

MEMO

TO: 37-21456, 37-21486, 37-21827, and 37-21828

FROM: Cherie Palmer

DATE: June 14, 2013

RE: Describing the System as Developed

The reservoir is OFF STREAM, despite it being permitted as ON STREAM. The PD is the point where water is diverted away from the WDrain. There have been many conversations with water right staff and the best way to move forward is to label the reservoir as off stream for a few reasons. The NRCS was involved in constructing the reservoir to settle sediment before WDrain water is spilled over the canyon rim. One might think that the channel leading up to the reservoir is an extension of the WDrain but, the headgate off of the WDrain is controlled so that water never spills over the reservoir. According to the watermaster, the Northside Canal Co. is aware that Cliff operates the reservoir in this manner. Therefore, the purpose of the system is to provide irrigation water to the reservoir and settling the sediment is a secondary purpose of the reservoir. Because the flow into the reservoir is controlled by a headgate and water never flows downstream of the reservoir, this system is indeed OFF STREAM.

Converting Irrigation Use to Diversion to Storage: The point of diversion under the rights will be amended to the point where water is diverted away from the WDrain. In addition, there are multiple fills at the reservoir so, converting the live flow irrigation component means that we could cover additional volume under the irrigation from storage and storage components. In addition, the evaporative losses and seepage will be covered. Most likely the permittees will need to file another permit for any live irrigation flow.

The analysis for converting live flow to storage considers how much volume could have been available under the permit.

- Permit 37-21456 was permitted with 1.80 cfs on 180 acres. The potential volume under the permit is 720 af (180 x 4). The total volume required for the system is 318.4 af so no enlargement will occur when converting the live flow volume to a storage component.
- Permit 37-21486 was permitted with 2.76 cfs on 275.8 acres. The potential volume under the permit is 1,103.2 af (275.8 x 4). The total volume required for the system is 502.4 af so no enlargement will occur when converting the live flow volume to a storage component.

Permit 37-21827 and 37-21828 will also be getting a diversion to storage component. Because the system has always been operated the same since development, no enlargement will occur by clarifying the uses on the permit. In addition, permits 37-21827 and 37-21828 can be considered extensions of permits 37-21456 and 37-21486 as there will be combined limits between them that recognize the shared diversion rate and volumes.

There are more details in my field examination reports if further clarification is required.