

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Right Files: 72-2149F, 72-32E, 72-2147B, 72-2149H, and 72-4158
FROM: Cynthia Bridge Clark
DATE: September 30, 2010
SUBJECT: Kent Watson Water Supply Bank Rental Application - Returned

SUMMARY

An application to rent water for irrigation purposes was filed by Kent Watson and received on May 26, 2008. The application proposes rental of water for two years to divert storage water from Mosquito Flat Reservoir off Challis Creek, tributary to the Salmon River. The applicant intends to use rented water to supplement existing water rights for irrigated lands within the SENE of Section 20, Township 14N, Range 19E. While the application indicates the water will be used for irrigation of 80 acres, the place of use authorized under existing water right nos. 72-32E, 72-2147B, 72-2149H, and 72-4158 is limited to irrigation of 66 acres.

The applicant identified leased water right no. 72-2149F as a potential source of rental water. The right was accepted into the bank in 2007 and provides water from the same source. Rick Philips, watermaster for Water Districts 72A, B and C said he did not have any concerns about delivery of the water under the right for the proposed rental.

RECOMMENDATION

The application was not executed due to a processing backlog. I spoke with Mr. Watson over the telephone to confirm whether he still wished to rent water. Due to wet spring conditions in 2010 and 2011, Mr. Watson indicated that he does not have a need for supplemental water and does not wish to rent water at this time. He asked whether he could leave his application on file with the Department to exercise in the future. I explained that the Department does not have a mechanism to hold applications for future processing. I also explained that water available for rent in a particular location may be limited. While staff makes an effort to accommodate all rental requests in a given location, applications are generally processed in order of receipt.

I told Mr. Watson that the rental application will be returned unprocessed and that a new application should be filed for rental of water in the future.