



PRESS RELEASE

February 12, 2009
For immediate release

Contact:
Kevin Lewis IRU, o) 208-343-7481 c) 208-830-4870
Tom Stuart, Boise and Stanley, h) 208-343-3017

PO Box 633
Boise, ID 83701
800-574-7481
Fax 208-343-9376
www.idahorivers.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bill Sedivy
Boise

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Buck Drew
Ketchum

Rick Eichstaedt
Spokane

Al Espinosa
Moscow

Peter Grubb
Coeur D'Alene

LuVerne Grussing
Juliaetta

John Heimer
Boise

Jessica Holmes
Boise

Tom Kovalicky
Grangeville

Jonathan Long
Rexburg

Andy Munter
Ketchum

Jackie Nefzger
Boise

Keith Stonebraker
Juliaetta

Tom Stuart
Boise/Stanley

BOISE—Last month, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers withdrew an application by Boise-based The Hosac Co. to fill wetlands adjacent to Valley Creek in order to make way for a housing subdivision.

The decision effectively squashes the developer's plans to build homes in the floodplain on the willow-covered valley floor surrounding the creek—for now.

"Floodplain development of this nature is problematic," said Kevin Lewis, Idaho Rivers United conservation program director. "The Corps of Engineers withdraw of the fill permit creates clear winners. They are the fish and wildlife species that depend upon Valley Creek and its lush riparian habitat for their survival, and, the residents of Stanley."

Last August, Idaho Rivers United Board President Andy Munter testified at a Corps of Engineers hearing in Stanley. Munter disagreed with some of the Corps of Engineers assessments on the possible project impacts on Endangered Species Act-listed salmon, steelhead and bull trout.

"If you adversely affect critical habitat you're likely to adversely affect fish," Munter said.

The application withdrawal by the Corps was based on a lack of additional information requested from the applicant. The Hosac Company may reapply in the future if they provide the requested substantial additional information regarding the project's impacts and alternatives.

Idaho Rivers United is a statewide river conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring Idaho's rivers. For more information please contact Kevin Lewis at (208) 343-7481 or visit www.idahorivers.org.