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STATE OF IDAHO NORTHERN WATER MEASUREMENT DISTRICT 900 N. SKYLINE DR., SUITE A IDAHO FALLS, ID 83402 (208) 525-7171 FAX (208) 525-7177

IDWR DIRECTOR KARL J. DREHER

TREASURER DALE ROCKWOOD

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To:

Tim Luke, IDWR, Boise

CC:

Harold Jones, IDWR, Eastern Region

Ernie Carlsen, IDWR, Eastern Region Adjudication

Tom Maeder, Idaho Dept. Fish and Game, Terreton ID. 83450

KIRK JACOBS

CHAIRMAN

Fr:

Date:

Bryce Contor, NWMD Assistant Hydrographer

DALE COPE

MONTEVIEW

Re:

4/29/1999

Idaho Fish and Game, A31-02448A, A31-02448B, A31-02316.

DAREN BITTER TERRETON

CARL BALL HAMER

DON PARKER REXBURG

FRANK SULLIVAN DUBOIS

LYNN WOOD MONTEVIEW

NICK HILLMAN HAMER

JERRY PANCHERI

HOWE

HAMER

AARON SAVAGE

DWAIN KIRKHAM TERRETON

Recently I did a flow test and PCC calibration on the Fish and Game "Jernberg" well at 7N 34E 23 NENW, and did theoretical calculations for the other two Fish and Game wells. Mr. Tom Maeder, Wildlife Management Area Manager, is concerned that the refuge's water use be within authorized limits, and that its licenses and claims correctly reflect its right to use water.

It appears that the total of the water rights is adequate to cover the total water usage. However, since the smallest water right is linked to the most productive well, considering that right alone may give the appearance of unauthorized usage. I reviewed this briefly with Scott King of your section, and he suggested a letter to IDWR from the Water Measurement District might be in order. Here is a summary of what I've found:

Authorized Rates:

"Jernberg" well 4.0 cfs 7N 34E 23 NENW A31-02448A "Lower" well 6.0 cfs 7N 35E 20 NESESE A31-02448B "B" well 7.5 cfs 7N 35E 20 SESE A31-02316

Total

17.5 cfs

Observed Rates:

"Jernberg" well 16.4 cfs measured "Lower" well 5.4 cfs theoretical "B" well 4.3 cfs theoretical

Total

26.1 cfs

While the total capacity is greater than the total authorized rates, the refuge manager Tom Maeder indicated that the wells are not generally operated simultaneously. The Jernberg well is operated early in the season and the other two are operated later. Operating hours calculated from monthly power records indicate that authorized diversion rates were probably not exceeded in 1997 or 1998.

Authorized Volumes:

None of the water rights list authorized volumes. A31-02448A lists only wildlife as an authorized use. The 6.0 cfs authorized by A31-02448B includes 6.0 cfs for irrigation of 10 acres and 0.20 cfs for wildlife. I assume this is a clerical error; it seems likely the intent was 0.20 cfs for 10 acres of irrigation and 6.0 cfs for wildlife. A31-092316 authorizes the full 7.5 cfs for either irrigation or wildlife.

I simply calculated authorized rates for the full authorized periods of use (April – October for A31-02448A and A31-02448B, January – December for A31-02316). The results are:

1697 acre fe	et
2546 acre fe	et
5428 acre fe	et
	2546 acre fe 5428 acre fe

Total

9671 acre feet

Observed Volumes:

The measured volumes are calculated from Power Consumption Coefficients and utility-supplied power records. The "Jernberg" PCC is measured, the other two are calculated theoretically.

The power records for the "Jernberg" and "B" wells were included on the UPL database supplied to the North Water Measurement District; and data for the "lower" well were obtained by telephone from UPL. The PCC's are based on spring time pumping water levels, so it is likely that actual volumes are a little less than indicated here.

"Jernberg" well	2036 acre feet 1997	811 acre feet 1998
"Lower" well	no usage 1997	14 acre feet 1998
"B" well	625 acre feet 1997	529 acre feet 1998
Total	2661 acre feet 1997	1354 acre feet 1998

Please consider this information and advise Mr. Maeder of any action that needs to be taken. Feel free to contact me about any of this information.