

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 29, 2026
To: Transfer 90224
From: Christian Stewart
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This transfer proposes to add a point of diversion to three groundwater irrigation water rights. The applicant proposes to drill a new well next to the existing point of diversion. Both wells will deliver water to the place of use through an interconnected irrigation system. Aerial photography does not appear to align accurately with the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) for this geographic area. Consequently, the proposed point of diversion appears to be located in the NESE rather than the SESE. The proposed point of diversion will be identified as being in the SESE, Section 22, T13S, R46E.

Authority to File: The application was signed by Mike Saxton, who is the applicant. Mike Saxton and June Saxton are the owners of record for the three water rights. Mike and June Saxton are the owners of the place of use according to Bear Lake County records. June Saxton provided a letter in support of the application.

Water Right Validity: Right 11-2119 originated from a water right license issued in August 1962, right 11-7007 was licensed in October 1971, and right 11-7772 originated from a water right license issued in February 1980. All three rights were most recently included in Transfer Approval 83195 in June 2019. The place of use as reconfigured by the transfer appears to be well irrigated in aerial imagery. The rights were claimed in the Bear River Adjudication. No forfeiture issues identified.

Injury to Other Water Rights: The proposed additional well is located close to the existing well. There are several domestic/stockwater wells within a half mile of the proposed point of diversion. There are three irrigation wells within a mile of the proposed point of diversion. No injury issues identified.

Enlargement of Use: This transfer only proposed to add an additional point of diversion. The Taylor Canal Co Inc service boundary overlaps the place of use boundary under rights 11-2119, 11-7007, and 11-7772. The application indicates that Taylor Canal water is used at the place of use; however, the total number of canal shares associated with the place of use was not provided in the application. Water rights 11-2119 and 11-7007 were licensed with a season of use from April 15 to October 15. The season of use for these rights will be extended to October 31, and shoulder season conditions have added to both rights. No enlargement issues identified.

Local Public interest: No issues identified.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: No issues identified.

Review of the application finds there is no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Section 42-222 Idaho Code preventing processing of this application.