

1 May 2006

Charles J. Olson
Route 1 Box 777E
Mountain Home ID 83647

Matt Anders
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street
P.O. 83720
Boise ID 83720-0098

RE: Snake River Adjudication Claims 37-4301 and 37-2176

I am a native of this area being born in Fairfield on January 14, 1931. I can remember accompanying my father to the springs and the meadows in 1939 as we cut the wood of the aspen trees to heat our home and cook our meals. I observed cattle grazing on the meadows that were irrigated from the springs. The year 1939 was a year to remember for me as the family attended the World's Fair in San Francisco California, which was quite a special trip. The hauling of wood was done from 1936-1945 when we moved to Fairfield for the school year. However we still hauled wood to the ranch in the summer.

In September of 1965, I made improvements on the spring area, clearing off the brush and putting in a spring box and structures to keep the livestock out of the springs. At this time we also cleared most of the land except the meadows, and seeded the ground to domestic hay and grasses. At this time ditches were put in to carry some of the water to irrigate these improved pastures. With the clearing of the land around the spring areas resulted in the irrigation of 25 % more land.

The quantity of water used varied with the time of year; as long there were snow drifts on

the ridges, the spring would produce 1.140 cfs but the production would lessen as the lands dried out during the year. The extent of use also followed the seasons with little use as the lands were saturated from winter snow cover and early spring rains. As the land became drier no water would leave the above described water rights.

If the above scenario isn't satisfactory to establish proof of beneficial use on the dates of 1939 and 1965, I would be happy with the recommendations of Matt Anders. Thank You.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles J. Olson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Charles J. Olson