

12/12/05

Jan & Larry Barany
HC01 Box 58J
White Bird Idaho 83554
In reply to: Letter date November 10, 2005
Attention: Carter Fritschle
Subject: Priority Date for Civil Case # 39576
Identification # 79-14096
Water Claim: Slate Creek 27N 02E 32

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DEC 14 2005

DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

We have been unable to locate anyone who remembers what happened in 1908/09 when Alfred McGaffee first secured the property under the Homestead Act. We did contact Betty Jewitt Rauch who lived on the property as a young girl from 1937 to 1944. According to her recollections, the property was originally flood irrigated from two flumes originating near the boundary line between Hopp and Ferguson in Sec 32. (See attached map). She remembers flood irrigating the entire flat area. This area included pastures for livestock, several gardens and orchards. She recalls the fruit and nut trees being mature and well established and estimates many were at least 20 years old. Her family bought the property from the McGaffees and it seems that the McGaffees had planted a number of the trees.

SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Sec 32

We also talked with Glenn Chandler, who has lived on Slate Creek since 1944. He remembers the irrigation flumes and his description of the flumes is the same as Mrs. Rauch's. Around 1970 Mr. Chandler did some excavation work on this property and bulldozed some of the orchards including an apple orchard that he estimated as 50 to 60 years old. Also there was a large black walnut tree that was cut and he believes given the size of tree that it was at least 60 years old.

I have included contact information for both Mr. Chandler and Mrs. Rauch.

Mrs. Betty Rauch
10 Mt Idaho Loop Rd
Grangeville, Idaho 83530
Phone: 208-983-1239

Mr. Glenn Chandler
HC01 Box 54
White Bird, Idaho 83554
Phone: 208-839-2377

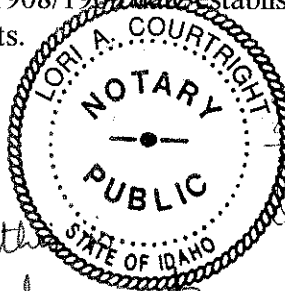
From talking with these two individuals it seems evident that the water usage priority date must be very close to the 1908/1909 date established in the Homestead Patent. I hope this meets the requirements.

Respectfully,

Jan Barany

Jan Barany

*I give my word that
a true and accurate account
of what I was told,*



Lori A. Courtright
Notary, for State of Idaho
EXP 7-30-08

ID# 79-14096

JAN & LARRY BARNEY
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Sec
30

Sec
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