

July 28, 2023

Dear District 29 Water Users,

We hope this letter finds you well. As members of the Advisory Committee for the District 29 H surface water users, we are writing to you to discuss the importance of working together to strengthen our voice as water users.

We understand that the Surface Water Coalition (SWC) has significant influence with the Idaho Division of Water Resources, and we are aware that they demanded the IDWR require us to form a water district in 2019. We have made great strides in complying with this requirement, but the process has been challenging.

As minority water users, we recognize the importance of working together to have a voice. Over the past few years, we have been directed on what we must do, and we have learned that the amount of water diverted by our District is insignificant compared to the SWC. The amount of water the SWC estimated they would gain by curtailing 29H surface water rights is less than the water the SWC diverts in part of just one day. The water gained by curtailing 29H has an insignificant impact upon the SWC water users but has had a devastating impact on our valley. The SWC benefits from millions of dollars of infrastructure funded by taxpayers and has greatly expanded the number of acres that they irrigate when the water rights were established.

We are interested in meeting and discussing how we might work together to strengthen our collective voice. We believe there is an opportunity to collaborate and improve the situation for all water users in the area.

We propose a meeting to further discuss the concerns of District 29 water users. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you regarding your interest in meeting.

Sincerely, Randy Wheatley, Dale Lish, Shawn Davis

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