

James Kimball

As a member of the Advisory committee I want to thank DOE for their efforts to consider all sides of the Reclamation issue. I would like to expand on the comment in the October 10, 2017 DOH letter "Reclaimed Water can extend water supplies for drinking water where aquifers are declining faster than being recharged".

The current Water Right mitigation program does not provide any special recognition of public water supplies that derive their water from declining aquifers. A recent example of an attempt to mitigate water rights that depended on the recent increase in flow of a river from a WWTP discharge. The increase in flow is derived from a declining aquifer. It appears that many of the significant water rights have not been used for over 10 years. Ecology should take the lead in vacating the water rights that have not been utilized for over 5 years.