

Comment Report

Application ID 70099

1. jstanton 1/1/2003 8:13:20 AM Special Administration Area Notes

Comment: Special Administration Areas : Magic Valley GW District

Exempt: N

Reason:

Doc Attached:

Explanation:

Special Administration Areas : ESPA Groundwater Model Area

Exempt: Y

Reason: Non-Consumptive Use

Doc Attached:

Explanation: Changes to river flows due to proposed change are minimal.

2. jstanton 1/1/2003 Comment/Analysis

Comment: Apps for Transfer 70099 & 70102 represent a trading of flow rate between 2 farms owned by the applicant. The north farm will get a higher pumping rate under T. 70099, while the south farm will get a reduced pumping rate under T. 70102. Overall, the diversion rate, volume, and irrigated acres will not change. Changes in system operation on the two farms has necessitated these transfers to keep both sets of water rights reflective of actual water usage. As they are not proposing to change the actual land irrigated, and since all these rights have been decreed within the last 18 months, I do not plan a site visit or review of FSA data.

Authority To File: Applicant is the owner of record for all rights involved in these two transfers.

Water Right Validity: All rights have been recently decreed, so forfeiture is not an issue.

Injury To Other Rights: Initial review indicates minimal effect on all reaches of the Snake River, so surface users should not be negatively impacted. Nearly the same annual volume will be allowed on each farm if these transfers are approved, so there should be little impact on the local aquifer.

Enlargement of Use: The same number of acres will be irrigated after the transfers as before, and the total flow rates and diversion volumes will remain the same also. Therefore, enlargement is not an issue.

Local Public Interest: No issues identified.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: Both farms are sprinkler irrigated,

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: Both farms are sprinkler irrigated, so water is used as efficiently as possible. The transfers adjust flow rates to reflect actual system needs.

Review of the applications finds no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Sec. 42-222 I. C. preventing processing of this application. The applications appear to be approvable, although minor adjustments to the amounts transferred may be needed.

3. jstanton 1/1/2003 Legal Notice Remarks

Comment: Apps 70099 & 70102 propose to move 0.86 cfs from a farm 1 1/4 miles west and 3 1/2 miles north of Rupert to another farm 1 1/4 miles west and 9 3/4 miles north of Rupert. The same land will be irrigated after the transfer as before, and the existing wells at both farms will continue to be used. Only the flow rates are being adjusted to reflect actual system needs.

4. ameritt 7/18/2003 recommendation

Comment: This application should be processed with application T70102. These applications have been processed in parallel with the state office. These applications have been advertised without protest. I recommend approval of T70099 and T70102 with conditions as drafted.