

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Rights File 57-7655
FROM: Sandra Thiel
DATE: December 6, 2012
SUBJECT: Phone conversations Warren Gretz and Barbara Watkins

Phone conversation July 27, 2012 with Warren Gretz

Mr. Gretz was in the process of selling the land when the Department sent him a notice concerning a field exam to license his water right permit. He planned to sell the property with the two water rights from Picket Creek. These 2 rights are for .37 and .29 cfs. He has used them to irrigate and there are now 3 wheel lines associated with these rights. His permit is for .6 cfs for irrigation, and 12 af for irrigation storage and irrigation from storage. The storage is from 2 ponds. According to Mr. Gretz they have irrigated everything east of the ponds. The ponds are spring fed and they are currently full. The former owner had a pump in place but there is no pump now. Mr. Gretz has owned the property for seven years but he has not irrigated the full 30 acres. He irrigated a garden area, including the area east of the ponds. The Watkins, previous owners, irrigated 25 to 30 acres. There is no weir or other measuring device on the springs that feed the pond.

Mr. Gretz has had contact with the water master for water district 57B. I left a message for Rohl

Phone conversation July 30, 2012

The previous owners now live in Weiser. There is no water running into the ponds. According to the neighbors, the ponds have always been there. There has never been a lockable measuring device on the ponds since he has owned the place. He gave me verbal permission to stop by the property.

Second phone conversation with Mr. Gretz. July 30, 2012

He found a phone message for the Watkins, who were the previous owners. According to him they irrigated about 35 acres, including everything east of the pond. There is also a flat area south of Pickett Creek, about 7 acres that they irrigated. Mr. Gretz never used the pump, he always used gravity flow.

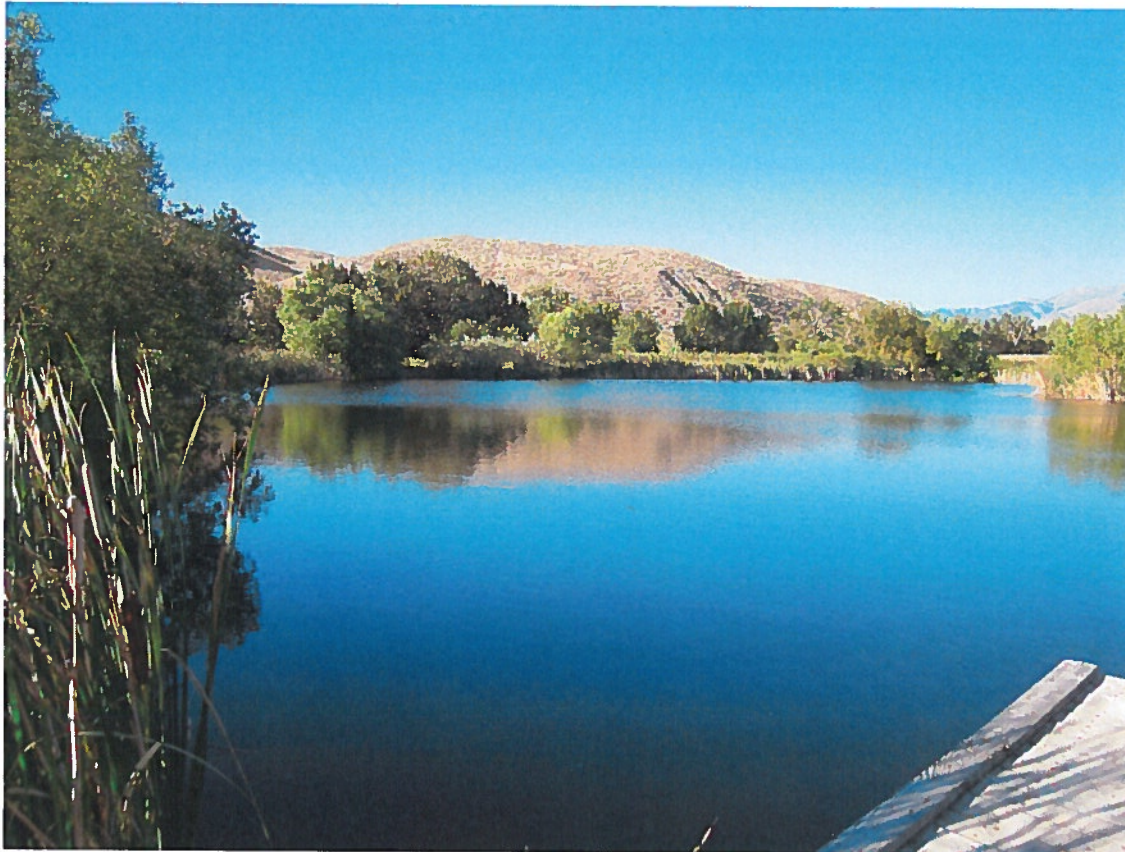
He again said that he had no problem with me conducting a field exam.

Phone Conversation with Barbara Watkins July 30, 2012

Mr. Gretz gave me the phone number of the Watkins, who are the former owners of the property. According to the Watkins the used a 2 horse power pump, this is to the best recollection of Mr. Watkins. They had an 8 inch gated pipe and they watered everything they were allowed to water. One year they grew corn. They also used the ponds for stock water when the creek dried up. Mrs. Watkins said the ground water was swamp land and they hired a cat to dig the ponds. She said that they never had a measuring device.

I sent Mrs. Watkins aerial photography of the property and she highlighted the place of use and point of diversion. A copy of the document, received August 21, 2012 is included in this file.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND DATE OF PHOTOS: Sandy Thiel, August 1, 2012
FILE NUMBER 57-7655



This photo shows the larger of the two ponds, looking southwest



Large pond looking northeast. The irrigated land is located on the opposite side of the pond.



Smaller pond



Land south of Pickett Creek, looking east.



Irrigation pipe on the east side of the larger pond



This photo shows the east side of the larger pond



Spring area to the west of the ponds



Irrigated land, on the same property, to the west of the ponds