



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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JAMES E. RISCH
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

November 30, 2006

Re: Supporting documentation for Stock Water or Ground Water Recharge

Dear Claimant:

Over the past several months, numerous meetings have taken place with individuals and representatives of water delivery organizations in the upper Snake River Valley and the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) concerning claims for the non-irrigation season diversion of stock water and ground water recharge. In response to these meetings the following criteria were identified for evaluating and recommending these two uses:

- The claimant will have to provide documentation that verifies a historical practice of diverting water during the non-irrigation season for the purpose of providing stock water and ground water recharge. An example would be copies of the minutes for a water delivery organization referencing the diversion of water for these two uses. This information also will be used to help establish the priority date of the use.
- The claimant needs to provide copies of records showing the quantity of water historically diverted during the non-irrigation season. These records will be used as a basis for recommending the diversion rates for these two uses.
- The claimant will have to provide documents, written statements and/or affidavits from individuals who have witnessed the non-irrigation season diversion of water. These individuals need to provide a historical perspective based on actual observation.

Claimants need to assess their historic diversion requirements for stock water and ground water recharge. The quantity of water claimed for non-irrigation season stock water should be the amount needed to reach the end of the delivery system plus provide drinking water for stock. Claimants should not rely on ground water recharge as a use to supplement the stock water in order for water to reach the end of the delivery system. *Claimants holding Winter Water Savings contracts may have lost their right to divert water for 150 days between November 1 and March 30 through either abandonment or forfeiture or may have a modified season of use depending on a case-by-case review of the facts.*

For some claimants, amending claims, or filing new claims, to reflect the historic quantity for stock water will result in a substantial filing fee (\$200 per cfs). This fee is not refundable, which emphasizes the importance of providing documentation that supports the claimed uses.

Claimants wishing assistance in amending their claims or filing additional claims should call 1-800-451-4129 to schedule an appointment with an agent.

Respectfully yours,

Donald Shaff
Adjudication Bureau Chief, IDWR

Enclosure: SRBA claim proof report

Cc: Ken Knoblock