

March 9, 1995

Oregon

GARY A SMITH
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WATER
RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

REFERENCE: File # P-78486;
Notice of Exempt Reservoir (Pond)

Your exempt reservoir notice has been received by the Department and has been assigned the above-referenced file number. We would like to ask you to refer to this number if you should need to contact us about the notice, your pond, or ponds if you have more than one.

To avoid any misunderstanding, we feel it is important to tell you that although we have received and filed your notice, we have not yet determined whether you are exempt from water right requirements. The watermaster responsible for the area in which the pond(s) is (are) located will help us apply the Water Resources Commission's administrative rules to your situation. These rules set the standards that determine which ponds require water rights and which are exempt. We will let you know the results as soon as we are able to complete our review of your pond(s)'s nature.

Since the department must rely initially on the information you submit to us, it is very important that the information be complete and accurate. If inspections show that your pond(s) does (do) not qualify as exempt, you could be asked to drain the pond(s) or submit a water right application or both. If you submit your application after January 1, 1995, it will be processed like any other application, since that is the deadline for filing water rights under the pond amnesty program.

The department will process your information as quickly as possible. However, because water right processing staff members are working hard to reduce a backlog of applications, it may be some weeks before you hear from us.

If you have questions, you may contact your watermaster. The enclosed brochure lists watermaster names, telephone numbers and addresses by county.

Sincerely,



Mr. Cory C. Engel
Water Rights Research Assistant
Water Rights/Adjudication Division

Enclosure: New Water Right Law for Pond Owners Brochure



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