

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Right File No(s). 57-179, 57-180B, 57-181, 57-7152, 2-2361, 2-2370, 2-7001, 2-10020

From: Monica Van Bussum

Date: July 20, 2011

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

PURPOSE/NARRATIVE: On June 15, 2011, we received applications to lease portions of all the above-mentioned rights and rent 185 acres of Sinker Creek water. It's important to note this package contains water from Sinker Creek and the Snake River and the applicants sought only Sinker Creek water. Because of the way the rights are stacked, we need to rent both Sinker Creek and Snake River water, and this rental package reflects this.

AUTHORITY TO FILE: The applications were signed by Lance Funk of Murphy Flats and Owyhee Farming Co.

WATER RIGHT VALIDITY: The Basin 57 rights were all partially decreed in the SRBA in 2002 and the Basin 02 rights were partially decreed in 2009. Imagery indicates these acres have continued to be irrigated within the last five years.

INJURY TO OTHER WATER RIGHTS: No injury is apparent.

ENLARGEMENT OF USE: No enlargement is evident through the lease alone. Proper rental review should protect against enlargement.

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 leases appear to be consistent with conservation of water resources in Idaho.

DEPARTMENT STAFF OR WATERMASTER COMMENTS:

None.