

Thorneycroft, Kensie

From: drifterswest@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 11:02 AM
To: Luke, Tim
Subject: Proposed Big Wood River Ground Water Management Plan

Dear Mr. Luke,

Weather related impacts to our environment are beyond anyone's control yet affect us all. Idaho, as in many other States, is experiencing dry/drought conditions because of the weather. We aren't getting the moisture. It's that simple and not anyone's fault; just the way it is.

We understand the need to work together to bring about the best solutions under such demanding situations and in general support the proposed Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Draft Management Plan **EXCEPT** for one thing. A moratorium on domestic wells should be put in place and enforced.

We attended the IDWR meeting on March 23rd in Hailey and the very first thing IDWR representatives pointed out was "First in time is first in right." As 4th generation farmers and ranchers, we understand water rights. What we do not understand is why no one will acknowledge that ANY well has an impact on the aquifer and pumping. You cannot say 100 new domestic wells (especially when extensive landscaping is included) won't have an impact. Singling out irrigation wells is inequitable and hypocritical. Were not the irrigation wells "first in time?"

Along those lines, cities and their respective planning departments should be requiring xeriscape landscaping for any new developments.

The weather affects us all so we should ALL be required to do our part and not place the burden on a few.

In conclusion, IDWR is respectfully requested to make the Management Plan equal to all and should include a moratorium be placed on domestic wells.

Sincerely,

Wendy & Keith Jones
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