



322 E Front Street, Suite 648, Boise ID 83702 • PO Box 83720, Boise ID 83720-0098
Phone: 208-287-4800 • Fax: 208-287-6700 • Email: idwrinfo@idwr.idaho.gov • Website: idwr.idaho.gov

Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

January 22, 2026

James Thum
Oil and Gas Program Manager
Idaho Department of Lands
300 N. 6th Street, Suite 103
Boise, ID 83702

RE: Permit to Drill – James #1-10

Dear Mr. Thum,

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments related to the Application for Permit to Drill the James #1-10 well in Payette County, submitted by Snake River Oil and Gas.

Groundwater Resources

A review of the submitted application was conducted with respect to existing wells and water resources in the vicinity of the project. With respect to existing wells, the IDWR database includes 97 wells within one mile of the proposed drilling location (Figure 1). The existing wells are predominately domestic wells for potable usage, irrigation wells, and municipal wells for the City of Fruitland. The depths of the wells range from 14 to 665 feet deep (Table 1). It should be noted that the physical locations of the wells have not been verified in the field but are based on the spatial data assigned to the wellhead through the IDWR database.

According to the application, the proposed well will have 90-120 feet of conductor pipe cemented in place in addition to 1,150 feet of surface casing and 5,000 feet of production casing, both cemented to the surface. Therefore, assuming the casing and seals proposed for this well are installed as proposed, all shallow ground water within the vicinity of this well will be protected and isolated from the drilling activities.



Figure 1. Map showing existing wells within one mile of the proposed well pad and nearby surface water features.

Surface Water Resources

A review of nearby surface water features was conducted to evaluate any potential impacts to any nearby rivers, streams, canals, or ditches. According to the application, the proposed well

site is approximately 250 feet southwest of an unnamed irrigation ditch (Figure 1). The Payette River is approximately 450 feet west of the proposed wellhead location.

The application indicates that the drill site will be graded and sloped to minimize any runoff from the well pad. In addition, erosion and sediment control BMPs will be in place to ensure runoff does not occur and impact any nearby surface water features. As long as the BMPs and BOPs proposed for the drilling activities are utilized as proposed, the threat to nearby surface water features from the drilling activities is minimized.

Table 1. Existing wells within one mile of proposed well.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Construction Date</u>	<u>Static Water Level (ft)</u>	<u>Total Depth (ft)</u>		<u>Owner</u>	<u>Construction Date</u>	<u>Static Water Level (ft)</u>	<u>Total Depth (ft)</u>
ROYSTON DAIRY	4/29/1987	130	402		RIVERSIDE TRAILER COURT	2/8/1983	8	85
WILLIAM O BOYER	9/29/1972	14	31		UNKNOWN	6/26/1969	12	80
BOISE CASCADE CORP	12/27/1965	5	310		RAYMOND F GAMER	4/19/1998	0	70
EDWARD RINEHART	11/29/1989	5	40		ELMO G NELSON	11/20/1963	5	60
JAMES R WEBSTER	6/1/2005	27	38		JIM GOFF	7/5/1971	14	30
WILLIAM K ROYSTON	12/18/1973	35	150		RAYMOND F GAMER	7/16/1973	7	120
DALE DAHNKE	3/5/1969	10	29		MAY TRUCKING CO	8/28/1973	10	40
DAVID J BROWN	5/22/1981	12	50		BOB BALL	6/2/1969	17	127
TERRY LAAKSONEN	7/27/2005	1.5	40		HARRY JOHNSON	4/13/1965	10	295
DEBBY SARVER	3/28/1996	12	270		TOM PEARCE	5/16/1965	12	110
ALBERT CHORN	4/22/1985	20	36		LETTUNICH & SONS	4/28/1997	6	24
MARIE ROBINETTE	1/12/1996	16	200		NANCY BANKHEAD	6/24/2005	4	503
BOB WELLS	12/31/9999	0	62		MICHAEL LETTUNICH	6/20/1997	<Null>	535
KEITH J KOLAR	12/8/1993	14	40		JAMES HENENWAY	3/24/1972	12	79
GARMAN & SONS INC	12/31/9999	0	302		MR SCHAFER	9/8/1986	10	400

LEE WRIGHT	6/4/1980	10	30		GEORGE HOLLOWAY	6/7/1983	6	149
JAMES E PHELPS	11/20/1995	8	160		CARY ALLISON	4/3/1997	8	71
GAIL S DAHL	12/23/1996	11	31		ALBERT W MITCHELL JR	11/7/2001	0	520
GORDON PRIVATSKY	11/7/1964	6	464		FLOYD WELLS	8/2/1953	6	115
CITY OF FRUITLAND	10/30/2002	17	150		MERLE KNIGHT	5/25/1964	6	14
CITY OF FRUITLAND	12/15/2002	20	200		A L ROMERO	6/12/1964	7	15
CITY OF FRUITLAND	12/2/1991	10	17		GREGG HOPE	6/29/1984	6	331
CITY OF FRUITLAND	12/2/1991	10	18		MAX FAIRCHILD	10/1/1968	6	72
JIM GOFF	6/17/2002	8	250		ALBION E BORGHOLTHAUS	9/10/1966	106	565
GUY BOZEMEN	9/9/1968	<Null>	110		HERBERT T ROGERS	4/27/1977	4	325
GUY BOZEMEN	7/21/1968	10	218		GARY SOLTERBECK	12/31/9999	0	35
DANE SARSON	6/23/1971	12	130		SCOTT OLSON	8/2/1999	5	44
BILL MORDHORST	4/30/1980	18	85		GUY SHIPY	7/13/1972	5	38
PAT ANOUYE	4/3/1978	15	42		RONALD TIFFANY	1/31/1994	18	325
JAMES S ADY	4/28/1985	17	35		GUY BOZMAN	4/18/1966	10	107
MELVIN A HIGGINS	2/27/1981	10	340		NEW PLYMOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT #372	11/20/1985	13	119
KAY CROSS	12/31/9999	24	55		MESSER CONSTRUCION	6/8/2004	30	150
JAMES R JOHNSON	6/30/1982	0	265		M LEE NELSON	7/16/2007	20	180
BILL BONNELL	6/10/1968	12	62		OREN D SHAW	8/16/1972	12	107
CLYDE FLIPPO	7/30/1979	7	0		MAX FAIRCHILD	12/29/1981	6	112
DEVON COOPER	10/1/1981	6	26		DAVID R SMALLWOOD	10/17/2011	10	75
LETTUNICH & SONS	11/25/1993	5	280		LES GARDNER	7/8/1999	13	180
TOM GROSSEN	6/23/1973	28	120		BOB PATRICKS	4/12/1990	16	49
TODD PHILLIPS	3/23/2020	15	280		BOB PATRICKS	4/12/1990	16	45

TODD PHILLIPS	6/5/2020	9	140		ROBERT JANGULA	5/10/1985	14	50
TROY ODIEL	4/16/2021	12	29		MRS KEITH REMINGTON	7/31/1989	10	665
GEORGE BIVERT	7/15/2021	19	35		DOUG BAILEY	10/31/1992	18	45
JESSICA BAINER	10/27/2021	31	122		HARDIN SANITATION INC	9/6/2012	6	325
DOUG DAWS	4/5/2022	6	20		TOM WHITE	9/30/2014	14	37
TOM WHITE	2/7/2023	20	142		MAX ROMEY	2/22/2002	40	100
TIJON MOORE	2/14/2023	16	222		LARRY CHANDLER	5/24/2018	23	40
MEL LINGEL	5/24/2023	20	26		BRENT W STAUFF	6/26/2018	16	30
DALTON PATTERSON	3/8/2024	23	35		GARY TUTTLE CONSTRUCTION CO INC	1/15/2019	9	643
DAN ROLAND	2/26/2025	6	23					

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed well. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments related to this review.

Thanks,

Dennis Owsley

Dennis Owsley, P.G.
 Technical Hydrogeologist
 Ground Water Protection Section
 Idaho Department of Water Resources
 (208) 287-4855
 Dennis.owsley@idwr.idaho.gov