

2004 SEP -9 PM 4: 57

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

**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 No. 39576

) **ORDER RESCINDING ORDER OF**
) **REFERENCE**
) **And**
) **AMENDED SPECIAL MASTER'S**
) **REPORT**

) **FOR WATER RIGHT: 67-12917**

Order Rescinding Order of Reference

- A. Special Master Thomas R. Cushman retired on June 30, 2004. Therefore, the Court finds it appropriate to rescind the Order of Reference to Thomas R. Cushman in the above subcase.
- B. The Court, with Judge John M. Melanson presiding, will proceed in the above subcase in the same fashion as specified in *Administrative Order 1* for proceedings by Special Masters.
- C. If the Court finds it necessary, the above subcase may be referred to another Special Master at a later date.

Special Master's Report

The above-captioned water right was claimed by the United States, Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (United States) as a dual-based stockwater right meaning the right was claimed as a federal-reserved water right pursuant to Public Water Reserve (PWR) 107 and alternatively as a state-law based right.

An Objection was filed by the State of Idaho. On September 17, 1999, objections were filed to the above water rights by Pickett Ranch & Sheep Co, Western Stockgrowers Assoc., Joe Tugaw, Michael Poulton, Gary Poulton, Karl Bedke, Jared Bedke, Scott Bedke, Bruce Bedke, Jerry Hoagland and Joyce Livestock Company (the "Ranchers"). On August 15, 2002, the Claimant and the State of Idaho filed a *Standard Form 5/Stipulated Elements of a Water Right* form. On August 29, 2002, the "Ranchers" filed a *Stipulation and Joint Motion for Order*

Approving Stipulation, Notice of Withdrawal of Objections and Responses filed by Mr. Norman

Semanko for Bruce Bedke et al, *Notice of Withdrawal of Objections and Responses* filed by Mr. Norman Semanko for Western Stockgrowers et al. On September 18, 2002, an *Order Dismissing Objections and Responses with Prejudice; and Order Dismissing Parties* was issued. On April 23, 2003 a *Special Master's Report and Recommendation* was filed. On April 24, 2003, the *Special Master's Report and Recommendation* was withdrawn. On May 15, 2003, a *Notice Regarding Priority Date* was filed by the Claimant, stating that the above right was claimed on a federal basis.

On July 31, 2003, a trial was held on this and other claims pursuant to Idaho Code 42-1411A(12), which requires the United States to demonstrate a *prima facie* showing of the existence of the claimed federal reserve water right. In conjunction with that trial, the United States filed affidavits, which were admitted into evidence. According to the tape recording from the trial, Special Master Thomas Cushman found that the above right was a valid PWR 107 Federal Reserve water right. However, no *Special Master's Report* was issued.

Based on the Special Master's trial, the Court concludes the following:

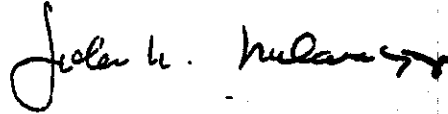
1. Prior to April 17, 1926, the subject water source the claim was located on unreserved federal public domain land.
2. Prior to April 17, 1926, no water rights had been established pursuant to state law for the use of the water from the subject water source for the claim.
3. On April 17, 1926, President Coolidge executed Public Water Reserve 107, which withdrew the 40 acre tract of land upon which the subject water source for the claim is located from the public domain. The tract of land withdrawn for each claim is described as the "place of use" element on the attached *Special Master's Recommendation*.
4. The subject water source for the claim consists of a spring or water hole of the type contemplated by Public Water Reserve 107.
5. Contemporaneously with the withdrawal of the land, President Coolidge impliedly reserved enough water to fulfill the primary purpose of the land reservation for the claim.
6. The minimum amount of water necessary to fulfill the primary purpose of the land reservation is the amount set forth in the "quantity" element on the attached *Special Master's Recommendation* for the claim.
7. The United States has satisfied its burden under Idaho Code section 42-1411A(12) as to the nature and existence of the claimed federal reserve water right for the claim.
8. The elements of the federal reserved water right for the claim are set forth on the

attached *Special Master's Recommendation*.

III. RECOMMENDATION

Therefore, based on the file and record herein, IT IS RECOMMENDED that the above-captioned water right be decreed as a federal reserved water right with the elements as set forth in the attached *Special Master's Recommendation for Partial Decree Pursuant to I.R.C.P. 54(b)*. It is further recommended that to the extent any concomitant state-law water right was claimed in the alternative for the above-captioned right, that said right not be confirmed in any partial or final decree.

DATED: September 7, 2004



JOHN M. MELANSON
Presiding Judge
Snake River Basin Adjudication

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

2004 SEP -9 PM 4: 57

In Re SRBA)
PARTIAL DECREE PURSUANT TO
I.R.C.P. 54(b) FOR
Case No. 39576)
Water Right 67-12917

LASTED BY EXT-SRBA
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
FILED

NAME AND ADDRESS: USDI BLM
IDAHO STATE OFFICE
1387 S VINNELL WAY
BOISE, ID 83709-1657

SOURCE: SPRING TRIBUTARY: SINKS

QUANTITY: 0.02 CFS

THE QUANTITY OF WATER UNDER THIS RIGHT SHALL NOT EXCEED 13,000
GALLONS PER DAY.

PRIORITY DATE: 04/17/1926

* THIS WATER RIGHT IS DECREED BASED ON FEDERAL LAW WITH AN *
* APRIL 17, 1926, DATE OF PRIORITY PURSUANT TO AN EXECUTIVE *
* ORDER SIGNED THE SAME DATE AND KNOWN AS PUBLIC WATER *
* RESERVE 107. *

POINT OF DIVERSION: T10N R03W S05 NESESE Within Washington County

PURPOSE AND			
PERIOD OF USE:	PURPOSE OF USE	PERIOD OF USE	QUANTITY
	Stockwater	01-01 TO 12-31	0.02 CFS

PLACE OF USE: Stockwater Within Washington County
T10N R03W S05 SESE

OTHER PROVISIONS NECESSARY FOR DEFINITION OR ADMINISTRATION OF THIS WATER RIGHT:

THE QUANTITY OF WATER DECREED FOR THIS WATER RIGHT IS NOT A
DETERMINATION OF HISTORICAL BENEFICIAL USE.

THIS PARTIAL DECREE IS SUBJECT TO SUCH GENERAL PROVISIONS
NECESSARY FOR THE DEFINITION OF THE RIGHTS OR FOR THE EFFICIENT
ADMINISTRATION OF THE WATER RIGHTS AS MAY BE ULTIMATELY
DETERMINED BY THE COURT AT A POINT IN TIME NO LATER THAN THE
ENTRY OF A FINAL UNIFIED DECREE. I.C. SECTION 42-1412(6).

RULE 54(b) CERTIFICATE

With respect to the issues determined by the above judgment or order, it is hereby CERTIFIED, in accordance with Rule 54(b), I.R.C.P., that the court has determined that there is no just reason for delay of the entry of a final judgment and that the court has and does hereby direct that the above judgment or order shall be a final judgment upon which execution may issue and an appeal may be taken as provided by the Idaho Appellate Rules.

Recommended:
Sept. 9, 2004
John M. Melanson

John M. Melanson
Presiding Judge of the
Snake River Basin Adjudication

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FILED
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
SRBA

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 No. 39576)
_____)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Water Right(s): 67-12917

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

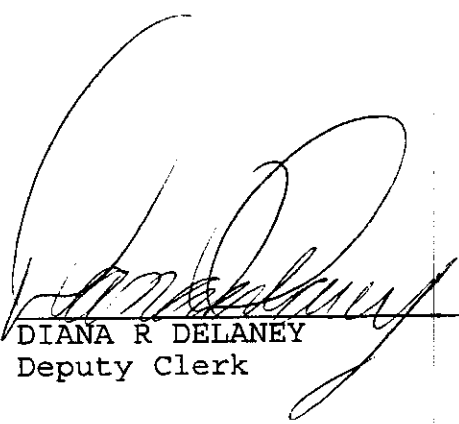
I certify that a true and correct copy of the SPECIAL MASTER'S
REPORT, SPECIAL MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION FOR PARTIAL DECREE and NOTICE
OF ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL MASTER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION were mailed
on September 09, 2004, with sufficient first-class postage prepaid to
the following:

DIRECTOR OF IDWR
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0098

STATE OF IDAHO
Represented by:
NATURAL RESOURCES DIV CHIEF
STATE OF IDAHO
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
PO BOX 44449
BOISE, ID 83711-4449

USDI BLM
Represented by:
US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ENVIRONMENT & NATL' RESOURCES
550 WEST FORT STREET, MSC 033
BOISE, ID 83724

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING


DIANA R DELANEY
Deputy Clerk

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DISTRICT COURT - SRBA
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
FILED

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 No. 39576)
_____)

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF
SPECIAL MASTER'S
RECOMMENDATION

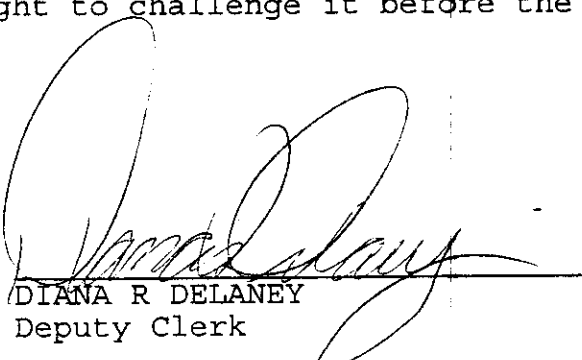
Water Right(s): 67-12917

On September 09, 2004, Special Master THOMAS R CUSHMAN issued a SPECIAL MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION for the above subcase(s) pursuant to SRBA Administrative Order 1 (AO1), Section 13a.

Pursuant to SRBA Administrative Order 1, Section 13a, any party to the adjudication including parties to the subcase, may file a Motion to Alter or Amend on or before the 28th day of the next month.

Failure of any party in the adjudication to pursue or participate in a Motion to Alter or Amend the SPECIAL MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION shall constitute a waiver of the right to challenge it before the Presiding Judge.

DATED September 09, 2004.


DIANA R DELANEY
Deputy Clerk