

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Water Right File No(s). 22-2195A, 22-13278, and 22-13280

**From:** Monica Van Bussum

**Date:** December 3, 2012

**Re:** Review of Applications to Lease Water Rights to the State Water Supply Bank

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**PURPOSE/NARRATIVE:** On August 20, 2012, the Department received these three lease applications which sought to place 14.35 acres in the WSB for the 2012 irrigation season. We normally do not do these kinds of retroactive acceptances unless for an NOV and the applicant was notified of a potential NOV by James Cefalo at IDWR's Eastern Regional Office in May 2012.

The applications used 2010 FSA maps to identify the acres for lease. I worked with Linda Davis and Margie Wilkins in our GIS section to access 2012 imagery during the irrigation season. Based on the Landsat imagery that was available, I question whether any of the corners were actually idled. However, the Landsat imagery resolution was poor and we have good GEOEYE imagery from July 2012 and that July 2012 imagery shows a small portion of a couple of the corners identified as being idled. Therefore, I have based my review on that imagery, attached as the following page. However, the second attached page shows the fields on September 4, 2012. The fields are all uniformly plowed, again adding uncertainty as to whether water was beneficially used on the corners. Again, the July imagery was the best we had for the year and we had to base the review on that.

The water rights total 696 acres of irrigation. I went through and made shapes for all the acres that were irrigated and came up with between 688.5 and 690.9, meaning it's possible we could accept 5.1 to 7.5 acres. However, this is a very small amount and well below 10% of the water right, meaning it's likely they would have irrigated the full 696 acres in 2012. Additionally, they are irrigating some acreage outside the WR POU, just small pieces here and there but when you are looking at a margin of 5.1 to 7.5 acres, those small pieces add up.

One more thing in support of denying these applications – if we did write an acceptance for the 5.1 to 7.5 acres, it would be 0.1 acres in some QQs and 0.2 acres in others, with just a little bit ending up in the QQs the applicants identified in the applications, again making the lease nothing meaningful and hard to reasonably substantiate.

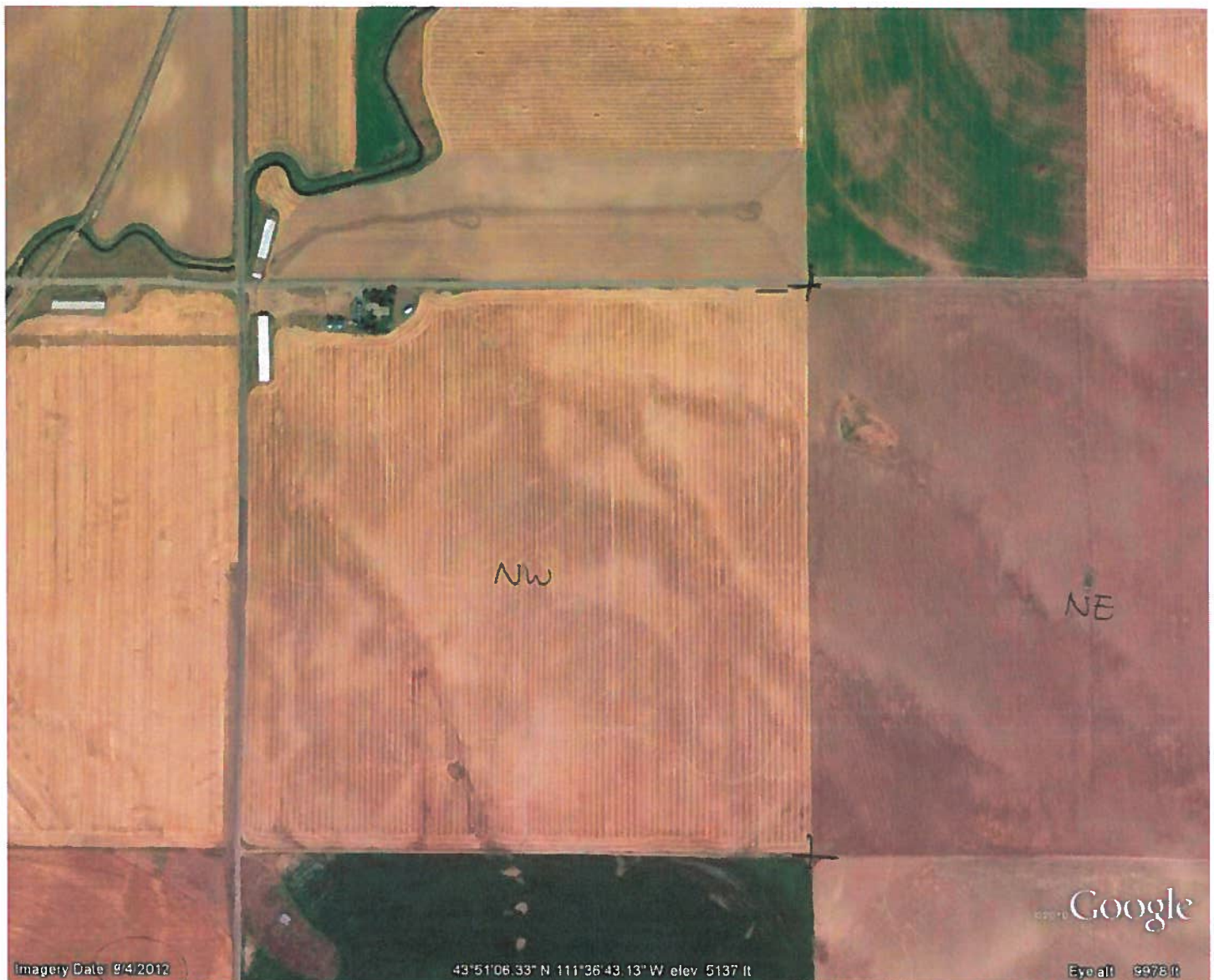
## Van Bussum, Monica

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**From:** Wilkins, Margie  
**Sent:** Friday, November 30, 2012 11:22 AM  
**To:** Van Bussum, Monica  
**Subject:** Sent from Snipping Tool

section 15 July 04, 2012





6N 41E 15 NW & NE  
22-13280, 22-2195A, 22-13278

pivot corners in NW & NE offered to Bank

11.42  
+ 2.52  
14.35

# Farm 2808 Tract 186



April 08, 2010

22-13280  
22-2195A  
22-13287

**Madison County Idaho**  
Farm Service Agency



Disclaimer: Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original demination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact wetland boundaries and determinations, or contact NRCS.

