AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

of the Arco Advertiser, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published weekly at Arco, Idaho, since March, 1909, do solemnly swear that a copy of

name subscribed to the within instrument, and being

by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements

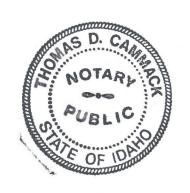
therein are true, and acknowledged to me that he

executed the same.

Notary Public for Idaho

My commission expires:

Residing at,



RECEIVED MAY 3 0 2017

Department of Water Resources Eastern Region

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

See Legal Notices Online at idahoplublicnotices.com

NOTICE OF PETITIONS
TO DESIGNATE THE BIG LOST RIVER BASIN A CRITICAL GROUND
WATER AREA OR GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA AND
INITIATION OF FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

Notice is hereby given that, on September 19, 2016, Rose Bernal, Butte County Commissioner, submitted a letter to the Director ("Director") of the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department"), including a petition requesting that the Director "designate a critical ground water area in the Big Lost River Basin." The petition was signed by numerous water users in support of the request.

On January 9, 2017, the Director received a letter from Moj Broadie, Chairman of the Big Lost River Ground Water District ("BLRGWD"), opposing the petition to designate the Big Lost River Basin as a critical ground water area and requesting the Director "allow the BLRGWD to have broad participation" in the consideration of designating the Big Lost River Basin a critical ground water area or ground water management area. On January 23, 2017, the Director received another letter from Moj Broadie, asking the Director to consider designating the Big Lost River Basin a ground water management area "with due process procedures that would enable all interested parties to participate..."

The above-described letters are petitions as defined by the Department's Rule of Procedure 230. IDAPA 37.01.01.230. The petitions may be found on the Department's website for this matter at https://idwr.idaho.gov/water-rights/critical-ground-water-areas/pending-petitions.html. The Director will conduct formal proceedings to address the petitions in accordance with the Department's Rule of Procedure 104. IDAPA 37.01.01.104. A copy of the Rules of Procedure may be obtained from the Department or at https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/37/0101.pdf.

The Director will hold a prehearing conference on May 3, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (MDT), at the Butte County School District Auditorium, 250 S. Water St., Arco, Idaho 83213. More information regarding the prehearing conference can be found at the above-described website for the contested case.

Signatories to the petition to designate the Big Lost River Basin a critical ground water area and the BLRGWD are considered parties. Others who want to formally participate must file petitions to intervene with the Department, together with a \$25 filing fee, by May 3, 2017, in accordance with the Department's Rules, of Procedure 350-352 and Idaho Code § 42-221(L).

The Director requested that Department staff prepare a memorandum discussing aquifer recharge and discharge, water use, and water level trends in the Big Lost River valley. The staff memorandum may be found at the Department's website for this matter referenced above.

Gary Spackman, Director

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