

MEMORANDUM

TO: Aaron Marshall
FROM: Brian Ragan
DATE: July 14, 2010
SUBJECT: Ranch Properties, LLC Water Supply Bank Rental Application

SUMMARY

On May 6, 2010, IDWR received an application to rent water from the Water Supply Bank from Ranch Properties, LLC. The applicant proposes to use 80 acre-feet per year for irrigation between March 15 and October 15 for 1 year. Ranch Properties LLC is in the process of developing the land in which their water rights are applicable to. They want to lease their water to the bank then rent from the bank to irrigate a smaller area and avoid forfeiture of the remaining portion of the water rights.

Only 20 acres will be irrigated in the 94.6 acre proposed place of use (PPU).

The applicant proposes to use water rights 1-10433 and 45-11969 to satisfy the rental.

AUTHORITY TO FILE

Vicki Patrick (signatory) appears on the 2010 Annual Report (idaho.gov) as a "member".

SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY

If not, are there lease applications that may provide a sufficient supply? Yes.

Applications to lease water rights 1-10443 and 45-11969 (as modified by transfer no. 76185) in their entirety for an indefinite period were received by IDWR on May 6, 2010. Both water right leases currently have the status of "application" in the WSB database. Infrared satellite imagery indicate these rights have been unused in the previous years, however, a partial decree for water right 1-10443 was signed on January 13, 2009 and a partial decree for water right 45-11969 was signed on July 7, 2005.

Water right 45-11969 is authorized for up to 378.4 acre feet at a diversion rate of 1.26 cfs.

If so, should the right(s) be accepted into the Bank in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Water Supply Bank Rules? Yes.

The applicant requested 4 acre-feet/acre/year ($378.4 \text{ acre-feet} / 94.6 \text{ acres} = 4 \text{ acre-feet per acre}$). This yields a diversion volume of 80 acre-feet ($20 \text{ acres} \times 4 \text{ acre-feet/acre/year}$).

Because the renter is also the lessor, the rental fee is only 10% of the standard rental fee. The rental cost is calculated in the following way: $80 \text{ acre-feet} \times \$1.40 \text{ per acre-foot} = \$112/\text{year}$.

INJURY

Information available to IDWR does not indicate that other water rights will be injured by the rental.

ENLARGEMENT

Will the rental enlarge the use of water under the rented right(s)? No.

BENEFICIAL USE

The use of water for irrigation is a recognized beneficial use of water

LOCAL PUBLIC INTEREST

Is the proposed rental in the local public interest? Yes.

WATER DISTRICT

Is the proposed rental in a water district? Yes. The proposed POU lies within Water District 01 and 130 according to the Administrative Area Results.

RECOMMENDATION

The rental may be approved, as described below:

Water Right No. 45-11969

Diversion Rate: 0.27 cfs

Volume: 80 acre-feet

Rental Fee: \$112 per year

Season of Use: 3/15 to 11/15

Rental Period: March 15, 2010 to November 15, 2010