



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rangen delivery call to cause curtailment of junior ground water rights not covered by an approved mitigation plan

TWIN FALLS – (March 16, 2019) – The Idaho Department of Water Resources has sent a legal notice to about 88 water users representing approximately 100 ground water rights in the Magic Valley region, warning them that their water will be curtailed starting in the 2020 irrigation season if their rights are not covered by an approved mitigation plan.

The curtailment notices affect ground water users whose water rights have a priority date junior to July 13, 1962 and are located within Water Districts 130 or 140. The notices are related to a 2011 water delivery call by the Rangen fish hatchery near Hagerman.

In March 2019, IDWR approved an Idaho Ground Water Appropriators (IGWA) mitigation plan filed on behalf of certain ground water districts and irrigation districts in the Magic Valley area. The approved-mitigation plan avoids curtailment of ground water rights with priority dates junior to July 13, 1962, as long as the owners of those rights have joined an IGWA-participating district and included their rights in the approved mitigation plan.

IDWR officials encourage junior ground water users receiving pending curtailment notices to join an IGWA district to avoid any pending curtailment. Most junior ground water users in the region have joined an IGWA district for mitigation purposes.

The pending curtailment notice warns recipients that IDWR will initiate curtailment of their ground water rights after 21 days of the date of notice unless proof of participation in an IGWA district and mitigation plan is sent to the watermasters of Water Districts 130 or 140.

Ground water rights for single family domestic and small stockwater uses are exempt from the curtailment order.

For more information, contact IDWR water distribution staff at 208-287-4800 or 208-736-3033.

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