

IDWR FIELD EXAMINATION OF CFPRBA WATER RIGHT CLAIM

Claim Identification Number: 97-7541, 97-7544

Date of Examination: 8/7/2025

Approximate Time of Examination: 1:00 PM

IDWR Field Staff: Michael Thompson

Point of Contact: Ray Entz

Examination Location: 3867 Squaw Valley Rd, Bonner County, ID

Purpose of Visit: Determine nature, design, and capacity of irrigation system claimed in 97-7541; Confirm point of diversion location in Blonc Creek and extent of stockwater use claimed in 97-7544

Weather: Sunny, cool

Report Prepared By: Michael Thompson

Field Examination Notes:

I met Ray Entz at property belonging to the Kalispell Tribe of Indians at an entry gate located near 3867 Squaw Valley Rd, 3.5 miles west of Dickensheet Junction where an access road enters the property relevant to this exam.

Regarding claim no. 97-7541, the purpose of the field exam was to determine the nature, design, and capacity of the claimed irrigation system from Goose Creek. IDWR senior agent Luke Bates also met us there to assist in taking flow measurements of the system. In talking with Mr. Entz before entering the property he stated there was no irrigation equipment on site, and all irrigation system components are currently located in Washington State. With no diversion or conveyance works present, the system capacity could not be measured or calculated, and Mr. Bates left to attend to department business unrelated to this claim.

Mr. Entz and I discussed how water is used to irrigate on the claimant's property. Mr. Entz has been involved with the wetland reclamation work done on the subject property and is very familiar with the operations present. He indicated there are two ponds (see photos #1 and #2 with location information below), technically remnants of the original Goose Creek channel that has been modified and redirected. According to Mr. Entz, when the Tribe modified and redirected the Goose Creek channel, the creek's water level was raised approximately 6 feet which has, in turn, raised the adjacent water table a similar

amount. The large depressions in the ground (the ponds) that were once part of the original Goose Creek Channel have filled up higher than before the water table was raised, and it is this water that is used to run two irrigation sprinklers in years where supplemental irrigation is needed in certain areas. Mr. Entz indicated the areas they irrigate on a map (attached to this report) and stated several times that this area is the only area where water, in addition to natural irrigation, is needed. The rest of the claimant's property does not need to be irrigated due to natural processes such as runoff or subirrigation from shallow ground water, which, per Mr. Entz, is sufficient to support the types of grasses and reeds grown on the property.

Mr. Entz also stated there is land on the north side of Squaw Valley Rd (also indicated on the attached map) that is sometimes irrigated but from a separate source and not the subject of this exam.

Regarding claim no. 97-7544, the purpose of the field exam was to confirm the point of diversion location in Blonc Creek and extent of associated stockwater use. When asked about the locations of the two claimed points of diversion, Mr. Entz stated there was only one and that it was on the Tribe's parcel, near the stables, and not on any neighboring parcels. Like claim no. 97-7541, no diversion works nor system components are on site and I was unable to confirm an actual point of diversion. Mr. Entz informed me that there was no livestock present currently and there has not been any livestock present for two or three years. A preliminary, in-office review of current aerial imagery indicated the absence of livestock and showed what appeared to be stables and pastures unused and in disrepair. No evidence of any livestock currently present was seen during the exam. At the end of the exam I drove the north and west perimeters of the property, again looking for signs of livestock. Concurrent with Mr. Entz's prior statement regarding the absence of livestock, no evidence of livestock on the property was found.



Image #1: Pond 1, GPS 48.35018, -116.98626

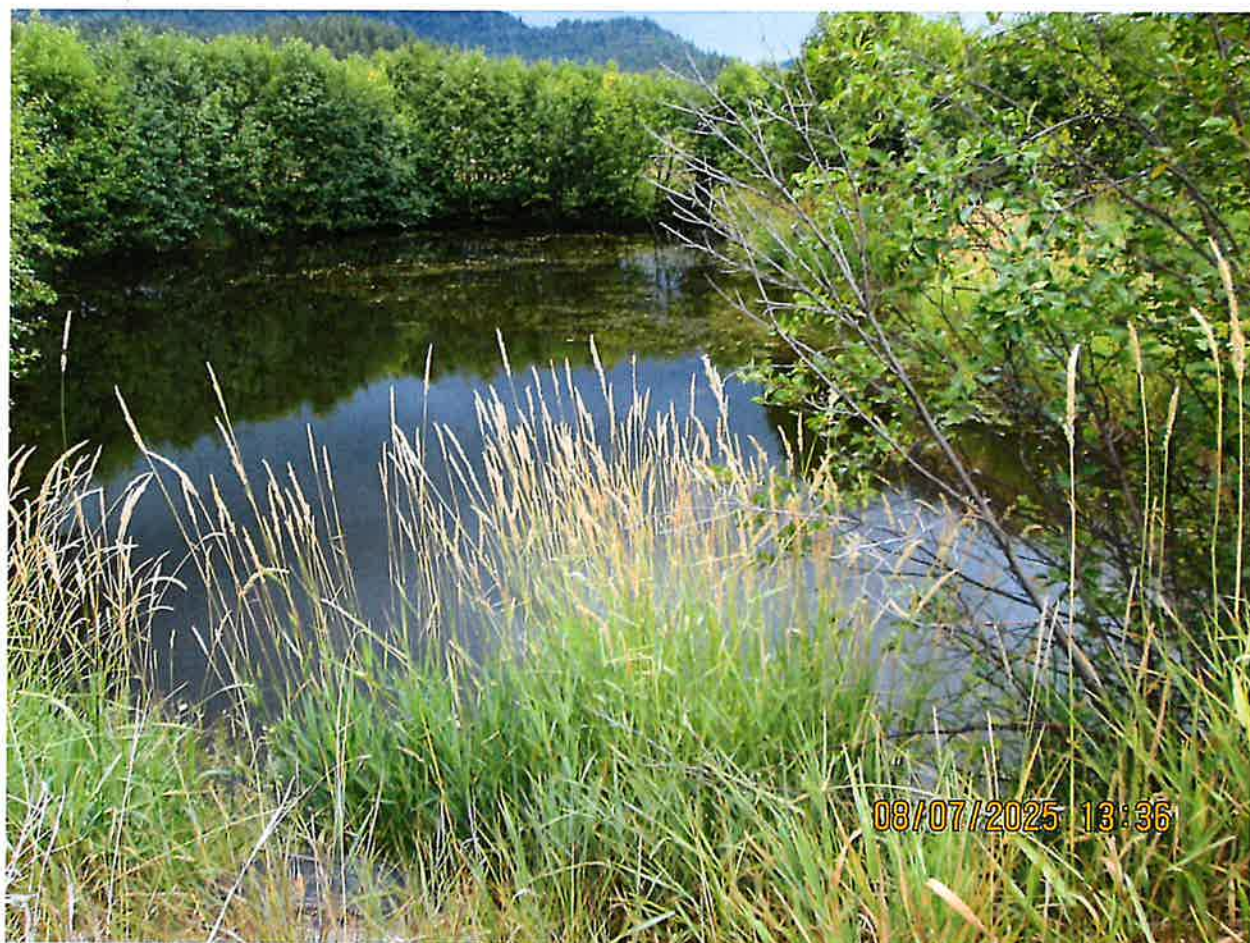


Image #2: Pond 2, GPS 48.45006, -116.99376



Image 3: Place of Use, facing east from entry gate



Image 4: Place of Use, facing southeast from entry gate



Image 5: Place of Use, facing south from entry gate



Image 6: Place of Use, facing southwest from entry gate



Image 7: Place of Use, facing west from entry gate

Bonner County provides the data "as is" with no claim as to its accuracy.

