

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 14, 2014
To: Transfer 78980
From: Blake Jordan
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This transfer proposes to change the point of diversion and place of use for a portion of water rights 33-14928 and 33-14930. The applicant seeks to move a combined 4.1 acres from water rights 33-14928 and 33-14930, which are located near Howe, Idaho to land owned by the applicants near Blackfoot, Idaho. The applicant will be utilizing an existing well.

This is one of eight transfer applications filed simultaneously by the Merlin Smith Sr. (applicant), each transfer proposing to move approximately 4.1 acres from water rights 33-14928 and 33-14930 to various properties owned by Mr. Smith.

Authority to File:

Merlin Smith Sr. is the current owner of water rights 33-14928, 33-14930 per IDWR record. He is also the current owner of the proposed place of use per Bingham County public map viewer.

Water Right Validity:

Water rights were decreed either in 2000 or 2002. Department aerial photography shows land to be consistently irrigated. Forfeiture is not an issue.

Injury to Other Water Rights:

The proposed point of diversion is inside the ESPA and is within WD 120. To predict potential impacts to the ESPA reaches the applicant used consumptive water use values as the volume inputs into their ESPA model spreadsheet. According to the applicants ESPA analysis, there are no impacts greater than 2.0 acre-feet per trimester to any single ESPA reach. No additional mitigation is required. This transfer was advertised and there are no protests. The watermaster did not provide comments.

Enlargement of Use:

No issues Identified.

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.