

Friday, April 13, 2007

Field exam for Claim No. 35-2019

Accompanied by: Jeff Stieglitz & Nate Arave

Motor & pump: Portable centrifugal pump driven by approximately 65 HP Ford straight six which runs on propane

POU: Claimant had not yet irrigated the property himself. However he identified the place of use based on conversations he had with Mrs. Nelson, the previous owner. Claimant marked up an aerial photo to show what he believed was the irrigated ground. Nate and I observed existing ditches and portable irrigation mainline, although much of it had been stolen per claimant. Much of the licensed POU appeared previously irrigated, although not as much as was licensed. Some of the ground identified by Jeff on the map did not appear irrigable.

POD: Claimant said that hay bales were thrown into the stream in order to raise the water level at the location of the pump. Gathered gps points for check structure and pump location.

Comments: The claimant said that he purchased the property in 2003 and has not irrigated it yet, although he intends to irrigate this year. He said that the property was not irrigated because he was pursuing putting the land in a federal wetland preserve program. Claimant is no longer pursuing that course of action. The claimant's only knowledge of irrigation prior to his purchase of the property is second hand, based on conversations with the former owner, Mrs. Nelson. Her husband, the primary operator of the irrigation system, died in 2003. The extent of water use is unclear between the time that he had a heart attack in 1985 and his death. However, it is clear that some of the land was irrigated in 1992 based on the DOQQ photos. Also the 1998 landsat photos show that some of the licensed POU was being irrigated. There were no landsat photos available for the years 1999 and 2001. The landsat photos for 2000 and 2002 through 2006 show no evidence of irrigation.

MWH





CLAIMANT'S DRAWING OF POU