

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

In Re the General Adjudication)
of the Rights to the Use of Water)
from the Snake River Basin)
Water System)
_____)

Case No. 36-07629B -0001

The State of Idaho, ex rel.)
R. Keith Higginson in his)
official capacity as Director)
of the Idaho Department of)
Water Resources,)

RESPONSE TO OBJECTION

Petitioner,)

vs.)

36-07629B -0001/
93-08-0393

The United States; the State)
of Idaho; and all Claimants to)
the use of water from the Snake)
River Basin Water System,)

Respondents.)
_____)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Person responding to objection:

Name: R. KEITH HIGGINSON, DIRECTOR

Address: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
P.O. BOX 44449
BOISE, ID 83711-4449

Briefly describe your interest in this water right:

IDWR is required to file a response to an objection to part
I of the director's report pursuant to I.C. section 42-1412(2).

(Over)

2. Person who filed objection:

Name: FRANK SUCHAN
Address: ROUTE 2 BOX 2472
PAUL ID 83347

3. If this response is filed by an attorney:

Attorney Name(s): NICHOLAS B. SPENCER
Attorney Address: DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL(S)
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
P.O. BOX 44449
BOISE, ID 83711-4449

Attorney Phone No.: (208) 327-7900

II. STATEMENT OF THE RESPONSE

8. ☒ Period of Year: I respond to the objection concerning the period of year when water is used or is necessary for the purpose stated.
10. ☒ Consumptive Use: I respond to the objection concerning the annual volume of consumptive use.

REASONS SUPPORTING EACH BOX CHECKED

In response to Statement of the Objection item 8, and all allegations of the objection regarding this item, IDWR responds as follows: Idaho Code Sec. 42-1411(2)(g) requires the director to determine the period of use of each water right acquired under state law that is recommended in the director's report. IDWR's irrigation season of use standards have evolved over time as better technical information has become available. A necessary consequence of this is that, depending on when a particular license was issued, water rights in the same area have been licensed inconsistently, some licenses being issued with different lengths of season listed and some being issued with no season of use listed. To remedy this problem IDWR has developed irrigation season of use standards for various climatic areas throughout the state based on a 75% chance of a 24 degree

fahrenheit frost. The period of the year during which this water right may be used is consistent with the standard irrigation season of use for the area in which the place of use of this water right is located. The director's report does not prohibit pre-season or post-season irrigation; subject to the conditions set forth in general provision 12b of the director's report, water may be used for irrigation outside the standard season of use.

In response to Statement of the Objection item 10 and all allegations of the objection regarding this item, IDWR responds as follows: The license upon which the claimant's claim is based does not set an annual volume of consumptive use for this water right. Idaho Code Sec. 42-1411(2)(i) requires the director to determine the annual volume of consumptive use for each water right acquired under state law and recommended in the director's report. IDWR has developed uniform standards of consumptive use for various climatic areas throughout the state, based upon the definition of consumptive use contained in Idaho Code Sec. 42-1401A(2), which is the maximum volume of water consumed by "the most water consumptive crop that can be grown in the area during the period of year when water is used for irrigation." The consumptive use recommended for this water right is based upon the maximum volume of water consumed by the most water consumptive crop (pasture) that can be grown in the area during the irrigation season. Idaho Code Sec. 42-1401A(2) provides that the quantification of consumptive use "is included as a rebuttable presumption in a decree only for the purpose of transfers pursuant to section 42-222, Idaho Code." Therefore, the consumptive use recommended for this water right is included solely for use in future transfer proceedings, and not as a limitation on the quantity of water that the claimant may divert pursuant to this recommended right. As consumptive use volume and diversion volume are two different elements of the water right, the diversion volume cannot properly be substituted for the consumptive use volume of this recommended water right. In further response to this objection item, IDWR responds that it recommended this element of the water right as claimed.

CHANGES TO THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The director proposes no changes to the description of this claim in the Director's Report.

(Over)

☐ Check here if you are submitting documents. Please list each document by the title and number of pages. You may use additional pages if necessary:

No. of
Pages

The notice of claim is attached to IDWR's response
to Objection No. 36-07629A-0001

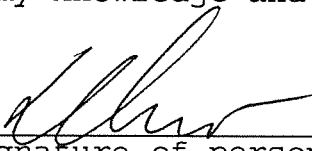
VERIFICATION (Must be Completed)

State of IDAHO

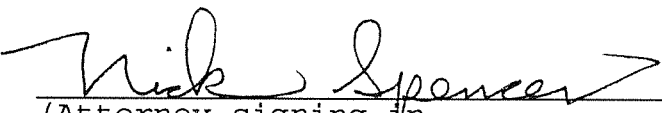
County of ADA

David B. Shaw, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and says:

That R. Keith Higginson, in his official capacity as director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, is a party to this proceeding, as defined by I.C. 42-1401A(1) and (7); that I am the Adjudication Bureau Chief for IDWR and am authorized by R. Keith Higginson, in his official capacity as director of IDWR, to verify this response; and that I have read the foregoing response, know its contents and that the statements contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

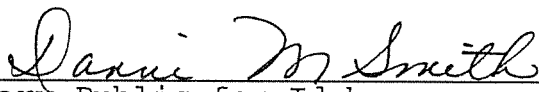


Signature of person filing response

By: 

(Attorney signing in
representative capacity)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of August,
1993.



Notary Public for Idaho
Residing at: _____
My Commission expires: _____

Danni Smith, Notary Public
Residing at Boise, Idaho
My Commission Expires December 5, 1994

(Over)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 16TH day of AUGUST, 1993, I mailed the original and copies of the foregoing response, including all attachments, to the following persons, by mailing the original and/or true and correct copies, postage prepared and addressed as follows:

1. Original to:

Clerk of the District Court
Snake River Basin Adjudication
253 Third Avenue North
P.O. Box 2707
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-2707

2. One copy to the owner of the water right, and you must fill in the following information:

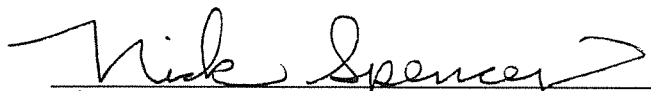
See No. 3

3. One copy to the party who filed the objection, or if represented by an attorney, to their attorney; and you must fill in the following information:

Name: FRANK SUCHAN
Address: ROUTE 2 BOX 2472
PAUL ID 83347

4. One copy to:

United States Department of Justice
Environment and Natural Resource Division
550 West Fort Street, Box 33
Boise, Idaho 83734



Signature of Respondent or attorney
mailing on Respondent's behalf