

Hansen holds on name change, office

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U.S. Rep. George V. Hansen, R-Idaho, said Wednesday he is holding action for the proposed renaming of the Ririe Lake to Johnson Reservoir, and also for reopening his office at the Federal Building at Park Avenue and C Street.

In a telephone interview from his Washington office, Hansen indicated there will likely be no further action for renaming Ririe Lake unless there is widespread community support and this is not apparent at this time.

He also indicated that reopening of his office at the Federal Building is several months away, if it should happen.

Hansen had sponsored a bill which passed the House last year to change the name of Ririe Lake to "Oscar Johnson Lake" in honor of an area pioneer after receiving petitions signed by about 900, as well as 50 personal letters in support.

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However, opposition later developed in the Ririe-Rigby area and petitions bearing about 1,000 names were filed against it.

As a result, the Idaho congressional delegation decided to take no further action unless field hearings were conducted. This was after the bill was referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee of which both Sens. Frank Church and James A. McClure were members.

The McClure office said it had been informed by Ruby Sharp, Iona, daughter of Mr. Johnson, that she was cool to an idea for such a hearing.

Hansen commented "I'm in a holding action" on the bill and indicated nothing more will be done unless there is renewed request but this appears remote at this time.

A rumor the Fish and Game Department had listed the lake as Johnson Lake is in error. This is applied to a lake in the southern corner of the state.

Hansen said regarding about re-establishing an of-

fice at the Federal Building also is in limbo until his dispute with the GSA is settled after new Reagan administration personnel takes over.

He closed the office in 1979 after a dispute with the General Service Administration over justification economically of installing an elevator, ramp and other remodeling to provide access for the handicapped.

Hansen said he thought his system of fieldman Jim Ostler in Idaho Falls and a local telephone number, 523-5341, to his Pocatello office is working well.

After his protests, the GSA indefinitely postponed calling for new bids for the proposed \$300,000 remodeling project after the first bids were rejected as too high. Hansen further charged there were irregularities in the way the bids were called.

"I think we won the battle," Hansen said in referring to stopping the proposed remodeling.

At present, U.S. Sens. McClure and Steve Symms maintain offices at the building.