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Department of Water Resources

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DISTRICT COURT - SRBA
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
FILED *[Signature]*

**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

) **Subcase: 51-12158**

Case No. 39576

)
) **SPECIAL MASTER'S REPORT AND**
) **RECOMMENDATION**

)
) **FINDINGS OF FACT AND**
) **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Procedural Background

The above-captioned water right was claimed in the SRBA, pursuant to state law, by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. Objections were filed by the State of Idaho and the United States. On June 5, 2000, the State of Idaho and the United States filed a Standard Form 5, which, among other things, amended the basis of the claim from state law to a federal reserve water right based upon Public Water Reserve 107 (PWR 107). Because of the federal reserve basis for the claim, IDWR did not sign the SF-5.

On May 24, 2002, the United States filed a *Motion for Summary Judgment* in this and numerous other subcases involving PWR 107 claims. At the hearing on the United States' *Motion* (July 19, 2002), this Special Master ruled that the legal issues raised by the State of Idaho have previously been addressed by the SRBA District Court and the Idaho Supreme Court, and the only issue that remains with respect to the PWR 107 claims is for the United States to make a showing as to the underlying factual basis for the claims as required by Idaho Code section 42-1411A(14). Further, this Special Master ruled that because the State's objection raised only legal issues, and because all legal issues have been addressed and disposed of, that the State of Idaho is dismissed as a party

to the subcases that were the subject of the United States' May 24, 2002 *Motion for Summary Judgment*.

On August 21, 2002, a hearing was held on this and other subcases pursuant to Idaho Code 42-1411A(14), 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 hearing, the United States filed an *Affidavit of Frederic W. Price* and an *Affidavit of Deena M. Teel*. This Special Master also took sworn testimony of Frederic Price.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

Based upon the file and record in this subcase, and the evidence presented at the August 21, 2002 hearing on the matter, this Special Master makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

1. Prior to April 17, 1926, the subject water source 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.
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 is located from the public domain. The tract of land withdrawn is described as the "place of use" element on the attached *Special Master's Recommendation*.
4. The subject water source 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.
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*.
7. The United States has satisfied its burden under Idaho Code section 42-1411A(14) as to the nature and existence of the claimed federal reserve water right.

8. The elements of the federal reserve water right are set forth on the attached *Special Master's Recommendation*.

Recommendation

Therefore, in accordance with the foregoing, IT IS RECOMMENDED that water right 51-12158 be decreed as set forth in the attached *Special Master's Recommendation*.

Dated 8/29/02



THOMAS CUSHMAN
Special Master
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

In Re SRBA)
Case No. 39576)

PARTIAL DECREE PURSUANT TO
I.R.C.P. 54(b) FOR
Water Right 51-12158

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Department of Water Resources

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

* 4/17/1926 CLAIMED UNDER FEDERAL RESERVED WATER RIGHT. *
* *
* THIS WATER RIGHT IS CLAIMED 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. THIS WATER RIGHT IS NOT A STATE BASED CLAIM. *

POINT OF DIVERSION: T16S R12E S05 SESWSE Within Owyhee 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 SWSE Within Owyhee County
T16S R12E S05

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

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.

Roger Burdick
Presiding Judge of the
Snake River Basin Adjudication

RECOMMENDATION

[Signature] 8-27-2002

SPECIAL MASTER

SRBA PARTIAL DECREE PURSUANT TO I.R.C.P. 54(b)
Water Right 51-12158 File Number: 00513

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Department of Water Resources

DISTRICT COURT-SRBA
TWIN FALLS CO., IDAHO
FILED *DL*

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): 51-12038
51-12157 51-12158

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 August 29, 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

Debbie Lash
DEBBIE LASH
Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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TWINFALLS CO. IDAHO

In Re SRBA
Case No. 39576

Water Right(s): 51-12038
51-12157 51-12158

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.

Debbie Lash
DEBBIE LASH
Deputy Clerk