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Department of Water Resources

Name of Party Filing Document:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Counsel for the United States of America

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS**

In Re SRBA)
)
Case Number: 39576)
_____)

Subcase No. 72-10969

AFFIDAVIT OF WILLIAM N. BLOUNT

State of: IDAHO
County of: CUSTER

William N. Blount, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says:

1. I am currently employed by the United States Department of Agriculture,

Forest Service (Forest Service), as the Fire Management Officer (FMO) on the Challis Ranger District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest. This includes the Yankee Fork and Challis Ranger Districts. I have been employed by the Forest Service for 18 years.

2. As part of my assigned duties and responsibilities as the FMO on the Challis Ranger District, I am familiar with use at Holman Creek Administrative Site.

3. I have reviewed the reserved water right claim, as amended and attached as Exhibit 1, submitted by the Forest Service for Holman Creek Administrative Site (Claim).

4. The Claim was prepared by Forest Service personnel as part of their normal duties. I verified the legal locations as set forth and described in Exhibit 1 and have personal knowledge that the location of the point of diversion and point of use and source of the water supply are true and correct as described in Exhibit 1.

5. The Claim is situated wholly within National Forest System lands. It is currently utilized by the Forest Service at Holman Creek Administrative Site to manage National Forest System (NFS) land.

6. The Claim is necessary for the administration of the National Forest pursuant to the Organic Administration Act of 1897, 16 U.S.C. § 475 *et seq.*, for the purposes of securing favorable conditions of water flow and to furnish a continuous supply of timber.

7. The United States filed this Claim for use in association with Holman Creek Administrative Site, a horse pasture located on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The site is a fenced pasture where government owned pack and saddle stock are kept

when they are not in use at other locations on NFS land. Pack and saddle stock are essential to many administrative programs conducted by the Forest Service. Remote areas are most easily and cost effectively accessed on horseback. Horses are an important element for range, wilderness, trail and other management programs on many parts of the Salmon-Challis National Forest. This pasture is used every year. Water is used at this site for administrative purposes. Occupation and use of the site is essential to the overall administration of Forest Service programs on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Administration of NFS programs and employee presence on the ground serves to protect the forest from depredations and destruction. This ensures the continued viability of the resources on surrounding federally reserved NFS land and directly contributes to watershed protection, preservation of timber stands and to the maintenance of and improvement of watershed conditions, timber production and favorable conditions of water flow.

8. Based upon personal experience and knowledge, discussions with Forest Service personnel and review of relevant Forest Service records, including but not limited to, on-site inspection records, water has been historically, and is presently utilized at Holman Creek Administrative Site in quantities up to and including 0.30 c.f.s. during the period of January 1 through December 31, as described in Exhibit 1.

9. Based upon the forgoing, I have personal knowledge of the following elements of the reserved water right claim:

a. The name and address of the claimant is:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA acting on behalf of the U.S.D.A. Forest

Service, 550 W. Fort Street, MSC033, Boise, ID 83724.

b. The source of water is:

Salmon River

c. The location is:

1) point of diversion:

B.M., T. 11 N, R. 16 E, S. 26 Lot 7 SENE.

2) place of use:

B.M., T. 11 N, R. 16 E, S. 25 Lot 7 NWSE
Lot 7 SWSE
Lot 8 NESW

d. The quantity of water is:

0.30 c.f.s.

e. The period of use is:

January 1 through December 31

f. The purpose of use is:

Administrative purposes at Holman Creek Administrative Site.

Dated this 29th day of April, 2003.

William N. Blount
William N. Blount

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this 29th day of April, 2003.

Janet Gangis

NOTARY PUBLIC FOR: Idaho

Residing at: Challis

My Commission Expires:



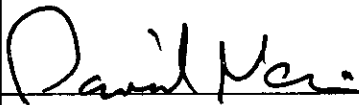
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on May 2, 2003, I mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing Affidavit of William N. Blount to the following by First Class United States Mail, prepaid:

Copies to:

Chief, Natural Resources Division
Office of the Attorney General
State of Idaho
P.O. Box 44449
Boise, ID 83711-4449

IDWR Document Depository
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720



David L. Negri

NOTICE OF AMENDED CLAIM
RESERVED UNDER FEDERAL LAW

Right Number: 72-10969

Name and Address: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE
USDA FOREST SERVICE
550 W FORT ST MSC 033
BOISE, ID 83724

Source: SALMON RIVER Tributary: SNAKE RIVER

Quantity: .30 CFS

Priority Date: ~~04-10-1928~~ 11-05-1906

Point of Diversion: T11N R16E S26 Lot 7 SENE Within Custer County

Purpose and Period of Use:	Purpose of Use	Period of Use	Quantity
	~~Irrigation~~	01-01 TO 12-31	.30 CFS
	<u>Administrative</u>		

Place of Use: ~~Irrigation~~ Within Custer County
Administrative
T11N R16E S25 Lot 8 NESW Lot 7 NWSE Lot 7 SWSE Lot 6 SESE

~~15 ACRES, ALSO IN NWSE AND SWSE OF SECTION 25.~~

Other Provisions Necessary for Definition / Administration of this Water Right:

FOREST SERVICE RECORD ID = 041417060201560058 00
Holman Creek Administrative Site

Explanatory Material: Basis of Claim - Reserved