

Comment Report

Application ID 71446

1. jstanton 11/16/2004 11:34:48 AM Special Administration Area Notes

Comment: Special Administration Areas : Salmon Moratorium Area

Exempt: N

Reason:

Doc Attached:

Explanation:

Special Administration Areas : Wilderness Moratorium Area

Exempt: N

Reason:

Doc Attached:

Explanation:

2. jstanton 11/16/2004 11:35:45 AM Additional Information Notes

Comment: Reviewed by Adjudication Staff: N/A

Mitigation Plan or acceptance form: Attached

Municipal Rights Anticipated Horizon Information: N/A

3. jstanton 11/16/2004 Comment/Analysis

Comment: This application proposes to add a well as a point of diversion to a water right from the Salmon River. While the well will replace the river diversion most of the time, the original pod will be kept as a backup and as a source of stockwater. This project is being funded by the Fish & Game Dept. in order to reduce the negative impacts on migrating salmon. A test well has been drilled, inspected by IDWR staff, and tied in to the irrigation system. Our hydrology section at S. O. has reviewed the mitigation data supplied by the applicant, and has concluded that the two water sources are connected as required by the transfer-processing memo. The transfer appears to be approvable with proper conditions.

Authority To File: These rights were decreed to Gerald & Kathryn Herrick, both of whom are deceased. Tracey Kehne Walter is their daughter and the new owner of Herrick Ranches, which is a general partner of High Mountain Ranches LP (the applicant). There appears to be sufficient data in the file to support the authority of the applicant to file this application.

Water Right Validity: These rights were decreed four years ago in the SRBA, so this is not an issue.

Injury To Other Rights: No issues identified.

Enlargement of Use: None requested.

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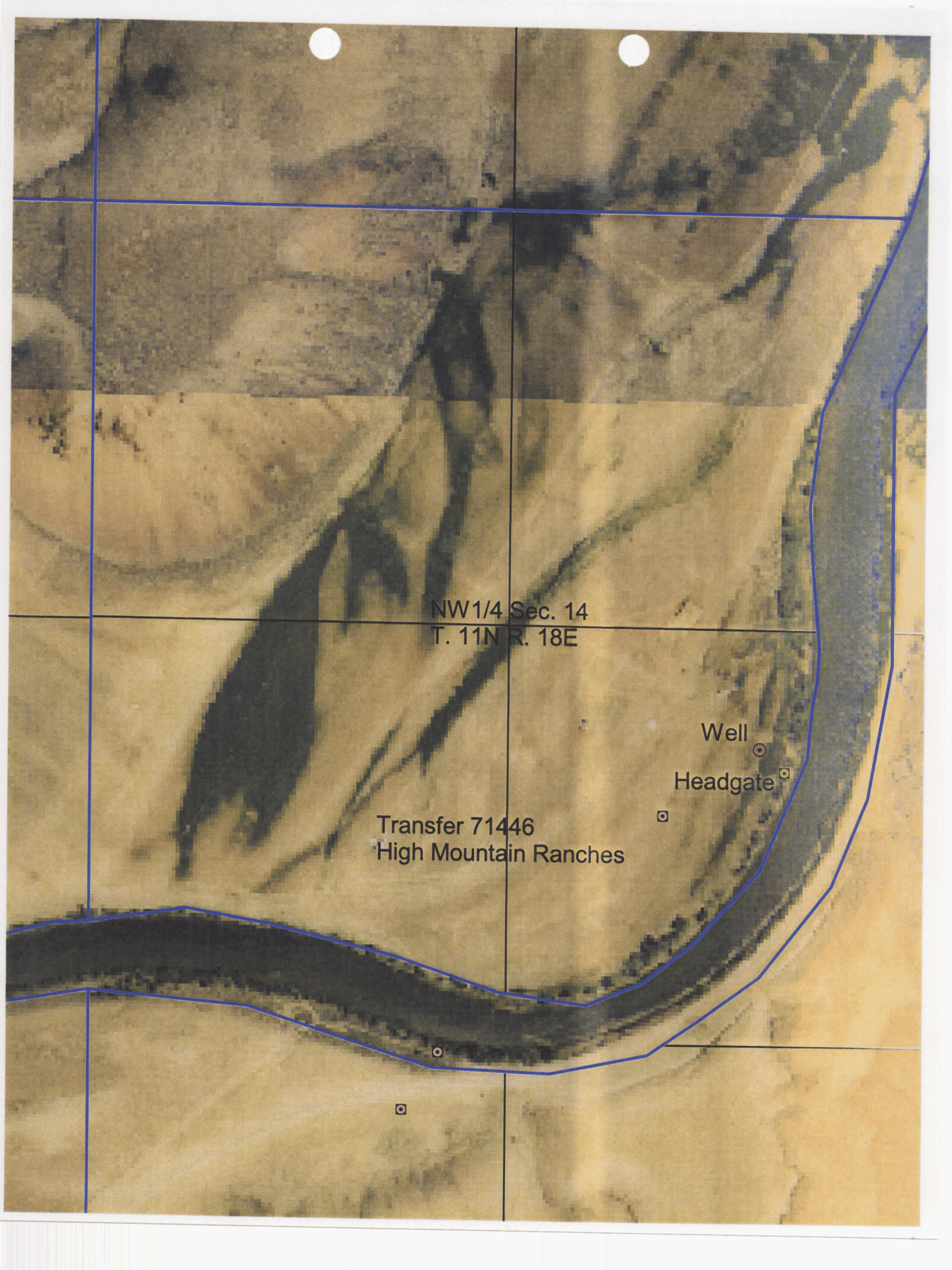
Local Public Interest: By reducing impacts on the local salmon and trout populations, this project could benefit the tourist and recreational industries and therefore positively impact the local economy.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: Water will be applied through sprinklers for maximum efficiency of water use.

Review of the application finds that there is no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Sec. 42-222 I. C. preventing processing. At least prior to advertising, no other issues have been identified that would require further review or submittal of additional data by the applicant.

4. jstanton 11/16/2004 Legal Notice Remarks

Comment: This application proposes to replace an existing irrigation diversion in the Salmon River with a well drilled alongside the river. The river diversion will be kept as a backup source for irrigation, and livestock will continue to use river water. Both diversions are located two miles below the mouth of the East Fork of the Salmon River and about 18 miles above Challis. Geologic data submitted by the applicant supports their contention that both points of diversion are hydrologically connected.



This is an aerial photograph of a rural landscape, likely in the western United States, showing a river and surrounding land parcels. A blue line traces the course of a river, which flows from the top right towards the bottom left. The land is divided into sections by black lines, representing a grid system. A specific section is highlighted with a blue border. Several small circles and squares are marked on the map, indicating specific points of interest. Two punch holes are visible at the top of the page.

NW1/4 Sec. 14
T. 11N R. 18E

Well
Headgate

Transfer 71446
High Mountain Ranches

Below is a well drilled 1N, R18E, S14, SE,SE,NW (GPS cor 2475683/1453862) under tag D0023922 as a test well. On 10-9-04 Benny Walker of IDWR did a field inspection of the well. Mr. Walker noted that the well appeared to be connected to a center pivot. Apparently High Mtn. Ranches has filed transfer 71446 proposing to change the source of right 72-4089 from the Salmon River to the Salmon River and groundwater. Currently no water right covers this well and is only allowed for test use. If transfer 71446 does get approved an additional \$125 dollar fee is required for the well to be used for an irrigation well.

