

TP-63-73

MEMORANDUM

TO: Temporary WR Application, TFR Partnership
FROM: Steve Lester *SL*
DATE: October 4, 2007
RE: Approval

Attorney Bruce Smith hand-delivered a temporary water right application yesterday for a small wildlife pond project in Owyhee County just downstream from Homedale.

The project seeks Snake River water to fill and maintain the pond. This wildlife project is reportedly undertaken in conjunction with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

The following water right actions are pending before IDWR for this project.

1. Application for Permit No. 2-10343 seeks 0.8 cfs and 50 af for the pond. Western Region will most likely process the application sometime before the end of this year. The area in questions is not a problem site. It is reasonable to expect approval of the application unless a protest derails things.
2. State Office is reviewing a water bank application at this time. The bank approach is for initial fill of the pond. The bank application appears approvable.
3. Based on the above, a temporary water right application was approved today. This authorizes the use of a tractor-driven pump for enough water to help seal the pond as it is being constructed. This work will start next week and should be completed by early next month.

I discussed the situation with Aaron Marshall at the State Office. We do not see any red flags with this approach. The three-step coverage, although somewhat unusual on its thoroughness, covers all the necessary water right bases.

The attorney has been handling all three applications and is the contact person for this project.