 and 77 percent of the median; and

WHEREAS, the United States Drought Monitor Index on September 4, 2025, showed Camas County classified with gradients of abnormally dry to severe drought; and

¹Hoekema, David. *An Update on Water Supply in Idaho: July 1, 2025.* Idaho Department of Water Resources.

approved to provide water for new development or to allow expansion of the use of water under existing water rights. If the right to use the water is represented by shares of stock in a corporation, or if the diversion works or delivery system for such right is owned or managed by an irrigation district, no change in point of diversion, place or nature of use of such water shall be made or allowed without the written consent of such corporation or irrigation district.

6. Any applicant for a temporary change who is aggrieved by a denial of the Director for a temporary change pursuant to this order and the provisions of section 42-222A, Idaho Code, may request a hearing pursuant to section 42-1701A(3), Idaho Code, and may seek judicial review of the final order of the Director pursuant to the provisions of section 42-1701A(4), Idaho Code.

IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED that this order is effective upon approval of the Governor and expires on December 31, 2025, unless extended or terminated by order of the Director.

DATED this day of September, 2025.

Mat Weaver Director

APPROVED this day of September, 2025.

Brad Little Governor