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Department of Water Resources
Eastern District Office

September 30, 1994

To Water District #32-C Water Users

In response to a written request by an unsigned author to the District President, watermaster and directors dated 7/28/94, I make the following statements.

Said written request was hand delivered to President Jack Webster on the evening of September 28th and then deliver to the watermaster mid morning on the 29th. Within hours and at mid afternoon, Jack McGarry, a director, and myself were at the location of all G & L diversions. Jack McGarry was asked to accompany me on this investigation by President Webster. I felt the request needed quick attention and Jack Webster couldn't go that day and Greg Shenton was on another assignment.

We traveled to all the ditches and diversion points of G & L Ranch on Weber Creek, Edie Creek, Fritz Creek, Cole Creek, Warm Creek, and Medicine Lodge Creek. We found no water at all in any of the ditches, nor did we see any evidence of any water being used since being turned off by the deputy watermaster.

Jack and I visited with Rob Laird about the complaint and he was very surprised that such a complaint would be made.

At no time during this water season have Greg or I on our regular tours on Medicine Lodge Creek and its tributaries found any illegal water diversion activities. Greg found a culvert with a slide gate leaking around the culvert on one occasion in early August and took immediate steps to see it was shut off by use of a backhoe.

One other complaint of a new diversion of water from Medicine Lodge Creek of a 2" pump to a sprinkler to get some lawn seed started was shut off immediately. The complaint was registered at near 6 p.m. on the 27th of September and it was off by 7:30 p.m. the same evening.

Due to the seriousness of the charges being made and the fact the complaint was in writing we felt it should be reported back in writing for the record and not by the rumor mill.

I would like to state that Rob Laird, a partner in G & L, has been more than cooperative and honest in his dealings with us, and has been especially helpful in getting some new weirs and control structures in which were badly needed when he became a water user.

It has been a very difficult season, but charges, accusations, and harassment of watermasters don't make more water. We realize it is difficult at best but will do our best. A copy of investigation request is attached.

Jack McGarry will put his signature to this letter only to confirm the part as a witness to paragraphs #2 and #3.

Sincerely,

Donald W. Shenton

Donald W. Shenton
Watermaster

Jack McGarry
Jack McGarry
Director

cc: Water users 32-C
I.D.W.R.

To: 32-C Watermaster, President
and Directors

This is a complaint to
Water Dist 32-C that I believe
that G + L Cattle Co used
water out of Medicine Lodge
Creek at a time when not
authorized by the Dist water-
master. I believe this should
be investigated by the watermaster
and or the Dist directors to see
if this is true.

9-28-94