

Rethinking the

Appropriation 22-13709: Mitigation Requirements

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.0 \text{ AF of GW stored} \\ + \quad 3.0 \text{ AF of SW to replace losses} \\ \hline 5.0 \text{ AF} \end{array}$$

- Evaporation losses need no mitigation because the ponds will be developed in "The Swamp," where evapotranspiration from existing native vegetation and pasture already exceeds free water surface evaporation.
- Stored GW needs no mitigation because the ponds are created by excavating to intercept ~~SW~~ and expose GW.
- The surface water diversion should be mitigated because it removes water from the stream system that other, senior water users rely on. ~~SW~~ Diversion of the surface water may not result in greater consumption, but it will change the timing of surface water flows. Retiring one acre of irrigation will provide the 3.0 AF needed for mitigation. ~~IDWR does not want to accept all 5 acres proposed for mitigation because the right holder may want the unneeded 4 acres for other purposes.~~ However, 5.0 acres is needed to provide the 0.10 cfs proposed for diversion. Limit SW diversions to times when the SW mitigation right is on.

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