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Updated Description of Infrastructure Associated with the Delivery of Replacement Water to Snake River Farms

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Prepared for: Idaho Ground Water Appropriators

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Prepared by:

AMEC Earth and Environmental

1002 Walnut Street, Suite 200

Boulder, CO 80302



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AMEC Earth & Environmental

Boulder Office 1002 Walnut Street, Ste. 200 Boulder, CO 80302 Phone: 303.443.7839

Fax: 303.442.0616

Principal Investigators: Charles M. Brendecke, P.E. Courtney A. Peppler, P.E. 303.443.7839 chuck brendecke@amec.com courtney.peppler@amec.com

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

A variety of direct replacement water options have been developed that could offset the depletive effect of junior-priority ground water withdrawals on the Snake River Farm's (SRF) water rights. These alternatives include a direct pumpback alternative that could direct replacement water to the SRF hatchery and other alternatives involving collaboration with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDF&G). This report is a revision of the June 2008 Mitigation Plan. A conceptual design of the direct pumpback alternative is provided in addition to information on the series of IDF&G alternatives.

2.0 DIRECT PUMPBACK TO SNAKE RIVER FARM

The Ground Water Districts are pursuing a direct pumpback alternative near the outlet of the SRF. As shown in Figure 1, water from the SRF facility is discharged into a channel that flows into the lake south of SRF. For purposes of a conceptual design for this Mitigation Plan, it is assumed that water would be diverted from the lake on the southeast shore and pumped to the inlet of the SRF raceways. However, water could also be directly diverted from SRF's discharge pipeline. A 25 HP pump and 2,230 feet of 8 to 12 inch diameter pipe would be needed to convey water to the SRF raceway inlet. Figure 1 shows the proposed diversion location as well as the conceptual layout of the pipeline and pump station.

The pipeline alignment and diversion location shown in Figure 1 may be adjusted following a more detailed design to address property boundaries and utility locations. Table 1 summarizes the major components of the direct pumpback alternative. This is a preliminary conceptual estimate of infrastructure requirements and does not include the intake structure, power supply, plumbing connections to the SRF raceway inlet, and other minor components. A more detailed design will be prepared upon direction by the IDWR to further pursue this alternative.

Table 1 Major Components of the Direct Pumpback Alternative			
Major Components ¹	Estimated Component Size		
Pump Station	25 HP		
	8 to 12 inch diameter		
Pressure Pipeline to the SRF Raceway Inlet	2,230 linear feet		
All infrastructure is preliminarily sized for 2 cfs.			

The direct pumpback alternative would not impact any other water users within the local area. The use of replacement water under this alternative is non-consumptive and consequently, all water pumped to the SRF raceway inlet would be returned to the lake, maintaining the same lake elevation. Also, this alternative does not require detailed negotiations or coordination with other neighbouring entities with exception to any necessary easements.

3.0 DELIVERY OF IDF&G WATER RIGHT NO: 36-4076 TO SNAKE RIVER FARM (BACK-UP ALTERNATIVE)

If the direct pumpback alternative does not prove to be viable, the Ground Water Districts may pursue an option using leased IDF&G water. The IDF&G owns and manages the Clear Lake Grade wetland mitigation site neighbouring SRF to the east. The North Snake and Magic Valley Ground Water Districts entered a Lease Agreement on May 28, 2008 with the IDF&G where the Ground Water Districts leased IDF&G's Decreed Water Right No. 36-4076, for the purpose of providing mitigation and replacement water to SRF.

The IDF&G currently receives water from four spring areas at the northern rim of the Snake River Canyon near the Clear Lakes Grade, as shown in Figure 2 at the end of this report. The following three alternatives have been developed for conveying these waters to the SRF hatchery in order to help meet SRF water right entitlements. Figure 2 provides a conceptual illustration of these alternatives.

- IDF&G Alternative 1 (IDF&G Alt 1) This alternative involves the drilling of a well near IDF&G Spring 1 to a maximum of 200 feet in depth to enhance production from this spring. An evaluation of groundwater wells in the area, indicates that average static ground water levels are approximately 36 to 105 feet below the surface. This well would provide up to 2.66 cfs to the SRF raceway inlet. A new well and well pump and approximately 200 feet of 10 inch diameter pipe would be constructed to convey the water to the SRF raceway inlet.
- IDF&G Alternative 2 (IDF&G Alt 2) If IDF&G Alt 1 does not provide the full mitigation requirement for SRF, IDF&G Alt 2 could provide additional flows from IDF&G Spring 2. As shown in Figure 2 water would be diverted at the confluence of two channels that currently convey IDF&G Spring 1 and 2 water. A 20 HP pump and 1,100 feet of 10 inch diameter pipe would be needed to convey water to the SRF raceway inlet.
- IDF&G Alternative 3 (IDF&G Alt 3) This alternative would be constructed if IDF&G Alt 1 could not provide the full requirement for mitigation water for SRF and IDF&G Alt 2 was projected to be unable to make up the shortfall. Similar to IDF&G Alt 2, supplies would be diverted at the confluence of the existing channels conveying IDF&G Spring 1 and 2 water. These supplies would be gravity fed to the Alt 3 Pump Station. Water from IDF&G Springs 3 and 4 would be diverted near the inlet of the Clear Lake Grade culvert and also gravity fed to the Alt 3 Pump Station. Supplies would be pumped from this pump station through approximately1,850 feet of 10 inch diameter pipe to the SRF raceway inlet.

All IDF&G alternatives would be connected to the inlet of the SRF raceways. Additionally 2.66 cfs (or the amount of water supplied to SRF, if less) would be provided as replacement water to

the IDF&G in order to sustain equivalent flows in the wetland mitigation site. This water would be pumped from the Snake River to the inlet of the IDF&G wetlands south of the highway, as shown in Figure 2. Depending on the final configuration of alternatives, IDF&G replacement water may also be needed closer to the actual point of diversion (IDF&G Alt 1 and/or IDF&G Alt 2) to maintain aquatic habitat near the drainage ditches. If this is the case, water could either be conveyed from the Snake River or the lake located at the outlet of the SRF hatchery. Additional infrastructure not shown on Figure 2 would be needed to convey this additional replacement water.

Table 2 summarizes the other major components for each IDF&G alternative. This is a preliminary conceptual estimate of infrastructure requirements and does not include diversion boxes, power supply, connections to the SRF raceway inlet, and other minor components. A more detailed design will be prepared upon completion and testing of the well described in IDF&G Alt 1.

Table 2 Major Components of IDF&G Alternatives							
Alternative	Major Components ¹	Estimated Component Size					
	Well and Well Pump	Maximum of a 200' deep well					
IDF&G		10 inch diameter					
Alternative 1	Pressure Pipeline to the SRF Raceway Inlet	200 linear feet					
	Well and Well Pump	Maximum of a 200' deep well					
	Pressure Pipeline from Alt 2 Pump Station to the SRF	10 inch diameter					
IDF&G	Raceway Inlet	1100 linear feet					
Alternative 2	Alt 2 Pump Station	20 HP					
	Well and Well Pump	Maximum of a 200' deep well					
	Gravity Pipeline from Alt 3 Diversion (inlet to Clear Lake	10 inch diameter					
	Grade Culvert) to the Alt 3 Pump Station	1300 linear feet					
		10 inch diameter					
	Gravity Pipeline from Alt 2 Diversion to Alt 3 Pump Station ²	850 linear feet					
IDF&G	Pressure Pipeline from the Alt 3 Pump Station to the SRF	10 inch diameter					
	Raceway Inlet	1850 linear feet					
Alternative 3	Alt 3 Pump Station	30 HP					
Principle	Snake River Pump Station	20 HP					
Method of Replacement to		10 inch diameter					
IDF&G Wetlands ³	Pressure Pipeline from the Snake River to the IDF&G Wetland (IDF&G Wetland Supply Line)	500 linear feet					

All infrastructure is preliminarily sized for 2 cfs.

² This pipeline would be constructed if the Alt 2 Pump Station is not developed to convey flows from the the IDF&G Alt 2 Diversion to the Alt 3 Pump Station. This eliminates the need for the Alt 2 Pump Station.

³This is the principle method for replacing flows to the IDF&G wetlands downstream of the Clear Lakes Grade Culvert. If IDF&G water is replaced further upgradient at the IDF&G Alt 1 and/or IDF&G Alt 2 Diversions, the replacement of water may need to occur close to the point of diversion in order to maintain aquatic habitat. If this is the case, additional infrastructure would be needed to convey the replacement water.



