

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 30, 2014
To: Transfer 79019
From: mholliday
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This transfer proposes to change the point of diversion for right 74-575. The applicant, along with the other water users on the L-1 ditch, filed several transfers for the purpose of eliminating the L-1 diversion dam on the Lemhi River. The applicant proposes to divert this right from a pump located about 1400 feet downstream from the L-1 diversion. The transfer from the L-1 ditch to the new pump should increase irrigation efficiency and enhance fish passage for the benefit of ESA listed species.

Authority to File:

The applicant is one of the current owners of record, and Lemhi County taxlot data shows the applicant as the owner of the place of use.

Water Right Validity:

The water right included in this transfer was decreed in the SRBA in 2007. Review of post-decree aerial photography indicated regular use of the water right since the time the partial decree was filed. Forfeiture is not an issue.

Injury to Other Water Rights:

Injury to other rights is not apparent. There are no diversions on the Lemhi River between the current and proposed points of diversion. The transfer was advertised in the local paper and no protests were filed.

Enlargement of Use:

The water right included in this transfer is a stand-alone right that does not contain combined limits with other rights. It is unlikely that the short downstream change in point of diversion would enhance the water supply to fill this right. The proposed change will not result in enlargement of use. Neither rate nor acreage will increase. The transfer proposes no change to the quantity of water diverted from the Lemhi River, but it is likely that less water will be diverted due to the change from flood to sprinkler irrigation.

Local Public Interest:

No issues identified.

Beneficial Use / Conservation of Water Resources:

No issues identified.

Effect on Economy the Local Area:

No issues identified.

Effect on Agricultural Base of the Local Area:

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.