

SUN VALLEY COMPANY'S PROPOSED GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Sun Valley Company (SVC) owns junior ground water rights and senior surface water rights in Basin 37 for various purposes of use. For snowmaking at River Run, SVC uses ground water, right no. 37-8575A, with an authorized diversion rate of 4.46 cfs and an annual volume of 456.3 acre-feet. Snowmaking is a largely non-consumptive use with most of the pumped water returning to the stream as snowmelt. Consumptive use is estimated to average approximately 20% of pumping. The table below summarizes SVC's pumping and consumptive use for snowmaking at River Run over the last five (5) years:

| | Gallons | Acre-Feet | CU AF (20%) |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 2016-17 | 63,200,000 | 194 | 39 |
| 2017-18 | 97,100,400 | 298 | 60 |
| 2018-19 | 95,883,575 | 294 | 59 |
| 2019-20 | 119,420,835 | 366 | 73 |
| 2020-21 | 101,055,205 | 310 | 62 |
| | 5-yr Avg | 292 | 59 |

SVC makes snow starting in November and generally ending in February. If climatic conditions present themselves, the entire 465.3 acre-feet can be used in a snowmaking season. If the entire 465.3 acre-feet is pumped, then the estimated maximum consumptive use would be 93 acre-feet. Snowmelt from snowmaking returns to the Big Wood River during the runoff season, benefiting downstream surface water users.

Because it is not possible to reasonably forecast snowmaking demands and because snowmaking is largely non-consumptive, SVC proposes the following:

- Support improved water rights accounting practices, including computerized accounting;
- Engage in early and/or late season recharge with SVC's existing surface water rights from Trail Creek and/or new surface water rights; and
- Contribute for 3 to 5 years to Idaho Power Company's cloud seeding efforts in Basin 37 based on SVC's 5-year rolling average of consumptive use
 - Idaho Power stated the cost per acre-foot is \$3.60
 - $59 \times 3.60 = \$212.40$
 - SVC proposes a trial period of 3 to 5 years to gauge the efficacy of enhanced snowmaking in Basin 37