

Mitigation Plan

I purchased 6 irrigated acres in T07N R24E S20 NWNE which is at the very end of a private ditch that historically served a fairly large irrigated farm just north of Mackay. The farm has now been subdivided and the ditch goes through several tracts owned by different individuals, none of which irrigate their property. Because of this change, getting water to my property has become a continual challenge. In order to irrigate my property with fewer struggles and frustrations, I filed application for permit 34-14101 to divert groundwater from my domestic well for irrigation of the 6 acres. To mitigate for the depletion to the aquifer caused by pumping groundwater, I propose sinking my surface water rights to recharge the aquifer in an amount equivalent to the volume being pumped.

My plan is to continue diverting my decreed surface water rights 34-14089 and 34-14091 from the Big Lost River through the Sharp Ditch and then into my ditch. Just a short distance downstream from the head gate on my ditch the water will go through a measuring device and then be directed into an infiltration pit and allowed to sink. The infiltration pit will be located in T07N R24E S17 NWSESW. Because of the gravelly soil, the pit will be fairly small but of sufficient size I expect the water will sink quickly.

To ensure diversion from the well under permit 34-14101 coincides in time with water being provided for recharge, I plan to limit the water diverted from my well to the volume of water provided for recharge over the prior twenty four hour period. Though water right 34-14091 with a priority of 06-01-1894 for 0.13 cfs, is frequently curtailed during the irrigation season, water right 34-14089 with a priority of 04-22-1884 for 0.08 cfs, is one of the earlier rights and is never curtailed. At a minimum when only 34-14089 is being delivered there should be 0.158 acre feet of water going to recharge over a twenty four hour period. This will allow me to divert the 0.15 cfs under pending permit 34-14101 for up to 12.7 hours daily and not exceed the recharged volume.

To implement this plan, I am filing an application for transfer to change the place of use and nature of use of rights 34-14089

and 34-14091 to mitigate for the use proposed by pending permit 34-14101. The transfer proposes to change the nature of use of these Big Lost River rights from irrigation to groundwater recharge. The source of water will not change.

Signature

Date