

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF DEFERRED
DE MINIMIS STOCK WATER USE**

Claim No. 55-13997

In Re SRBA
Twin Falls County Civil Case No. 39576

Report to the SRBA District Court

Prepared by the Idaho Department of Water Resources
Gary Spackman, Director
Craig L. Saxton, Manager, Adjudication Section

September 13th, 2021

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

This is a Director's Report of Deferred *De Minimis* Stock Water Use submitted by the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR).

INTRODUCTION

A Motion for Determination of Deferred *De Minimis* Stock Water Use (Motion) and Notice of Claim to Water Right for water right claim no. 55-13997 were submitted to the Court on September 28, 2020. IDWR published a notice of the pendency and purpose of the Motion. *See Affidavit of Publication*, filed simultaneously herewith. The Director has now completed his examination of the claim. The examination for the above-mentioned water right claim was conducted by Craig L. Saxton, Adjudication Section Manager, on behalf of the Director. The materials used in and results of the examination of the elements of the claim are discussed below.

DISCUSSION

Priority Date

Tim Lequerica, President of Lequerica & Sons Inc., filed claim no. 55-13997 on behalf of Lequerica & Sons Inc., for the instream stockwater use. The claimed priority date of December 23, 1913, reflects the issue date of land patent #374125 issued to Northern Pacific Railroad Co.

Land Patent #1021245 was issued to Patrick Okeefe on November 24, 1928, and was established under 1916 Stock Raising Homestead Act which allowed for homesteads not based on farming land but instead on raising cattle. Patent #1021245 included land in Township 9S, Range 5W, Section 2, South ½, which is ¼ mile from the claimed place of use. It is reasonable to assume that stock also grazed on adjacent properties.

The priority date of November 24, 1928, is recommended, consistent with the issue date of patent #1021245.

Points of Diversion

The claimed points of diversion are in Township 9S, Range 5W, Sections 2, Lot 1 (NENE), representing beginning points and ending points for instream stockwater. The claimed points of diversion were verified by identifying stream locations using USGS Quadrangle maps. The points of diversion are recommended as claimed.

Source

The recommended source of water is Cabin Creek tributary to Juniper Creek and can be verified using the USGS quadrangle maps.

Place of Use

The claim uses the public land survey to describe the place of use and includes each quarter-quarter or government lot between the beginning and ending points that the unnamed stream passes through.

The claimed place of use is entirely within Owyhee County parcel number RP09S05W020001. According to the Owyhee County property records Lequerica & Sons Inc. owns the parcel.

Quantity

The quantity claimed is for 0.02 cfs. The typical diversion rate recommended for claims for watering stock directly from a stream is 0.02 cfs. This rate is consistent with diversion rates claimed for *de minimis* instream stockwater use.

Purpose and Period of Use

The extent of the water use can be described as in-stream *de minimis* stockwater use. Water used for stockwater purposes is generally recommended for year-round use if year-round

use is claimed.

CONCLUSION

There is sufficient evidence to recommend claim 55-13997 for the instream watering of livestock from Cabin Creek tributary to Juniper Creek.

Respectfully submitted this 13th day of September, 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Craig L. Saxton", is positioned above a horizontal line.

CRAIG L. SAXTON
Manager, Adjudication Section

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on September 13, 2021, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of this Director's Report of Deferred *De Minimis* Domestic or Stock Water Use, to the following persons, in the manner indicated 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, ID 83303-2707

☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Regular Mail
☐ Hand-Delivered
☐ E-mail

2. Copies to:

Chief, Natural Resources Div.
Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0010

☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Regular Mail
☐ Hand-Delivered
☐ E-mail

United States Department of Justice
Environment & Natural Resources Div.
550 W. Fort Street MSC 033
Boise, ID 83724

☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Regular Mail
☐ Hand-Delivered
☐ E-mail

Owyhee County Courthouse
20381 State Hwy 78
Murphy, ID 83650

☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Regular Mail
☐ Hand-Delivered
☐ E-mail

Lequerica & Sons Inc.
3910 S Sumter way
Boise ID 83709-3745

☐ Overnight Mail
☒ Regular Mail
☐ Hand-Delivered
☐ E-mail

IDWR Document Repository
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0098

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Signature of person delivering form

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
RECOMMENDED WATER RIGHTS ACQUIRED UNDER STATE LAW

RIGHT NUMBER: 55-13997

NAME AND ADDRESS: LEQUERICA & SONS INC
3910 S SUMTER WAY
BOISE ID 83709-3745

SOURCE: CABIN CREEK

TRIBUTARY: JUNIPER CREEK

QUANTITY: 0.020 CFS

The quantity of water under this right shall not exceed 13,000 gallons per day.

PRIORITY DATE: 11/24/1928

POINT OF DIVERSION: T09S R05W S2 NENE Lot 1 Begin of Stream Flow Within OWYHEE County
T09S R05W S2 NENE Lot 1 End of Stream Flow Within OWYHEE County

PURPOSE AND

PERIOD OF USE:

PURPOSE OF USE

PERIOD OF USE

QUANTITY

STOCKWATER

01/01 12/31

0.020 CFS

Stockwater use is for the in-stream watering of livestock.

PLACE OF USE:

STOCKWATER in OWYHEE County

T09S R05W S02 Lot 1 NENE

OTHER PROVISIONS NECESSARY FOR DEFINITION OR ADMINISTRATION OF THIS WATER RIGHT:

The quantity of water decreed for this water right is not a determination of historical beneficial use.

This partial decree is subject to such general provisions necessary for the definition of the rights or for the efficient administration of the water rights as may be ultimately determined by the Court at a point in time no later than the entry of a final unified decree. Idaho Code § 42-1412(6).

EXPLANATORY MATERIAL: BASIS OF CLAIM - Beneficial Use

Parcel No. RP09S05W020001