



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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BRAD LITTLE
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

November 6, 2020

KEITH & KAREN HOOD
PO BOX 100
3101 RUSH CREEK RD
CAMBRIDGE, ID 83610

RE: Snake River Basin Adjudication claims 67-15263 thru 67-15289

Dear Mr. and Ms. Hood,

IDWR has begun its review of the documents submitted in connection with 27 claims for stockwater use within the Bureau of Land Management Grazing Allotment #ID00095 – Horse Flat Grazing Allotment.

I read your letter and understand you have had problems getting copies of the original grazing permits to support the claimed priority date. Setting that issue aside for the moment, there is still information that is needed before I am able to make a recommendation with any priority date:

- The legal description of the **base property** described to the Township, Range, Section and quarter of the quarter of the section. This can sometimes be found on the Application for a Grazing permit.

At a minimum, we need to link the grazing permit to your **base property** which is what the water right is going to be associated with. The operator copy, of what appears to be the current grazing permit, lists the term from 3/14/2013 to 2/28/2023. However, the operator copy doesn't include the base property description associated with the grazing permit. If we can tie the current grazing permit to the base property and your ownership of that base property, then we could recommend a priority date supported by the current grazing permit. In this case it would be a priority date of 3/14/2013.

Then, once we have what is needed to recommend the rights with the junior priority date, you can start trying to move that date back in time.

The deed trail from the original homesteader to yourself appears complete. I am not sure what guidance I can provide as far as obtaining copies of the historical grazing permits. Most people I have worked with have been able to work with their local BLM range office. If that is who you have been working with, perhaps you could contact a regional office if you haven't already?

In the meantime, the local field office should be able to provide you with the documentation needed to show what the base property is that is tied to your current grazing permit.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Craig L. Saxton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Craig" being more prominent.

Craig L. Saxton
Adjudication Section Manager
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