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JASON D. WALKERKELLY ARTHUR ANTHON
MICHAEL P. TRIBE

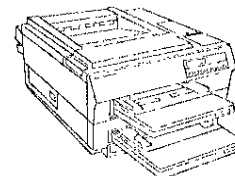
ROGER D. LING, OF COUNSEL

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

615 "H" STREET

P. O. BOX 396

RUPERT, IDAHO 83350-0396

AREA CODE 208
TELEPHONE 436-4717
FAX 436-6804**DATE:** March 23, 2005**TIME:** 12:11PM MST**TO:** Candice M. McHugh
Deputy Attorney General, IDWR
Natural Resources Division**FAX:** (208) 287-6700**FROM:** Roger D. Ling, Esq.
LING, ROBINSON & WALKER**FAX:** (208) 436-6804
By: Judy Barnes**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** rdl@idlawfirm.com**TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES SENT:** 8 (INCLUDING THIS PAGE)

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RE: Ben D. Jernberg – Subcase No. 31-11845

As you can see from the attached document, we believe that the place of use is as claimed.

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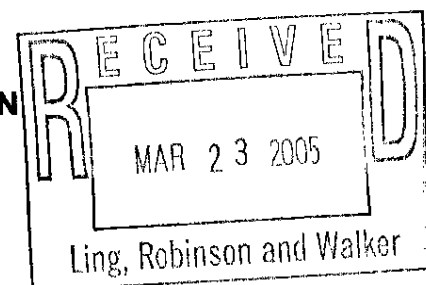
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Water Resources Field Services

P.O. Box 94
Iona, ID 83427
208-681-9100

**ANALYSIS OF PLACE OF USE
FOR ADJUDICATION RECOMMENDATION
A31-11845 (Jernberg)**

March 22, 2005

**BACKGROUND**

In 2003, I performed an analysis of the "equivalent beneficial use" represented by the application of water to "663 acres of uncultivated pasture" identified in condition/remark two of water right 31-7311, which has since been renumbered A31-11845. Last year I measured the discharge of the Jernberg wells, prior to the failure of one of the pumps, and confirmed that the historical pumping capacity was still in place and in use.

In 2005, the Office of the Attorney General notified Mr. Jernberg that IDWR had identified 183 acres where "water appears to have been applied to the uncultivated acreage using 2004 imagery." It appears that IDWR proposes to use this analysis to represent the equivalent irrigation for the application of water to 663 acres authorized by license 31-7311.

Because one of the pumps failed early in 2004, and because 2004 was a drought year with reduced well yields, Mr. Jernberg believes that a 2004 aerial photograph is inadequate to represent the historical practice authorized under license 31-7311 and claimed in the adjudication. This preliminary report is prepared at his request and attempts to answer the following questions:

1. Did the 1986 IDWR field exam correctly represent the irrigation in place at the time of the commencement of the Adjudication?
2. Did the 1997 license correctly represent the application of water that was in place at the time of the commencement?
3. Did IDWR's analysis of 2004 aerial photos correctly represent the irrigation that was occurring in 2004?
4. Are the 2004 aerial photos representative of the irrigation that was in place at the time of the commencement of the Adjudication?

To answer these questions I have reviewed the licensing exam and documents in the license file, 1987 aerial photographs, Water Measurement District records, my 2003 analysis, and a 2004 aerial photo from Inside Idaho Internet site (my copy of IDWR's photo analysis was illegible). I also

contacted USDA Farm Service Agency but was told that no records were available describing irrigated pasturelands.

LICENSE EXAM REPORT (1986)

A memo dated 22 August 1986 from IDWR field examiner John Arambari, obtained from license file 31-7311, states

"Two distinctly different irrigation uses were found. One use was for the irrigation of a grain crop; the other being irrigated for the enhancement of natural vegetation used as cattle pasture..."

The examiner found a total of 1124 acres for these two uses. In a 1994 memo in the licensing file, this is partitioned to 461 acres of crop irrigation and 663 acres of "natural pasture."

JERNBERG RESPONSES TO IDWR INQUIRIES (1989, 1995)

As part of the licensing process, IDWR requested historical water use information from Jernberg. IDWR did not ask about irrigated acreage, so Jernberg only responded with pumping data. The May 2003 analysis shows that the pumping reported by Jernberg is adequate to support the acreage found by the IDWR field examiner.

AERIAL PHOTO 1987

Based on a 1987 aerial photograph downloaded from IDWR's Internet site, I found approximately 545 acres of irrigated crop land, 318 acres of "robust" irrigated pasture, and 235 acres of "marginal" irrigated pasture, for a total of 1,098 acres. This analysis is illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

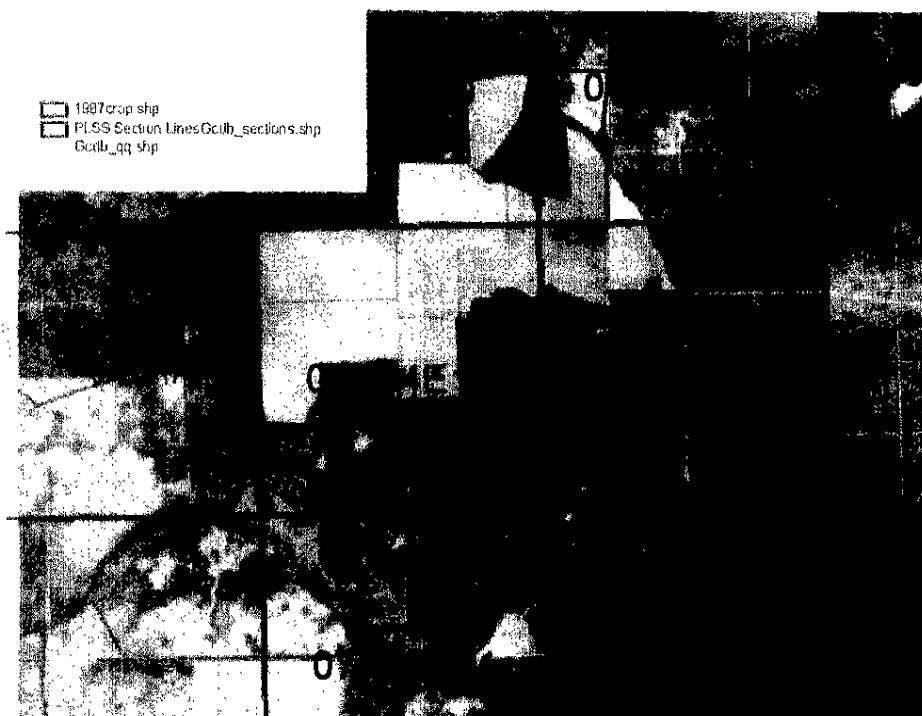


Figure 1. Cropland irrigation, 1987 aerial photograph.

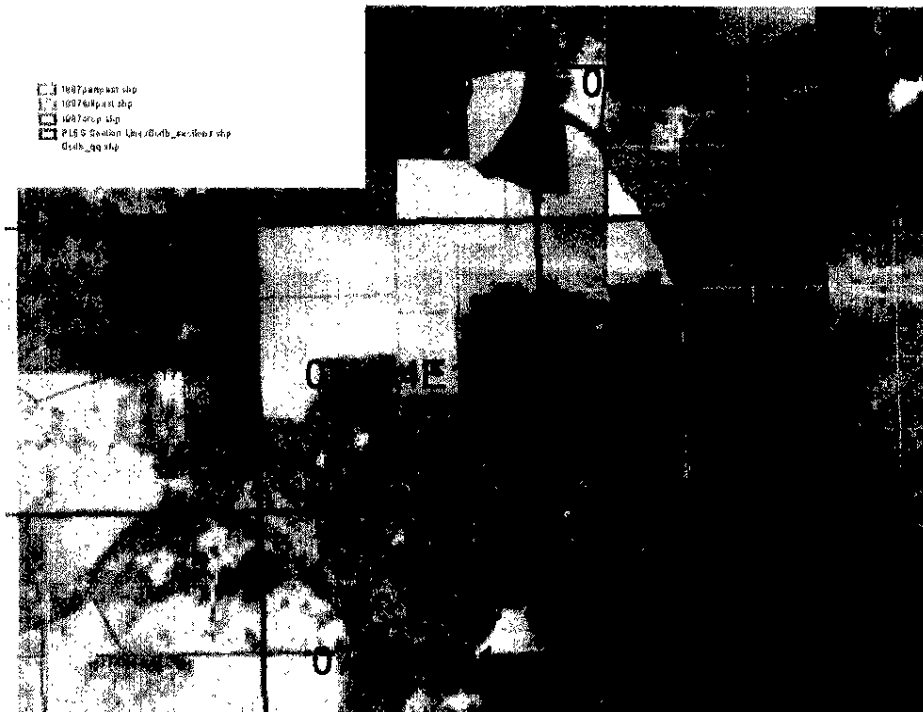


Figure 2. Cropland and pasture irrigation, 1987 aerial photograph.

LICENSE 31-7311 (1997)

The license issued in 1997 authorizes application of water to 1124 acres, 461 acres of irrigated cropland and 663 acres of "uncultivated pasture."

WATER MEASUREMENT DISTRICT DATA (1997/1998)

Water Measurement Districts were not charged with identifying place of use, but the reported volume was found in the May 2003 analysis to be adequate to support the acreage found by the field examiner.

OBSERVATIONS 1997 - 1999

During 1997, 1998 and 1999 I frequently traveled the road that divides the upper and lower place of use, and often observed a strong stream of water in the ditch that serves the south place of use identified as "uncultivated pasture."

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH (2004)

The faxed copy of the photograph received by Water Resources Field Services was not legible. My analysis of a different 2004 photo indicates that 690 acres of land were irrigated in 2004, as illustrated in Figure 3.

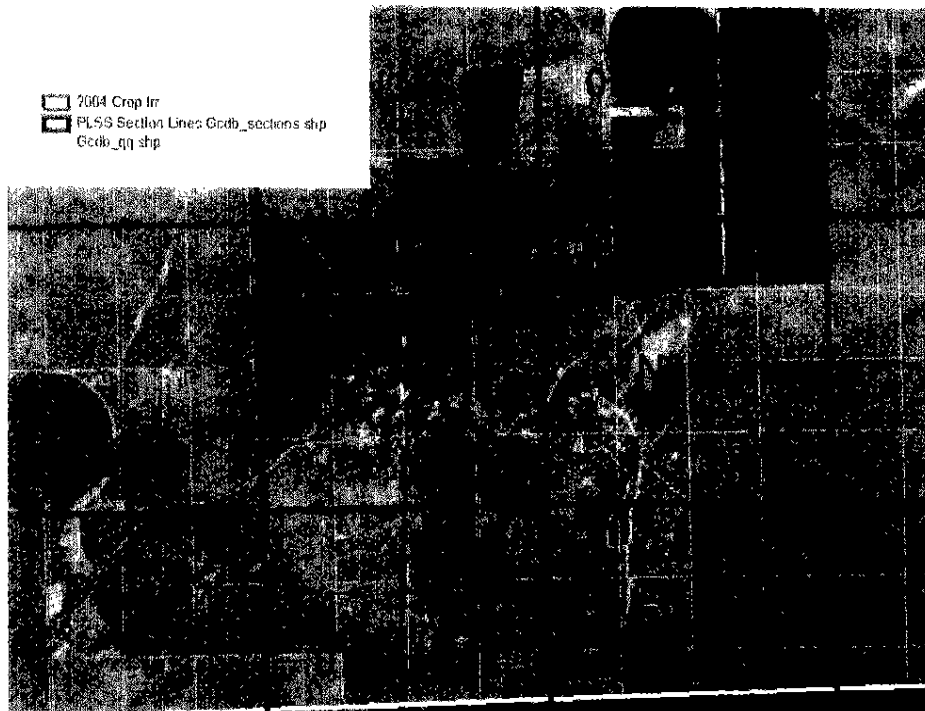


Figure 1. Apparent 2004 Irrigation within claimed quarter-quarter sections.

FIELD INSPECTION

Today I walked the place of use in the south half of Section 16, and in all of Sections 15, 21 and 22. Photographs and a map of GPS readings will be provided in a follow-up document, when photo processing is complete. In general I found that:

1. The field examiner's finding that cropland was irrigated more intensively than pastureland seems reasonable.

2. All the cropland appears to have been irrigated in 2004. The cropland is all in alfalfa hay, rather than in small grain as it was in 1986.
3. The field examiner's finding of 1124 acres of irrigation and my 1987 photo-analysis finding of about 1100 acres are reasonable. Because the examiner was actually on the ground while irrigation was occurring, I have more confidence in his results than in mine.
4. All of the lands that I identified as "irrigated" in the 2004 image are crop acres. Additional pasture lands in the S1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 15 and in the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 16 may also have been irrigated in 2004.
5. Other pasturelands do not appear to have been irrigated in 2004. I could not tell exactly when the pasturelands were most recently irrigated, but it is likely that irrigation has continued well past the commencement of the adjudication, filing claims, and issuing of a water-right license.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis and inspection described above, I find the following answers to the questions posed at the beginning:

1. Did the 1986 IDWR field exam correctly represent the irrigation in place at the time of the commencement of the Adjudication?

The 1986 field exam found a similar number of acres to my analysis of 1987 aerial photos, found similar pumping rates to my 2004 measurements, and was consistent with field inspection. Nothing was found that would contradict the 1986 IDWR finding of 1124 acres of irrigation. My photo analysis and field inspection found more crop acres and fewer pasture acres than reported by IDWR.

2. Did the 1997 license correctly represent the application of water that was in place at the time of the commencement?

I am not qualified to comment on the wording of the license, but the factual description of application of water to 1124 acres is consistent with my findings. Again, however, I found more crop acres (545 vs. 461 in the 1987 aerial photo, 690 vs. 461 in the 2004 aerial photo) than indicated by the license.

3. Did IDWR's analysis of 2004 aerial photos correctly represent the irrigation that was occurring in 2004?

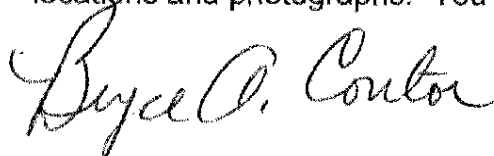
IDWR found about 45 fewer acres of irrigation than I found (about 7% difference). However, IDWR identified 183 acres as "uncultivated land," while my field inspection showed that all the lands that I identified as irrigated are cultivated alfalfa hay. In addition, my field inspection suggested that an additional 80 to 120 acres of pasture may have been irrigated in 2004.

4. Are the 2004 aerial photos representative of the irrigation that was in place at the time of the commencement of the Adjudication?

Because the IDWR field exam and the 1987 aerial photo are within one year of the commencement of the Adjudication, they are likely to be more representative of the water use to be determined in the Adjudication than a photo taken 17 years later. The 1986 IDWR field exam was based on actual field inspection while irrigation was occurring. The 1997 license confirms the water use found in the field exam. Water Measurement District data and Mr. Jernberg's responses to IDWR inquiries confirm pumping volumes consistent with the field examiner's findings. Further, 2004 was an atypical year, due to the drought and due to the failure of one of the pumps.

I conclude that the analysis of 2004 aerial photos is not an adequate representation of conditions at the commencement of the Adjudication, and that the 1986 IDWR field exam is an adequate representation of Adjudication water use.

Please feel free to call if you have questions. I will FAX and overnight express this report and mail a follow-up document with a map of GPS locations and photographs. You may reach me at 208 681 9100.



Bryce A. Contor
Hydrologist