

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 4, 2008
To: Water Right File 63-8981
From: Aaron Marshall
Re: Licensing Review

The permit authorized the use of ground water for industrial use for a mint still and hop processing plant. The permit also authorized the use of ground water for irrigation of 120 acres at a rate of 2.40 cfs from 03/15 to 11/15.

The field examiner recommended the use of ground water for irrigation of 107 acres at a rate of 1.20 cfs (measured 1.15 cfs) and a volume limitation of 481.5 acre-feet based on the 4.5 acre-feet per acre standard for the area. Black Canyon Irrigation District water rights were identified as overlapping the place of use but the use of such water was not specified.

Based on satellite imagery, slight modifications to the acreage calculation were necessary changing the total irrigated land to 108 acres. This right should be licensed for the beneficial use developed under the permit and the new standard season of use for the area: 1.15 cfs, 486 acre-feet, irrigation of 108 acres, from 03/01 to 11/15.

Today I spoke with the current land owner, Joy Brown, who confirmed that Black Canyon Irrigation District water is used on the lands covered by this right but the extent of use was unknown. I also spoke with Mitch Blackhandy (sp?) who manages and irrigates the land owned by Joy Brown and Brown Family Farms LP. Mitch has managed the Brown farms for about 11 years and to his knowledge ground water has always been used to supplement surface water on these lands. He explained that ground water is used primarily later in the irrigation season when Black Canyon Irrigation District water is no longer available. He estimated that ground water provides approximately 10% of the total water used for irrigation but depends on the availability of District water and the type of crop. He stated that Black Canyon Irrigation District water is "absolutely a primary source."

Based on these conversations, standard conditions describing this right as supplemental to surface water rights will be included on the license.