

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. 36-10283B -0001

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

RESPONSE TO OBJECTION

Petitioner,

36-10283B -0001/
93-08-0445

vs.

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: MATTIE P & GOLDEN T GRIGG
Address: PO BOX 278 A
HAGERMAN ID 83332

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

3. |X| Quantity: I respond to the objection concerning:
- 3a. |X| The total quantity of water used in cubic feet per second.
8. |X| 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. |X| Consumptive Use: I respond to the objection concerning the annual volume of consumptive use.
11. |X| Remarks: I respond to the objection concerning the "remarks" listed with the water right.
14. |X| Other: I respond to the objection concerning:

ALL MATTERS RAISED BY THE CLAIMANTS' ANSWER,
AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND PRAYER FOR RELIEF.

REASONS SUPPORTING EACH BOX CHECKED

In response to Statement of the Objection items 3 and 3.a, and all allegations of the objection regarding those items, IDWR responds as follows: there is an error in the description of the amount of this right in the director's report. The recommendation should be corrected as shown in the attachment entitled "Recommended Water Rights Acquired under State Law."

IDWR further responds as follows: (1) it recommended the amount of water it determined was being beneficially used; (2) the claimant is not entitled to any amount greater than that which is beneficially used (Idaho Code Secs. 42-104 and 42-1402); (3) the recommendation of the director to the SRBA Court as to how the right should be decreed does not constitute a taking because it is simply a recommendation and not a final determination of the right; and (4) the eventual decree by the SRBA Court of the amount of water beneficially used, even if less than the amount previously decreed, will not constitute a taking because the right is limited to that amount beneficially used.

In response to Statement of the Objection item 8, and all allegations of the objection regarding that item, IDWR responds as follows: (1) The decree asserted by the claimant does not contain a period of use decreed for this water right. (2) 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. (3) 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. (4) The irrigation season of use cannot exceed the period in which water may be beneficially used. (5) 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. (6) Water may be used for irrigation outside the standard season of use, subject to the conditions set forth in general provision 12b of the director's report. (7) The recommendation of the director to the SRBA Court as to how the right should be decreed does not constitute a taking because it is simply a recommendation and not a final determination of the right. (8) The eventual decree by the SRBA Court of the irrigation season of use will not constitute a taking because the right is limited to the period in which water may be beneficially used. In further response to this objection item, IDWR responds that it recommended the irrigation portion of the water right as claimed.

(Over)

By now seeking a year round season of use for irrigation, the claimant improperly seeks to use the objection process to amend the claim. A claimant must obtain leave of the court to amend a claim after a director's report is filed, just as a party must obtain leave of the court to file a late claim after the director's report is filed. Once leave of the court is granted, IDWR can investigate the amended claim and make an appropriate recommendation to the court.

In response to Statement of the Objection item 10 and all allegations of the objection regarding that item, IDWR responds as follows: (1) The decree asserted by the claimant did not set an annual volume of consumptive use for this water right. (2) 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. (3) 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. (4) The annual volume of consumptive use claimed and recommended for this right is 3 acre feet per acre. This is the maximum volume of water consumed by the most water consumptive crop (pasture) that can be grown in the area during the period of year when water is used for irrigation, as provided for by Idaho Code Sec. 42-1401A(2). (5) The recommendation of the director to the SRBA Court as to how the right should be decreed does not constitute a taking because it is simply a recommendation and not a final determination of the right. (6) The eventual decree by the SRBA Court of the amount of water beneficially used, even if less than the amount previously decreed, will not constitute a taking because then right is limited to that amount beneficially used.

In response to Statement of the Objection item 11, and all allegations of the objection regarding that item, IDWR responds that there is an error in the remarks in the description of this water right in the director's report. The recommendation should be corrected as shown in the attachment entitled "Recommended Water Rights Acquired Under State Law."

In further response to this item 11, IDWR states that it has authority pursuant to Idaho Code Sec. 42-1411(2)(j) to include in its recommendations of water rights acquired under state law and recommended in the director's report "such other matters as are necessary to define the right." The remark or remarks objected

to are necessary to adequately describe and define this water right.

In response to Statement of the Objection item 14, and all allegations of the objection regarding this item, see attached "IDWR's Response to Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Prayer for Relief of Claimant."

In response to the sentence listed in Changes to the Director's Report, whereby the claimant attempts to "reserve the right to claim all purposes of use and quantities of use as shown by the evidence at trial," IDWR responds as follows: Insofar as this purported reservation of rights may constitute an attempt to reserve the right to amend at trial the claimant's notice of claim, the claimant improperly seeks to use the objection process to amend the claim. A claimant must obtain leave of the court to amend a claim just as a party must obtain leave of court to file a late claim after the director's report is filed.

CHANGES TO THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

See attached List of Recommended Water Rights Acquired under State Law.

☒ 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. 36-10283A-0001

Recommended Water Rights Acquired under State Law	1
IDWR's Response to Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Prayer for Relief of Claimant	4

(Over)

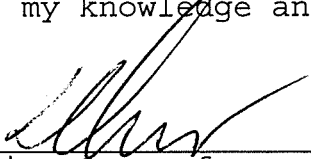
VERIFICATION (Must be Completed)

State of IDAHO

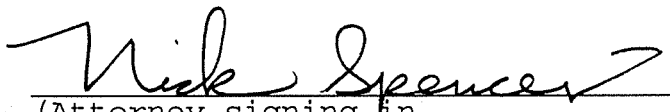
County of ADA

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.



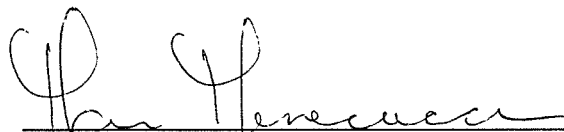
Signature of person filing response

By: 

(Attorney signing in
representative capacity)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of September, 1993.





Notary Public for Idaho
Residing at: Bose Idaho
My Commission expires: 6/25/1999

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 10th day of SEPTEMBER, 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:

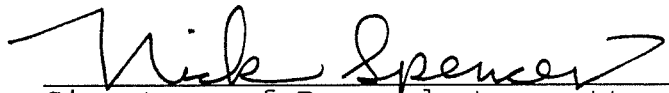
See No. 3

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: HEPWORTH NUNGESTER & LEZAMIZ
Address: PATRICK D BROWN
& PENELOPE PARKER
PO BOX 389
TWIN FALLS ID 83303

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

- WORKS (page 11 of Part I of the director's report)
- (17) VI. General Provision 8. FIRE FIGHTING PURPOSES (page 11 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (18) VI. General Provision 9. CONSUMPTIVE USE (page 12 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (19) VI. GENERAL PROVISION 10 APPLIES TO ALL WATER RIGHTS IN BASIN 36 SHOWN WITH DOMESTIC USE AS A PURPOSE OF USE (page 12 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (20) VI. General Provision 10. DOMESTIC USE (page 12 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (21) VI. GENERAL PROVISION 11 APPLIES TO ALL WATER RIGHTS IN BASIN 36 SHOWN WITH STOCK WATER USE AS A PURPOSE OF USE (page 13 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (22) VI. General Provision 11. STOCK WATER USE (page 13 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (23) VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS 12-16 APPLY TO ALL WATER RIGHTS IN BASIN 36 SHOWN WITH IRRIGATION AS A PURPOSE OF USE (page 13 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (24) VI. General Provision 12. IRRIGATION USE (pages 13-14 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (25) VI. General Provision 13. DIVERSION VOLUME FOR IRRIGATION (page 14 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (26) VI. General Provision 14. CONSUMPTIVE USE FOR IRRIGATION (pages 14-15 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (27) VI. General Provision 15. AMOUNT OF COMBINED WATER RIGHTS FOR IRRIGATION (page 15 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (28) VI. General Provision 16. DIVERSION RATES IN EXCESS OF .02 CFS PER ACRE (pages 15-16 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (30) VI. 17. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF LIST OF RECOMMENDED WATER RIGHTS (pages A-i through A-iii of Part I of the director's report)
 - (31) VI. 18. IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES RECOMMENDED WATER RIGHTS ACQUIRED UNDER STATE LAW (pages A-1 through B-25 of Part I of the director's report)
 - (32) DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR REPORTING AREA 3 (BASIN 36), (DIRECTOR'S REPORT PART II)
 - (33) DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR REPORTING AREA 3 (BASIN 36), (DIRECTOR'S REPORT PART III)

The attachment also contains part VIII, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES (pp. 20 through 28) and a PRAYER FOR RELIEF (untitled, p. 28).

**IDWR'S RESPONSE TO ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND PRAYER FOR
RELIEF OF CLAIMANT**

This portion of the response addresses the multi-page attachment to the objection (hereinafter "the attachment"), wherein the claimant admits or denies all sections of Parts I, II, and III of the director's report, asserts 27 affirmative defenses, and alleges a prayer for relief. The attachment contains the following sections, corresponding to the various sections of the director's report:

- (1) I. GENERAL RESPONSE
- (2) II. DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY, (first unnumbered page of Part I of the director's report)
- (3) III. TABLE OF CONTENTS (second and third unnumbered pages of Part I of the director's report)
- (4) IV. 1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THIS REPORT PART I (page 1 of Part I of the director's report)
- (5) IV. 2. SCOPE OF THE ADJUDICATION (pages 1-3 of Part I of the director's report)
- (6) IV. 3. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT PART I (pages 3-4 of Part I of the director's report)
- (7) V. 1. BOUNDARIES OF BASIN (pages 4-6 of Part I of the director's report)
- (8) V. 2. WATER SOURCES (page 6 of Part I of the director's report)
- (9) V. 3. DEVELOPMENT OF WATER USE (pages 6-9 of Part I of the director's report)
- (10) VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS 1-8 APPLY TO ALL WATER RIGHTS IN BASIN 36 (page 9 of Part I of the director's report)
- (11) VI. General Provision 1. EFFECT OF ADJUDICATION (page 9 of Part I of the director's report)
- (12) VI. General Provision 2. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (pages 9-10 of Part I of the director's report)
- (13) VI. General Provision 3. CONJUNCTIVE ADMINISTRATION (page 10 of Part I of the director's report)
- (13) VI. General Provision 4. ADMINISTRATION OF GROUND WATER RIGHTS (page 10 of Part I of the director's report)
- (14) VI. General Provision 5. ADMINISTRATION OF BASIN 36 RELATIVE TO THE SNAKE RIVER (page 10 of Part I of the director's report)
- (15) VI. General Provision 6. ADMINISTRATION OF SMALL DOMESTIC AND STOCK WATER RIGHTS (page 11 of Part I of the director's report)
- (16) VI. General Provision 7. MEASURING DEVICES AND CONTROL

In response to each of the items enumerated above IDWR responds that pursuant to Section 4 a.(2)(c) of SRBA Administrative Order 1, Rules of Procedure, IDWR generally denies each and every allegation, if any, contained in each enumerated portion of the attachment. IDWR affirmatively responds that neither SRBA Administrative Order 1, Rules of Procedure, nor Title 42, Chapter 14, Idaho Code, make provision for IDWR to affirm, amplify, or otherwise respond to the claimant's admissions, or to deny the claimant's denials, and that IDWR therefore does not believe that it is required to do so. Title 42, Chapter 14, Idaho Code solely defines the content and scope of the director's report. It is to contain a description of the water system and is to provide a recommendation as to each water right claimed and as to those matters necessary for administration of those water rights. Therefore, the content and scope of the objection is limited to those same matters. The attachment to the present objection asserts or otherwise raises matters not directly addressing the elements of the water right as recommended, the description of the water system, or the general provisions. Rather, the attachment raises broad issues as to the constitutional, statutory and administrative efficacy of the entire adjudication process. All such issues should be raised by means of motions to designate basinwide issues and similar procedural vehicles specifically designed to provide for basinwide notice and participation. They should not be permitted to divert the focus of any individual subcase away from the issues directly connected to the elements of the water right and the administration thereof. Therefore, because the attachment to the present objection is not within the scope of the statutory purpose of an objection it should be stricken.

However, in the event that the court should determine that all or part of the attachment is properly within the scope of the objection, IDWR further responds as follows:

IDWR affirmatively responds that all statements within the director's report are properly included therein pursuant to Title 42, Chapter 14, Idaho Code, and in particular pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 42-1411 and 42-1412(8); and that the provisions of the Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure regarding pleadings are inapplicable to the extent that they are in conflict with the statutory requirements. Therefore IDWR denies all allegations directed at the contents of the director's report.

As to the enumerated portions of the attachment addressing the listings of recommended water rights, abstracts of federal reserved water right claims, or negotiated agreements, other than the individual recommendation that is the subject of this objection, IDWR responds that such claims or agreements are not brought before this court by this objection.

Responding to the 27 affirmative defenses asserted in the attachment, IDWR generally denies each and every affirmative defense asserted. IDWR further responds that affirmative defense numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 18, and 22, asserting various violations of civil or constitutional rights, fail to comply with the requirements I.R.C.P. 9(b) providing that in all averments of violation of civil or constitutional rights the factual circumstances constituting such violation must be stated with particularity. Accordingly, IDWR asserts that those affirmative defenses should be stricken.

In response to that portion of the multi-page attachment to the objection wherein the claimant asserts a prayer for relief, IDWR responds as follows:

1. IDWR denies that the director's report asserts any claims against the claimant; rather, the director's report contains only the recommendation of the director as to how the claimant's water right should be decreed and administered.
2. IDWR denies that the claimant is entitled to have the water right decreed as claimed unless in the director's report the water right has been recommended as claimed.
3. IDWR denies that any acts upon its part constitute the taking of private property for which just compensation should be allowed and awarded.
4. IDWR denies that the claimant is entitled to recover court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
5. IDWR denies that the claimant by this objection has raised any claims against IDWR entitling such claimant to any relief other than the eventual judicial determination and decree of the various elements of the claimant's water right, if any, and of those related matters necessary to describe and administer that water right.

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
RECOMMENDED WATER RIGHTS ACQUIRED UNDER STATE LAWDATE: SEP-5-1993
PAGE: A-1RIGHT
NUMBER

NAME & ADDRESS

PRIORITY
DATE

PURPOSE OF USE

PERIOD OF USE
FROM TOMAXIMUM
QUANTITYBASIS OF
CLAIM

SOURCE: BILLINGSLEY CREEK

TRIBUTARY: SNAKE RIVER

36-10283B

MATTIE P GRIGG
GOLDEN T GRIGG
PO BOX 278-A
HAGERMAN ID 83332

06/26/1881 IRRIGATION

03-15 11-15

-2

CFS DECREED

NON-IRRIGATION-USES:

STOCKWATER, 20 CATTLE

POINT OF DIVERSION:

T07S R13E S11

NWSENE

PLACE OF USE: IRRIGATION

T07S R13E S11

NWNE 5.0

5.0 ACRES TOTAL

PLACE OF USE: STOCKWATER

T07S R13E S11

NWNE

PLACE OF USE: STOCKWATER

SAME AS OTHER USE

REMARKS:

WATER IS DELIVERED THROUGH THE PADGETT DITCH.

0.01 CFS OF THIS RIGHT IS LIMITED TO USE FOR CONVEYANCE
LOSSES IN DELIVERY OF THIS RIGHT DURING THE IRRIGATION SEASON.0.02 CFS OF THIS RIGHT IS LIMITED TO USE FOR CONVEYANCE
LOSSES IN DELIVERY OF THIS RIGHT DURING THE NON-IRRIGATION
SEASON.A DIVERSION RATE OF -20 26 CFS AT THE FIELD HEADGATE IS
RECOMMENDED FOR THE PLACE OF USE DESCRIBED ABOVE.THIS RIGHT IS A COMBINATION OF OLD RIGHT NOS. 36-00094,
36-00095 AND 36-00096.TOTAL QUANTITY: -2 28 CFS
CONSUMPTIVE USE: 15.0 AFY