

Ditch Doings July 20 2018, and today's Priority Cut

John and Merrily Wright <jandmw@icloud.com>

Fri 7/20/2018, 4:45 PM

July: the season of cuts

This evening we just received notice of our third priority cut: We are to cut ALL of 10/15/84

Previous cuts were for 50% of 10/15/84, on July 16, and all after 1889 on July 11.

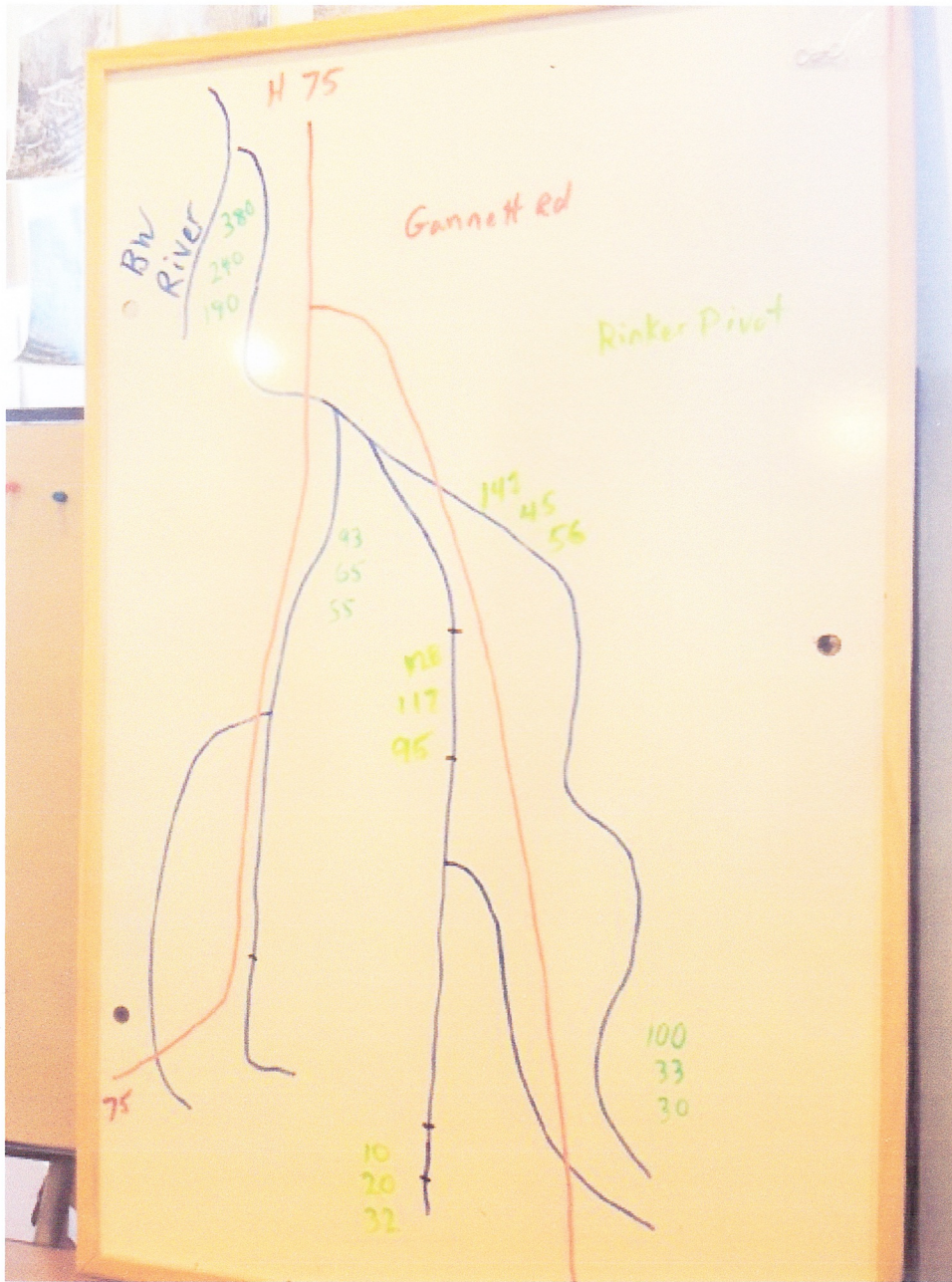
I will follow this up with phone calls or texts to those effected.



Early July Flow into the canal dipped below 150 cfs with the Main Gates wide open. At that rate there is no excess flow and the recharge ponds provide easy pickings for anyone that likes fish, as they quickly dry up.



July 10 Keith rearranged a little gravel above the Mains and we were able to boost our flow back up to 190 cfs which is high enough to provide water to all users. This activity generates a little stress for some observers but it is perfectly legal for us to be doing this. There is no permanent change to the river bed and Keith is quick and efficient, minimizing any effects that some would believe detrimental. He keeps his equipment clean and free of any petroleum drips that lead to river contamination. This job took 30 minutes and 15 minutes later there is no visible evidence that he was there other than the modified flow and his tracks to and from the water's edge, which I erase with a garden rake.



BOC Director's Meeting I gave a brief presentation on the capacity of each lateral section of the system. The top number of each grouping is the sum of all deeded rights at that point in

the Canal. The 2nd number is the highest flow I've run past those points. The 3rd number is the flow that we normally run and that keeps everyone happy. (I now see that, in my haste during my presentation, I put the normal flow value in the 2nd position at the top of the East Lateral and the bottom of the Middle) Sorry! That was confusing!!

A quick review of this drawing reveals how the smaller East Lateral is expected to run the highest volume. The simple explanation is that prior to the existence of our modern day Gannet Road, a large majority of the Cove Ranch water was transported down the Center Lateral. Zooming in on a Google map, it is easy to determine where the early bridges on an older Gannet Road allowed the irrigation water to pass underneath.



We coordinated our recharge pond shut off with some local volunteers from Trout Unlimited and Idaho Fish and Game and they were able to save 99 fish. We will do the same thing in the Fall when we shut off the Mains. Since all the canal water comes directly from the river, its a mostly harmless transfer for the fish, and its readily allowed by the state.



....and these guys come prepared with an oxygenated tank on an easy haul trailer,

....and abundant enthusiasm!



Gannett Road shut down Tomorrow, July 21, as it becomes a speedway. This is the spectator area on Pero Road. Speeds reached on Gannett will be over 200 mph. I'm staying away.

....so I hope everyone is happy with their water along there...

John Wright
(775) 934-6200



the color of August