



State of Idaho

## DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN  
Director

February 8, 2016

A & B Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 675  
Rupert, Idaho 83350

American Falls Reservoir District No. 2  
409 N. Apple Street  
Shoshone, Idaho 83352

Burley Irrigation District  
246 E 100 S  
Burley, Idaho 83318

Northside Canal Company  
921 N. Lincoln  
Jerome, Idaho 83338

Twin Falls Canal Company  
P.O. Box 326  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0326

Minidoka Irrigation District  
98 W 50 S  
Rupert, Idaho 83350

Milner Irrigation District  
5294 E 3610 N  
Murtaugh, Idaho 83344-5129

Dear Managers:

I anticipate that the Surface Water Coalition ("SWC") will ask that I re-issue the *Third Amended Final Order Regarding Methodology for Determining Material Injury to Reasonable In-Season Demand and Reasonable Carryover* ("Third Methodology Order") for the 2016 irrigation season. Therefore, I request you submit electronic shape files depicting projected irrigated acres for 2016 within your area of water delivery. The shape files and associated irrigated acreage are necessary inputs to apply the methodology order for the upcoming irrigation season.

Step 1 of the previously issued but withdrawn Third Methodology Order stated in relevant part:

By April 1, members of the SWC will submit electronic shape files to the Department delineating the total anticipated irrigated acres for the upcoming year within their water delivery boundary or confirm in writing that the existing electronic shape file submitted by SWC has not varied by more than 5%. Department staff will review submitted shapefiles and modify them as necessary to ensure that: (1) the total acreage count does not exceed the decreed number of acres; (2) all of the irrigated land is located within the decreed place of use; and (3) acres are not counted more than once due to overlapping polygons within a shape file or between shape files submitted by different SWC members. Because

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the SWC members can best determine the irrigated acres within their service area, the SWC should be responsible for submitting the information to the Department. If this information is not timely submitted, the Department will determine the total irrigated acres based upon past cropping patterns and current satellite and/or aerial imagery. If a SWC member fails or refuses to identify the number of irrigated acres within its service area by April 1, the Department will be cautious about recognizing acres as being irrigated if there is uncertainty about whether the acres are or will be irrigated during the upcoming irrigation season. The Department will electronically post electronic shape files for each member of the SWC for the current water year for review by the parties.

*Third Methodology Order at 32.*

As soon as possible, please either submit your electronic shape files to the Department or confirm in writing that the existing electronic shape file from the previous year has not varied by more than 5%.

Sincerely,



Gary Spackman  
Director

cc: Randall C. Budge – Racine, Olson, Nye, Budge & Bailey, Chartered  
John K. Simpson – Barker, Rosholt & Simpson, LLP  
Travis L. Thompson – Barker, Rosholt & Simpson, LLP  
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