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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Joint Media Release: Lincoln County and South Central Public Health District make plans to retest sixteen wells within the Lincoln County Advisory Zone**

Shoshone, ID – Lincoln County Commissioner Cresley McConnell and South Central Public Health District Director Rene LeBlanc developed a plan to retest sixteen wells previously tested by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) in February.

Last month, several wells northwest of Shoshone began producing ‘green water’. McConnell said, he “believes there are ground water issues in northwestern Lincoln county.”

LeBlanc noted that “we do not know the source or sources of the groundwater issues, but whether it is one source or ten, the ground water is a serious concern and we need more information. I am sending our environmental health staff to Lincoln county to retest the sixteen wells previously tested by ISDA”

The wells identified for retesting are all within the advisory zone. The advisory zone is an area of northwestern Lincoln county and northeastern Gooding county, including 320 North to 750 North and west of Hwy 75, to Lincoln / Gooding County line. In Gooding County, from 2400 East to 2200 East on 1300 South then North 3 miles back East to county line road.

According to LeBlanc, “residents in the advisory zone have been able to confirm the presence or absence of coliform and E.coli however no baseline bacterial count for most wells exists”. The previous tests provide a baseline that will help determine whether or not the suspected ground water contamination is improving.

The tests will be processed by the Idaho Bureau of Labs and results should be available between March 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>.

For information about well testing, contact South Central Public Health District at 866-710-9775 or visit [phd5.idaho.gov](http://phd5.idaho.gov). Sign up for the SIRCOMM’s Citizens Alert Network and receive notifications about emergencies and critical information, visit [www.SIRCOMM.com](http://www.SIRCOMM.com)

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