

# North Ada County Groundwater Users Association

855 Stillwell Drive – Eagle, Idaho 83616 – 938-8508

\*The M3 Eagle Company has applied for a municipal water right to supply groundwater for their proposed planned community north of the City of Eagle. They are proposing the use of this water for over 7,000 homes, golf courses, hotels, commercial businesses, parks, common areas, waste treatment facilities and fire suppression. They have requested 23.16 cubic feet per second - which equates to approximately 15 million gallons of water per day. This is one of the largest water right applications in state history.

\*M3 Eagle Company has hired a hydrogeologic consultant to help them locate and document a sustainable water source for their planned community. The basis of their water right application says that M3 has discovered a huge aquifer that no one has ever documented before. This aquifer is said to originate in the Boise River Basin and flow northeast under M3's property on its way to the Payette River Basin (Emmett, Idaho). This data conflicts with most current studies available, including the much respected Treasure Valley Hydrologic Study done by a wide number of hydrogeologists and water experts in the 1990's.

\*The North Ada County Groundwater Users Association was formed this summer to file a protest against the M3 water right application. We are now nine months into this battle with M3. In our protest, we have asked IDWR to reject or restrict this application because it is based on a lack of data, and on the basis that M3 is not a municipality, but instead is a for profit corporation seeking speculative value through the water right process.

\*We have retained one of the most experienced water attorneys in Idaho, as well as an engineering firm and a nationally known professor, speaker and expert in the study of groundwater. Our NACGUA group is entirely voluntary in nature, and comprised of people experienced in business, geology and engineering.

\*If you are concerned about the future of groundwater in the north Ada County area, and want to see the appropriation of this water based on well understood hydro geologic study, and granting of water rights in small quantities that are phased in over time so the effects can be monitored and managed, please join us!

\*The M3 water right application is being processed right now! Both sides have filed motions for discovery and depositions commenced on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The formal hearing will take place in April and early May, and a final decision will be handed down shortly after that. This decision will be final. To have a continued impact on the process we have to continue to press every legal and technical argument that we can.

\***Please consider a donation** to our legal and technical effort as **an investment to protect your own domestic and/or irrigation groundwater**. We hope you will compare a generous donation to our effort now to the cost of re-drilling a well to a deeper level, or the loss of your property value later if groundwater problems begin in your area due to the millions of gallons per day that developers would like to use for their planned communities!

\*Checks can be made to: NACFA (North Ada County Foothills Association), and can be sent to our treasurer, Mr. Larry Sandusky, 7602 Canyon Drive, Meridian, Idaho 83646. For questions pertaining to any of the above, please contact David Head at 938-8508 or John Thornton at 939-8574.