

MEMORANDUM

To: File(s) 51-7027

From: Monica Van Bussum

Date: February 23, 2012

Re: Review of Application to Rent a Water Right from the State Water Supply Bank

PURPOSE/NARRATIVE: On January 12, 2012, the Department received two applications to rent water from the Water Supply Bank from Marshall Becker. The first application sought additional diversion rate to cover the acres already irrigated under water rights 57-7036 and 57-7037. After speaking with Jeff Peppersack, we determined that to avoid enlargement during the rental period, the applicant would need to rent water to cover all 463 acres already irrigated under 57-7036 and 57-7037. There is insufficient water in the Bank to satisfy a 463-acre rental in this area, so this rental request will be denied.

The purpose of this memo is to address the second rental application, for 45 acres from ground water in Owyhee County, which we can approve.

AUTHORITY TO FILE: The applications were signed by the applicant.

WATER RIGHT VALIDITY: 51-7027 has been in the right for some time.

INJURY TO OTHER WATER RIGHTS: No injury is apparent. I spoke by phone with Steve Lester, Water Right Supervisor to IDWR's Western Regional Office, and he indicated the move between basins should not cause injury and would be acceptable given the temporary nature of this rental.

ENLARGEMENT OF USE: No enlargement is evident.

LOCAL PUBLIC INTEREST:

Review staff has no information to suggest this application is inconsistent with the local public interest.

BENEFICIAL USE/CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES:

The rental appears consistent with conservation of water resources in Idaho.

DEPARTMENT STAFF OR WATERMASTER COMMENTS:

None.