

3/24/2025

Idaho Department of Water Resources 322 E Front Street Boise, ID 83702

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Expansion of the Portneuf Tributary Basin into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer without State-Sponsored Study

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Bancroft, Idaho, we express significant concern regarding the proposed expansion of the Portneuf Tributary Basin boundaries into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) area without a comprehensive, state-sponsored hydrologic study confirming connectivity between these two water systems.

The City of Bancroft relies heavily on our established water rights, and we strongly oppose any potential curtailments or limitations to our water rights that may result from this boundary expansion in the absence of clear scientific evidence. We firmly believe that any decision impacting water rights should be preceded by rigorous analysis confirming the hydrogeologic relationship between the Portneuf Tributary Basin and ESPA.

We respectfully request to be kept informed of any developments or discussions regarding this matter. Furthermore, we are open and willing to actively participate in dialogue to reach an informed resolution. However, until a state-sponsored study conclusively demonstrates a connection, we urge the Idaho Department of Water Resources to refrain from issuing any rulings or curtailments impacting our city's water rights.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to your prompt consideration and response.

Sincerely,

LuCus H. Spencer

Mayor, City of Bancroft, Idaho

cc: Bancroft City Council