

Notes from field exam to review 75-14436 (Robert Tacke)
Meeting date: 10/01/2008
Agent: Monica Van Bussum



View of springs that form points of diversion for 75-14436. Because of the nature of water use (bottling spring water, in part), the spring water can not be exposed to the air and the entire spring and diversion works are buried underground. The water is piped from this location down below to the bottling plant. The irrigation water is also piped to the ground below and then gravity-fed ditches irrigate the property. Small springs and seepages dot the property and are used by stock and naturally irrigate the ground. As can clearly be seen in this picture, there was nothing to attached a department tag to, so I did not tag the points of diversion but did take a GPS point.



View looking west across the valley towards the bottling plant, which is the largest of the buildings seen here. Mr. Tacke has plans to build a larger bottling plant on the site. To the right in the photograph (north in compass direction), some of the irrigation ponds are visible. These small ponds take less than one day to fill, so no storage component is needed. There are 5 ponds in total that can be used for irrigation.



A second picture looking northwest from above the irrigated ground. A small seepage can be seen to the left. Irrigation can be seen in the background, as well as one of the small ponds. The small rock building seen in the center was apparently used as cold storage during the early ranching years.



An alternative view of some of the small ponds on the property that hold water for irrigation. The City of Salmon can be seen in the background.



One of the gravity flow ditches is seen in this photograph. In the foreground, it parallels the ditch until approximately the center of the photograph where it diverges from the road to the left, as indicated by tree growth. A pond can be seen in the background to the left. Picture taking facing north from the road to the spring.



Photo taken looking west over the valley. This picture shows stock use as well as some standing water in the property indicating numerous small seeps.



Picture taken from near the bottling plant looking north. A gravity flow ditch can easily be seen. There are small seeps in this area that supplement the water from the springs up above.



Photo taken looking north/northeast from in front of the bottling plant. A couple of small ponds can be seen to the left and right. There was not a lot of active irrigation at the time of the field exam (early October), but signs of past irrigation were quite evident, including the black pipe seen in the center of this picture.



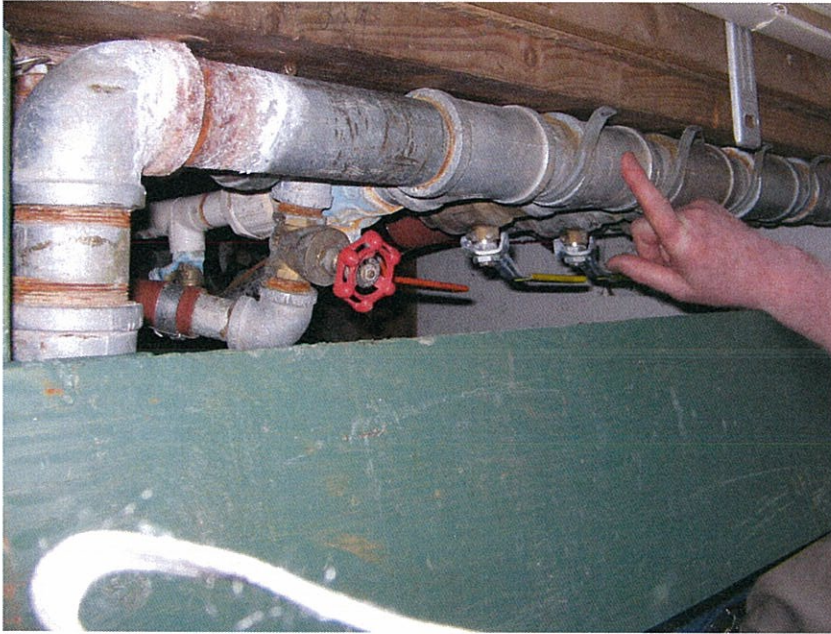
Photo taken looking north/northeast of one of the irrigation ponds. Mr. Tacke also uses bumper boats in this pond, as it was his intention at one time to return Salmon Hot Springs to its resort status. Also, Ivan the watchdog.



Photo taken looking north, City of Salmon visible in the background. A small pond used for irrigation.



One of the small irrigation ponds, this one immediately in front of the bottling plant. Pond was approximately 8 to 10 feet wide and 3 to 4 feet deep.



The entry point for spring water to enter the bottling plant. The valves can direct flow to the current building or to the proposed building.



Entry point for water to the current bottling plant. According to Mr. Tacke, the gauge will read 100 psi during operation and has a reducer on it (extreme right) because of the extreme pressure in the system. The springs are approximately 200 feet in elevation above the level of the bottling plant.



Filter for water entering the bottling plant.



1200 gallon milk storage container used to store water and to send to bottling apparatus. The water from the spring is a constant 113 degrees F and, to be bottled, must be kept below 90 degrees. The milk storage container is double-walled and can be used to cool the water.



Part of the bottling apparatus. Technically, the plant does not use bottles, but plastic pouches. I use the term bottling here for convenience.

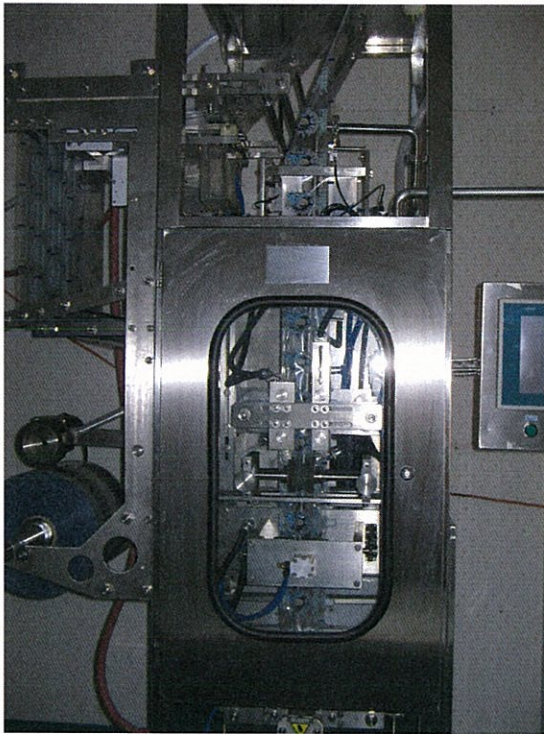


Photo of the bottling apparatus that allows Mr. Tacke to bottle a second type of pouch.



The end product of the bottling operation. Both types of pouches are shown. Two of the standard pouches are shown at left and the rest are pouches with drinking spouts.



One of the early ranch buildings, dating to approximately 1876, located near the springs used as primary points of diversion for the bottling plant and irrigation. The ranch was first settled around that time. In 1908 a building was built to allow for indoor and outdoor pools for soaking in the hot springs. From what Mr. Tacke told me, one of the

Walt Disney animators who worked on "Snow White" did some of the artwork in the indoor pool. Apparently, the animator was born and raised in Salmon and had enjoyed the hot springs. Mr. Tacke gave me additional evidence of priority in the form of a book published in 1989 called "The Patchwork." This book details much of the history of the property, so I will not spend time doing so here. I have scanned that evidence as a separate file.