

Holmes, Christopher

From: Holmes, Christopher
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2026 8:55 AM
To: Rob Smith
Subject: Fred W Hunzeker & Sons Partnership BRBA Claims - Stockwater on Federal Lands
Attachments: Federal_Grazing_Allotment_Letter_Private.pdf

Good morning Rob,

I am emailing in regards to stockwater claims filed by Fred W Hunzeker & Sons Partnership in the Bear River Basin Adjudication. Many of the stockwater claims were filed on land owned by the federal government in connection to active grazing permits across one or multiple grazing allotments. The department requires additional information to complete these claim evaluations. Attached is the standard letter sent to grazing allottees describing the required documentation. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christopher Holmes

Christopher Holmes
Water Resources Supervisor
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Governor Brad Little

Director Mat Weaver

May 21, 2026

FRED W HUNZEKER & SONS PARTNERSHIP
135 N MAIN STE 200
LOGAN UT 84321

SUBJECT: Bear River Basin Adjudication (BRBA) Federal Grazing Allotment Claims

Dear Claimant,

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) has received your BRBA water right claims for stockwater use on federal grazing allotments. Below is a list of additional information required for IDWR to complete the evaluation of these claims.

- **Base Property Documentation:** A document that identifies the current base property ownership information that matches the grazing allotment permit. The base property is the land that you own and identified on your application for a grazing permit.
- **Current Grazing Permit:** A copy of the current grazing permit associated with the base property for the place of use claimed.
 - Also include the map attached to the permit showing the grazing allotment boundaries.
- **Evidence:** A copy of the oldest grazing permit issued on the federal grazing allotment pursuant to federal grazing authorizations. In most cases, evidence will be a copy of the first, or earliest available, grazing permit issued on the federal grazing allotment.
 - If the stockwater use on federal land predates the Taylor Grazing Act (June 28, 1934), you must submit additional evidence in support of the claimed priority date.

There may be multiple BRBA stockwater claims based on the same grazing allotment permit. If this matches your scenario, a single copy of the required additional documentation is sufficient. If you filed BRBA stockwater claims across multiple grazing allotments, you must submit the required additional documentation for each grazing allotment/permit.

Additional evidence may also be submitted to bolster the claim evidence backfile. Below is a list of examples.

- The chain of title for the base property going back to the original owner of the grazing permits encompassing the claimed place of use. If the base property has changed, additional documents describing the sale/transfer of grazing permit ownership.
- The chain of grazing permits encompassing the claimed place of use going back to the oldest permit available.

If the documentation is not received, IDWR will evaluate the claims with the available information and may recommend them as disallowed. Feel free to call or email me with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Christopher Holmes
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christopher.holmes@idwr.idaho.gov
Main Line: (208) 701-7200

Cc: Rob Smith
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