

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

Notice is hereby given that, the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (“Department”) has initiated an administrative proceeding concerning water rights in Basin 37 (Wood River Basin). A drought is predicted for the 2021 irrigation season and the water supply in Silver Creek and its tributaries may be inadequate to meet the needs of surface water users. Curtailment model runs of the Wood River Valley Groundwater Flow Model v.1.1 (“Model”) show that curtailment of ground water rights during the 2021 irrigation season would result in increased surface water flows for the holders of senior surface water rights during the 2021 irrigation season. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-237a.g., “water in a well shall not be deemed available to fill a water right therein if withdrawal therefrom of the amount called for by such right would affect...the present or future use of any prior surface or ground water right.” Based on the information from the Model, the Director believes that the withdrawal of water from ground water wells in the Wood River Valley south of Bellevue (commonly referred to as the Bellevue Triangle) would affect the use of senior surface water rights on Silver Creek and its tributaries during the 2021 irrigation season. Therefore, the Director is initiating an administrative proceeding to determine whether water is available to fill the ground water rights, excluding water rights for domestic uses as defined in Idaho Code § 42-111 and stock watering uses as defined in Idaho Code § 42-1401A(11), within the Wood River Valley south of Bellevue. If the Director concludes that water is not available to fill the ground water rights, the Director may order the ground water rights curtailed for the 2021 irrigation season. The proceeding is Docket # AA-WRA-2021-001. Further information and a map of the above described area may be viewed online at the following link:

<https://idwr.idaho.gov/legal-actions/administrative-actions/basin-37.html>

The Director of the Department will hold a pre-hearing conference regarding Docket # AA-WRA-2021-001 **on May 24, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.** In addition, a hearing is scheduled **June 7-11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** Information on how you can participate in the pre-hearing conference and hearing can be found at the above-described link.

Gary Spackman, Director

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