

From: [Don Callister](#)
To: [Ragan, Brian](#)
Subject: Big and Little Lost Rivers" water.
Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 8:15:41 PM

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Dear Mr. Ragan,

We appreciate you asking for our input on the groundwater issue.

However, I feel that there are several points that are just being brushed aside.

At the meeting in Howe, I brought up the point that they have done studies that show that the waters from our drainages take from 150-200 years to reach the Thousand Springs area. You countered with the assertion that it was like a bathtub; water poured in one end caused water to pour out the lower end. I feel that there isn't enough water poured in from our end to make a significant difference either way.

It seems to me that it is more like the farmers who live along the Snake River are saying, "How come they don't have to pay?!?"

So to be 'fair', even though we don't really make a difference, we are being included. With all the test wells there are on the INEL site, it ought to be possible to determine which way, and how fast the water flows.

On the pie chart that you gave us at the presentation, we use less than 2% of the water in the aquifer.

I don't remember which one of the presenters it was, but when we complained about the many new homes being built in the Snake River plain, and how much water they used, he replied, "Altogether, they use **only** 2%.

Please, let's be consistent. If the farmers have to pay for mitigation, why don't the new homeowners have to pay?

What is going to happen with any money paid for mitigation? You can only buy so much water from Palisades Reservoir. Is building a new dam under serious condition?

I have a well with a 1948 water right. Since I am being forced to enter a ground water district, once I join, I lose its seniority. Is that correct?

I think recharging the aquifer in the winter instead of letting all the water go to the ocean is a great idea.

Sincerely,

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