

2002 MAY -3 PM 4: 34

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	)	SPECIAL MASTER'S REPORT AND
	)	RECOMMENDATION; FINDINGS OF
Case No. 39576	)	FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
	)	
	)	
	)	FOR WATER RIGHT 33-10926

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

A notice of claim was filed for this water right pursuant to I.C. § 42-1409. The Director of the State of Idaho Department of Water Resources examined the water system for this reporting area. The *Director's Report* contained a recommendation for the elements of this water right. This claim was based only on state law, and asserted a priority date of January 1, 1879.

An Objection was filed by Pickett Ranch & Sheep Co., Scott Bedke, Karl Bedke, Bruce Bedke, Jared Bedke, Joe Tugaw, Gary Poulton, Michael Poulton, Flying Triangle Inc., Willis D. & Betty DeVeney, Luther Gardner, Jerry Hoagland, Joyce Livestock Company, Western Stockgrowers Association, Eugene Mathews, Shoulders 3 Ranches, Inc. and A L Cattle Inc. (hereafter "Objectors") on April 3, 2000. No responsive pleading was filed to this objection. The "Objectors" filed a *Notice of Withdrawal of Objections* on February 25, 2002. There are no unresolved objections remaining in this subcase.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Under *SRBA Administrative Order 1*, a Special Master is required to make a recommendation to the Presiding Judge as to whether and how a water right should be decreed. The record on file for this water right includes the *Director's Report* to which there are no remaining objections.

The United States claimed this right under state law. There is no assertion that this right is based on a federal reservation. The United States claimed the priority date as January 1, 1879. That priority claim was investigated by IDWR and recommended in the *Director's Report*. Recommendations in *Director's Reports* have *prima facie* weight as set forth in I.C. § 42-1411(4)-(5). Where the *Director's Report* draws a conclusion as to priority date, the *prima facie* weight afforded the *Director's Report* confers a presumption that sufficient proof has been made to prevail on the issue, absent competent evidence to the contrary. If rebutted, the presumption disappears, and the party with the benefit of the presumption retains the burden of persuasion on the issue. *State v. Hagerman Water Right Owners*, 130 Idaho 736, 947 P.2d 409, 418 (1997).

Based on the file and record herein, IT IS RECOMMENDED that this water right be decreed with the elements set forth in the attached *Special Master's Recommendation for Partial Decree*.

DATED: May 3, 2002.



BRIGETTE BILYEU
Special Master
Snake River Basin Adjudication

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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): 33-10926

On May 03, 2002, Special Master BRIGETTE BILYEU 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 May 03, 2002.


JANET CONNELL
Deputy Clerk

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TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
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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)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Case No. 39576)
_____)

Water Right(s): 33-10926

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 May 03, 2002, with sufficient first-class postage prepaid to the following:

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

USDI BLM

Represented by:
US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ENVIRONMENT & NATL' RESOURCES
550 WEST FORT STREET, MSC 033
BOISE, ID 83724
Phone: 208-387-0835

Janet Connell
JANET CONNELL
Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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