

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 22, 2022
To: Transfer 86303
From: James Cefalo
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This application proposes to combine water rights 34-733, 34-550B, 34-551B, 34-727B, 34-2407, 34-7160, 34-10238, 34-13570, 34-13571 and 34-13874 into a 568.4-acre combined place of use. All of the rights, except for right 34-733 already overlap and carry combined acre limits. The existing rights, however, describe different places of use. This application will create one common place of use for all of the rights, while still maintaining the individual acre limits and the existing combined rate and acres limits. The approval will remove any additive combined limits (where the individual limits added together equal the combined total).

Water right 34-733 will be combined with the other rights into a common place of use. Outside of this change, there is only a slight adjustment to the overall irrigation place of use.

Ground water rights 34-2407 and 34-7160 cover 462 acres. Therefore, only part of the total combined place of use will be covered by ground water rights. To prevent enlargement of the ground water rights, the approval will include a condition requiring the 462 acres to be irrigated with ground water to be designated by the water user.

Authority to File: Randy and Peggy Pehrson are the owners of record for all of the water rights. Existing and proposed places of use straddle the Butte-Custer county line. According to Butte and Custer County parcel records, Randy and Peggy Pehrson own the existing and proposed places of use. Randy and Peggy Pehrson signed the application.

Water Right Validity: Water rights are valid. Aerial imagery shows that the proposed place of use has been consistently irrigated.

Injury to Other Water Rights: No issues identified. Points of diversion will not change. Because the transfer will not have a hydrologic impact, the application was not advertised. Watermaster for Water District 34 was notified of the change and did not provide comment.

Enlargement of Use: No issues identified. As noted above, ground water rights will be limited to 462 acres within the combined place of use. Water user has designated the initial shape for the 462 acres.

Local Public interest: No issues identified.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: No issues identified.

Review of the application finds there is no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Section 42-222 Idaho Code preventing processing of this application.