SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment – Marysville Irrigation Company Gravity Pressurized Irrigation System

DATE: February 1, 2007

TO: See Attached Distribution List

A draft of the Marysville Environmental Assessment (EA) was recently completed. It is now being distributed to interested and concerned agencies, groups, units of government, organizations and project sponsors for public review.

This EA addresses the effects of replacing an open ditch irrigation delivery system with buried plastic pipelines to distribute gravity pressurized irrigation water. The document analyzes the Proposed Action and the No Action alternatives. The Proposed Action includes the construction, operation and maintenance of three plastic pipelines that provide for the delivery of gravity pressurized irrigation water to approximately 6,130 acres surrounding Marysville, Idaho, eliminating most of the need for pumping by electric motors. Approximately 1,000 acres would require booster pumps. Water would only be drawn from the pipe when irrigation is required, eliminating overflow to the Henry’s Fork River. The Proposed Action would eliminate about 90% of the water seepage loss from the canals and the need for approximately 1,600 horsepower from electric pump motors.

We would appreciate your review and comments concerning this Environmental Assessment.

If you have questions, contact Mark Weatherstone, Assistant State Conservationist – Technical Services (ASTC-TS), at the NRCS Idaho State Office at (208) 378-5720.

Comments should be addressed to Mark Weatherstone, ASTC-TS, 9173 W. Barnes Dr., Suite C, Boise, Idaho 83709-1574 or e-mail to Mark.Weatherstone@id.usda.gov. Comments should be postmarked no later than March 5, 2007.

If additional copies are needed, an electronic version of the draft plan is available on the Idaho NRCS Website at http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/

Richard Sims
State Conservationist

Attachments

cc:
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