

**Subject: Notes from meeting with the Surface Water Coalition Representatives**

Good morning Chairman Wheatley and Chairman Diehl.

On May 18th, in American Falls, Randy Wheatley, Jim Guthrie, and Dale Lish met with representatives of the Surface Water Coalition including Alan Hansten, Northside Canal Company, John Lind, Burley Irrigation District, Jay Barlogi Twin Falls Canal Company, and Dan Davidson, Minidoka Irrigation District.

The purpose of the meeting was to explore the potential of coming to an agreement that would eliminate the May 24th water call that Districts 29D and 29H are facing. A status update of the progress that 29D and 29H have made over the past few years in forming Districts, establishing budgets, hiring a water master, and installing measuring devices was provided. It was noted that 29D and 29H's understanding was that they would not be subject to a priority call during the first three years of forming a District. It was shared that 2021 is the first year that measuring devices have been required and 29D and 29H are just now starting to gather flow data.

The Surface Water Coalition representatives provided a history of the formation of the company's they represent and an explanation of the both their natural flow and storage rights within the Upper Snake River system. They estimate that the out of priority annual flow is in the range of 6,000 Acre/ft. They are willing to consider an offer from 29D and 29H that would go towards mitigating the amount of out of priority flow and in return they would rescind the call on water for the 2021 season for Districts 29D and 29H.

It was discussed that it would take some time for the Advisory Committee's to meet with their respective water users and determine if they are in favor of making a mitigation offer. The Surface Water Coalition representatives were agreeable to the idea of giving more time to allow these discussions to take place. They are willing to communicate to IDWR that they are agreeable to a possible delay of the priority call to June 1st.

It was discussed that a follow-up meeting was tentatively scheduled for May 26th.

Thank you; please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Dale Lish  
Randy Wheatley  
Jim Guthrie

**Chairman, Ralph Wheatley talked to Steve Visosky at IDWR today and as of this morning (5/20/21) there has been no communication between SWC and Director Spackman at IDWR, so everyone should expect May 24, 2021 to remain as the effective curtailment date.**