

2002 MAY -3 PM 4:31

DISTRICT COURT-SRBA  
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     | ) | SPECIAL MASTER'S REPORT AND |
|                | ) | RECOMMENDATION; FINDINGS OF |
| Case No. 39576 | ) | FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW |
|                | ) |                             |
|                | ) |                             |
|                | ) | FOR WATER RIGHT 33-07095    |

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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 March 31, 1981.

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. An *Objection* was filed by the United States Bureau of Land Management on April 7, 2000. No responsive pleadings were filed to these *Objections*. The United States Bureau of Land Management filed a *Motion to Dismiss Objection* on November 8, 2001. The Motion was granted on November 15, 2001. 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

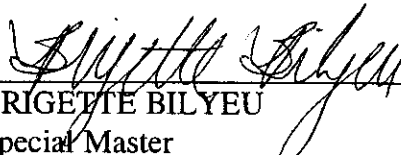
Under *SRBA Administrative Order 1*, a Special Master is required to make a recommendation to the Presiding Judge as to whether and how a water right should be decreed.

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 March 31, 1981. 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

2002 MAY -3 PM 4:31

DISTRICT COURT-SRBA  
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO  
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PAGE 1  
May-03-2002

2002 MAY -3 PM 4:31

DISTRICT COURT-SRBA  
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO

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): 33-07095

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

2002 MAY -3 PM 4:32

DISTRICT COURT-SRBA  
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): 33-07095

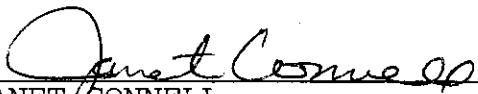
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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  
Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

PAGE 1  
05/03/02