

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 12, 2009
To: Transfer 75646
From: bjordan
Re: Transfer Evaluation

This transfer proposes to change the nature of use to a portion of water right 22-646. The applicant has entered into a contract with the NRCS to establish wetland improvements for waterfowl habitat on the existing place of use. Applicant proposes to change the nature of use of a portion of irrigation water right 22-646 to Diversion to Storage (.09 CFS) and Wildlife Storage (8.6 AF). Water right 22-646 will now be described as 1.01 cfs for the Irrigation of 44.5 acres, .09 cfs for Diversion to Storage and 8.6 AF for Wildlife Storage.

A Pond Analysis was submitted showing the total acres needed for the two wetland areas. The surface area for the two wetlands is 1.9 acres and can hold 5.3 af. According to the Analysis (attachment 8A) the applicant must dry up 4.2 acres (8.6 AF) of land to cover the initial fill and evaporative losses of the wetlands. Seepage losses are not anticipated due to the wetlands being located within a delineated wetland area. Wetland areas usually have high water tables which cause the ground to be saturated with water. Seepage from the wetlands is unlikely. At the end of the irrigation season the two wetlands will be drained.

Authority to File:

Applicant is the current owner of new proposed place of use per IDWR record and tax lot data. Timothy Watters signed the transfer application (see attachment for signature authorization).

Water Right Validity:

Decreed in 2008. Forfeiture is not an issue. Nature of use is Irrigation, Diversion to Storage and Wildlife Storage.

Injury to Other Water Rights:

Within Water district 01. Nature of use change only. Applicant has dried up enough acres to cover the two wetlands. Watermaster does not oppose transfer.

Enlargement of Use:

There is no evidence of enlargement of use. Applicant has dried up enough acres to cover the initial fill and evaporative losses of the pond.

Local Public Interest:

No issues identified.

Beneficial Use / Conservation of Water Resources:

No issue identified.

Review of the application finds there is not clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Section 42-222 Idaho Code preventing processing of this application.