

MEMO

DATE: November 21, 2005

FROM: Lori Graves

TO: CAFO Site Advisory Team

RE: Lueck Dairy

A transfer application in the name of Carl Lueck was submitted to IDWR 10/31/05 for a new dairy consisting of 1600 milking cows, 400 dry stock and 2000 replacement heifers. The operation will be located on about 700 acres split by A-Line Canal. Currently, there are no water rights for commercial dairy use at the proposed site, but there are ground water and surface water rights for irrigation and stockwater uses. Only surface water from Black Canyon Irrigation District (BCID) is used for irrigation of lands above A-Line Canal, which is where the actual dairy facility footprint will be located, and only ground water from wells is used for irrigation of lands below the canal. This information was confirmed with BCID.

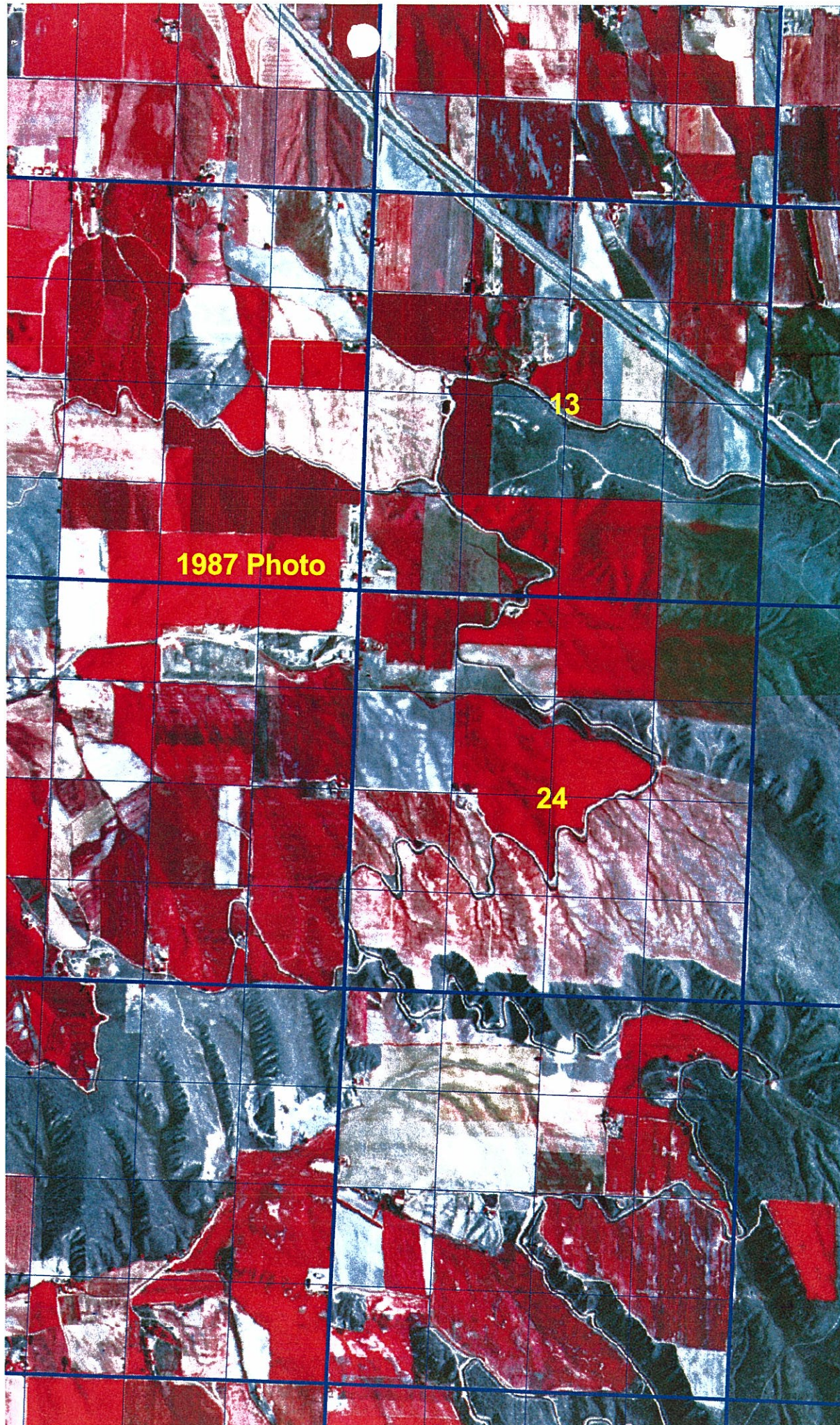
The transfer application proposes a combined irrigation/stockwater/commercial system utilizing two existing irrigation wells and two proposed dairy wells involving four ground water irrigation rights and one stockwater/domestic right. As proposed, ground water needed for the dairy equates to 110 acre feet per year (afa), requiring retirement of 39 acres from ground water irrigation. This figure appears conservative. As a general rule of thumb, total ground water needed for a dairy can be estimated by dividing actual milking cows by 100 afa. In this case, the estimated water needs for the proposed dairy would be about 160 afa. Regardless, it appears that there are sufficient licensed acres irrigated with only ground water that can be retired to meet the dairy needs.

In reviewing the information provided by Payette County Planning & Zoning to the CAFO team, there appears to be discrepancy in the proposed cow numbers for the dairy. The Resolution to request a site visit lists 2000 milking cows and 1445 heifers. Payette County Planning & Zoning stated that the correct Resolution numbers are actually 2000 milking cows and 1579 heifers. The Nutrient Management Plan and proposed transfer list 1600 milking cows, 400 dry cows and 2000 heifers.

All five rights listed of the transfer application were claimed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) but none have been reviewed or decreed except the domestic/stockwater right. The transfer application has been placed on hold until the later half of next year when the SRBA objection period has concluded regarding the four irrigation rights yet to be recommended for decree.

Note to reviewer: On attachment B, Darwin credited 12,960 gpd for decreed stockwater on rt 63-21079. However, this rt is limited to 50 range cattle in the conditions of approval. (50 cows x 12 gpd/cow = 600 gpd)

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Idaho Dept. of Water Resources Place of Use Comparison Report

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