

Westra, John

From: Westra, John
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2012 8:00 AM
To: 'Brandi Horton'
Cc: Lester, Steve
Subject: RE:

Brandi:
Right on the money.
We have had problems with Zundell over the years.
The approach of just shutting the ditch off is a keeper.

Steve and I much appreciate you keeping us posted on the
Issues-- Very very helpful!!
The irrigation season shall too pass!
John

From: Brandi Horton [<mailto:watermaster67@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2012 11:01 PM
To: Westra, John; Lester, Steve
Subject:

Good Morning!

I took a trip up Rush Creek with my deputy, who wanted to know how to handle a problem that has developed at the last headgate on the creek. I thought I'd pass along to you my decision so that you'll be aware of the circumstances incase you receive a call from Robert Bumgarner. Mr. Bumgarner's dam has been undermined by time, the elements, and lack of proper maintenance. The water coming to him all drops out from under his dam, through the rocks and appears in the creek below the dam. I've included pictures I took of it as it looked when I arrived today. In the first picture you see directly upstream of the dam. The next picture is of the dam itself, and the many loads of sand Mr. Bumgarner hauled in trying to seal it up. The third picture gives you a view of the dam and the headgate (right side of pic) which is about a foot above water level. And the last picture is directly downstream of the dam. As things stand now, you'd have to shut off all the water users on the creek to push enough water down to Mr. Bumgarner in order for any of the water to reach his headgate. Most (or possibly all) of that water would be wasted down the creek where there is no one to use it. I told Gordy (my deputy) that this is a futile water call and we won't be delivering to Mr. Bumgarner's diversion. Gordy has informed Mr. Bumgarner of this, and I wanted the Department to be in the know as well.

Also while on Rush Creek we closed down the Ridenour Ditch. The senior water users on that ditch (Ethel Pearson and Nina Hawkins) don't receive their water because a junior user up the ditch from them (Lee Zundell) dumps all of it into his pond. Gordy spoke with Thel and Nina, who told him to just shut off their water entirely since they couldn't make use of it, and let it be used to supply the deficiency to other senior water rights on Rush Creek. It's very likely you'll hear something from Zundell's about this.

That's all the excitement I have to warn you about for now....

Have a Great Day!







