

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
BENEFICIAL USE FIELD REPORT

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Permit No: 65-23285
Exam Date: 04/01/2025

1. Current Owner:
GEORGE E COLWELL 3990 HIGHWAY 52 PAYETTE ID 83661-5131 AND
CHERYL F COLWELL 3990 HWY 52 PAYETTE ID 83661
2. Accompanied by: GEORGE COLWELL
Phone No: **208-642-7617**
Address: Meeting at the Birder Island Ranch Feed Lot, near Fort Wilson Rd, Payette, ID
Relationship to permit Holder: Permit holder

3. **SOURCE:** UNNAMED DRAIN **Tributary** SNAKE RIVER
Method of Determination: GAIA GPS, GIS Imagery, and Payette County Tax Parcel Data.

B. OVERLAP REVIEW

1. Other water rights with the same place of use: YES Overlap

Water Right No.	Source	Purpose of Use	Basis
3-10015	SNAKE RIVER	Stockwater	Decreed 2000

Comments: 3-10192 and 65-22953 are noted in the application as overlapping, but both are downstream of the POU/PODs and north of the POU. The diversion system for WR 3-10015 pumps water from the Snake River to a ditch east of the permitted POU (Photo 3). No injury concerns were apparent as there is no direct connection between the two systems.

2. Other water rights with the same point-of-diversion: NO Overlap

Water Right No.	Source	Purpose of Use	Basis
NONE	NA	NA	NA

Comments: There are no rights sharing the PODs permitted.

C. DIVERSION AND DELIVERY SYSTEM1. **LOCATION OF POINT(S) OF DIVERSION:**

UNNAMED DRAIN L5 (NW¼ SW¼), Sec. 32, Twp 09N, Rge 05W, B.M. PAYETTE County

GPS COORDINATES: N 44.07153 ° W 116.96991 °.(End of Instream SW)

UNNAMED DRAIN L4 (NW¼ NW¼), Sec. 5, Twp 08N, Rge 05W, B.M. PAYETTE County

GPS COORDINATES: N 44.06638 ° W 116.97095 °.(Beginning of Instream SW)

Method of Determination: GAIA GPS, GIS Imagery, and Payette County Tax Parcel Data.

PLACE OF USE: STOCKWATER

Twp	Rng	Sec	NE				NW				SW				SE				Totals
			NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	NE	NW	SW	SE	
08N	05W	5						X L4											
09N	05W	32									X L5	X L6							

Method of Determination: GIS Imagery and Payette County Tax Parcel Data.

3.
 - ☒ Delivery System Diagram Attached (required). Indicate all major components and distances between components.
 - ☒ Indicate weir size/pipe as applicable.
 - ☒ Map Attached Showing Location(s) of point(s) of diversion and place(s) of use (required). Scale must be 1:24,000 or greater.
 - ☒ Aerial Photo Attached (required for irrigation of 10+ acres).
 - ☒ Photo of Diversion and System Attached

Well or Diversion ID No.*	Motor Make	Hp	Motor Serial No.	Pump Make	Pump Serial No. or Discharge Size
Gravity Fed Drain	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

D. FLOW MEASUREMENTS

1.

Measurement Equipment	Type	Make	Model No.	Serial No.	Size	Calib. Date
NONE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

2. Measurements: Ditch wetted perimeter measured an avg. 12ft across and the depth averaged approx. 2" depth. Attempted orange peel float trials. Low streamflow with obstructions allowed only about 1 trial with continuous motion. Approximately 5 min 3sec (303sec) to transit 20 ft downstream.

E. FLOW CALCULATIONS

Additional Computation Sheets Attached

Measured Method: Orange Peel Float Trial

D= 0.1666ft

W=12ft

L= 20ft

T= 303 sec

(L x W x D) / T = CFS

(20ft x 12ft x 0.1666ft) / 303sec = 0.13cfs

Theoretical Rate = 0.13cfs

Permitted Rate = 0.12cfs

Recommended Rate = **0.12cfs**

Comments/Recommendation: At the time of the field examination no irrigation was occurring in the vicinity of the drain. The permit holder stated that several large white drainpipes (Photo 2) carry much of the wastewater running off the fields on the east side of the ditch during irrigation season. Only 1 float test trail completed without encountering any obstruction. The calculation for that trial is greater than the permitted rate. It is reasonable to believe that the full permitted rate is available in the ditch year-round. I recommend that the license is issued for 0.12cfs for instream stockwater use, per Administrative Memo #3.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO #3- Annual Use of Water for Stockwater Purposes.

No. of Stock (head)	RANGE CATTLE	
	Rate* c.f.s. (l	Volume AF/yr. (l
0 - 10	0.02	0.2
11 - 25	0.02	0.4
26 - 50	0.02	0.7
51 - 100	0.03	1.4
101 - 200	0.05	2.7
201 - 300	0.07	4.1
301 - 400	0.09	5.4
401 - 500	0.12	6.7
501 - 600	0.14	8.1
601 - 700	0.16	9.4
701 - 800	0.19	11.0
801 - 900	0.20	12.0
901 - 1000	0.23	14.0
1001 - up (3		

F. VOLUME CALCULATIONS

1. Volume Calculations for irrigation: NA

2. Volume Calculations for Other Uses:

Stockwater:

Head of Livestock: 500 Head (cow / calf)

Comments/Recommendation: At the time of the field examination there were several hundred head of cattle in the adjacent fields, but none in the field surrounding the permitted POU. The permit holder stated that they typically move about 500 head of cattle at a time through the property in a typical year drinking from the drain. I recommend the license is issued for an annual volume of 6.7 AF to provide water for 500 head of cattle, per Administrative Memo #3.

G. NARRATIVE/REMARKS/COMMENTS

The Department received the Proof of Beneficial Use for permit 65-23285 on May 21, 2013, submitted and signed by the permit holder, George Colwell. In section 5 of the proof the permit holder stated that beneficial use was developed to provide stockwater to 500 head of range cattle, with the standard rate of 0.12cfs stated in section 6 of the form. On April 1, 2025, a field examination was conducted with George Colwell and his son as escorts. Permit 65-23285 is for instream stockwater from an unnamed drain, which is partially overlapped by WR 3-10015 for stockwater diverted from the Snake River. However, there are no concerns regarding injury since WR 3-10015 is diverted via a pipeline from the pump station on the river to a ditch to the permit holder identified to the east of the POU (Photo 3), the permit is for a wastewater source (not live), and the only right with a point of diversion (POD) downstream of the permitted use is a stockwater right held by the permit holder, which also has a wastewater source (WR 65-22953).

There was no irrigation occurring in the field surrounding the drain ditch at the time of the field examination and the only streamflow available due to minimal water use upstream of the POU. The drain ditch was running approximately 2 inches deep with an average width of approximately 12 feet. Obstructions in the channel prevented consistent movement to allow for a consistent float test. However, one of the peel sections took 303sec to move a measured 20 feet along the channel (0.13cfs). At the time of the field examination several hundred head of cattle were in fields to the east of the permitted POU, but none were in the surrounding field. The permit holder stated that the drain is used as a water source is used by about 500 head of cattle at any given time while they graze in the area through private agreements with the landowners.

The permit was issued with three PODs one of which was located in the SWSW of Government Lot #6, which is not a beginning or ending point of the streamflow for the POU. The permit holder explained during the field examination that the points used for the application were representative of 3 of the drainpipes conveying wastewater from the field east of the POU. As any wastewater entering the POU including overland flow could contribute to the stockwater source only two PODs, one at the upstream extent and one at the downstream extent of the permitted areas are necessary to describe the use. The permit POD in the SWSW of Government Lot #6 was removed to reduce any confusion regarding the use.

I recommend the license is issued with condition 004 and the permit text conditions limiting the use to times when wastewater is available restricting any construction or enlargement. Conditions X02 and 26A should be removed at licensing, according to current guidance. The license should be issued for the full permitted rate of 0.12cfs and 6.7 AF annually for stockwater use serving 500 head of range cattle, per Administrative Memo #3 (sections E & F of this report).

Have conditions of permit approval been met? ☒ Yes ☐ No

H. RECOMMENDATIONS**1. Recommended Amounts**

<u>Beneficial Use</u>	<u>Period of Use</u>	<u>Rate of Diversion</u>	<u>Annual Volume (AF)</u>
STOCKWATER	01/01 to 12/31	0.12 CFS	6.7 AF

Totals: **0.12 CFS** **6.7 AF**

Amendment: No volume recommendation for in-stream stockwater rights according to Beneficial Use Exam IDAPA Rule 35.01.(i).iii, the volume will not be reported on the license.

2. Recommended Amendments

☐ Change P.D. as reflected above
 ☐ Add P.D. as reflected above
 ☒ None

☐ Change P.U. as reflected above
 ☐ Add P.U. as reflected above
 ☒ None

I. AUTHENTICATION

Bob Howe - Water Resource Agent, Sr.

Izzy Crichton (Amendments) 5/13/2026 - Water Resource Agent

Field Examiner's Name Izzy Crichton Date 6/1/2026

Reviewer Bob Howe Date 6/1/2026



Photo 1-Facing south, upstream on the drainage.



Photo 2-Facing north, downstream on the drainage. White pipes carry runoff from the adjacent fields into the drainage when irrigation takes place later in the season.



Photo 3- The diversion from the Snake River runs 93-100 via a buried line crossing under the drain ditch to the ditch pictured here, west of the permitted stockwater use.



Figure 1- System Diagram- Gravity fed drainage running to the north via the unnamed drain. Excess water is drained from the surrounding fields via drainpipes and overland flow.



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Western Region • 2735 W Airport Way • Boise, ID 83705-5082

Phone: 208-334-2190 • Fax: 208-334-2348 • Email: westerninfo@idwr.idaho.gov • Web: idwr.idaho.gov

Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

March 25, 2025

GEORGE E & CHERYL F COLWELL
3990 HWY 52
PAYETTE ID 83661

RE: FINAL REQUEST- Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No. 65-22769 & 65-23285

Dear George Colwell:

When we last spoke, I requested that you set a date for the field examinations for stockwater permits 65-23285 & 65-22769 prior to March 3, 2025. To date we have received no contact to schedule a field examination. In previous correspondence IDWR requested to schedule an examination for additional information to be collected, specifically diversion flow rate measurements need to be made at all points of diversion, these include 5 wells and an unnamed drain. To date the diversion flow rate data for both permits is still insufficient. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule a field examination, so that licenses can be processed for the permits. If use cannot be confirmed steps may be taken to void the permits.

Permit 65-22769 authorizes **0.55 CFS** from **Groundwater** for **Stockwater** use within parcels owned by BIR Feedlot LLC at 8108 Fort Wilson Dr. Permit 65-23285 authorizes **0.12cfs** from an **Unnamed Drain tributary to the Snake River** for **Stockwater** use. **If you have developed a beneficial use and still own the place of use property, please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an examination. To successfully complete the examination, the location of all wells permitted need confirmed and the system needs to be running at the time of the examination for field measurements to be taken recording the system(s) rate of flow.**

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued, and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed but you have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the attached Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Ownership Change form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

Please contact me within thirty (30) days at (208) 206-4628 to either schedule an examination or submit a relinquishment or assignment form. **If you do not respond to this letter, the department may begin taking steps to void the permits.**

Regards,



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Bob Howe | Water Resource Agent, Sr.

2735 W Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705-5082

(208) 605-4628 | www.idwr.idaho.gov

Crichton, Izzy

From: Howe, Bob <Bob.Howe@idwr.idaho.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 3:00 PM
To: gdawg251@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Field Examination Scheduling Letters mailed today
Attachments: Irrigation Permit.pdf; 65-23124 Irrigation Map.pdf

Hi George,

I have attached the irrigation permit we discussed. As we discussed, we will probably need to schedule any examination for this one separately in the spring once the irrigation season is underway.

Please reach out to me to set an exam date for the stock water uses and we will get those scheduled over the next couple of weeks. I will keep an eye out in case you are able to turn up photos and any other documentation as well. Thank you again for assisting me on this.

Regards,

Bob Howe

 IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
Bob Howe | Water Resource Agent, Sr.
2735 W Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705-5082
(208) 605-4628 | www.idwr.idaho.gov

From: Howe, Bob
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 1:42 PM
To: gdawg251@yahoo.com <gdawg251@yahoo.com>
Subject: Field Examination Scheduling Letters mailed today

Hi George,

Thank you for speaking with me today about your water rights. I have attached the field examination scheduling letters mailed today. Also, the standard ownership change form and permit relinquishment forms that are mailed out with the scheduling request. The two requests mailed are for stockwater use. I will follow up this email with a separate email with the permit for irrigation use that is in need of a field examination in the spring, for your records.

Please let me know the date for the field examinations that works for you. I am hoping to get the stockwater examinations wrapped up over the next 2 weeks, if at all possible. Please let me know when you receive this email. My contact phone number is in my signature below.
Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

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Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

February 4, 2025

GEORGE E & CHERYL F COLWELL
3990 HWY 52
PAYETTE ID 83661

RE: Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No. 65-23285

Dear Permit Holder:

We are planning to conduct water right examinations in the vicinity of the above-referenced permit **from February 10 through March 3, 2025**. An examination is needed to verify the water use in order to issue a water right license. During the previous examination attempt the use was not able to be fully documented. If use cannot be confirmed steps may be taken to void the permit.

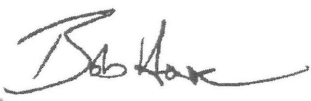
The above-referenced permit authorizes **0.12 CFS from Unnamed Drain tributary to the Snake River for Stockwater use. To successfully complete the examination, the extent the use has been developed needs to be confirmed and the system needs to be running at the time of the examination for field measurements to be taken recording the system rate of flow.**

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued, and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed but you have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the attached Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Ownership Change form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

Please contact me within the next fourteen(14) days at (208) 206-4628 to either schedule an examination or submit a relinquishment or assignment form. If you no longer own the place of use property and/or do not respond to this letter, the department will work with the current property owner to issue a license or void the permit.

Regards,


 IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
Bob Howe | Water Resource Agent, Sr.
2735 W Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705-5082
(208) 605-4628 | www.idwr.idaho.gov

Enclosures:

Water Permit Report and Map



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

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Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

February 4, 2025

GEORGE E & CHERYL F COLWELL
3990 HWY 52
PAYETTE ID 83661

RE: Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No. 65-22769

Dear Permit Holder:

We are planning to conduct water right examinations in the vicinity of the above-referenced permit **from February 10 through March 3, 2025**. An examination is needed to verify the water use in order to issue a water right license. During the previous examination attempt the use could not be adequately documented. If use cannot be confirmed steps may be taken to void the permit.

The above-referenced permit authorizes **0.55 CFS** from **Groundwater** for **Stockwater** use within parcels owned by BIR Feedlot LLC at 8108 Fort Wilson Dr. **If you have developed a beneficial use and still own the place of use property, please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an examination. To successfully complete the examination, the location of all wells permitted need confirmed and the system needs to be running at the time of the examination for field measurements to be taken recording the system(s) rate of flow.**

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued, and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed but you have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the attached Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Ownership Change form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

Please contact me within the next fourteen(14) days at (208) 206-4628 to either schedule an examination or submit a relinquishment or assignment form. If you no longer own the place of use property and/or do not respond to this letter, the department will work with the current property owner to issue a license or void the permit.

Regards,



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Bob Howe | Water Resource Agent, Sr.

2735 W Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705-5082

(208) 605-4628 | www.idwr.idaho.gov

Enclosures:

Change of Ownership form
Water Permit Report and Map



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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BRAD LITTLE
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

March 11, 2021

GEORGE E COLWELL
CHERYL F COLWELL
3990 HWY 52
PAYETTE, ID 83661

RE: Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No's. 65-22769, 65-22773, 65-23123, 65-23124, & 65-23285

Dear Permit Holder:

A field exam for the above listed water rights was conducted June 19, 2019. However, insufficient information was gathered in order to allow for a licensing recommendation. We are planning to conduct water right examinations in the vicinity of the above-referenced permit **this season**, and further examination is needed to verify the water use in order to issue a water right license. Additional information needed in order to grant licenses for the above water right permits includes: **Diversion Flow Rate Measurements**.

If you have developed a beneficial use and still own the place of use property, please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an examination.

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed, but have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the enclosed Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop a beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Assignment of Permit form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

Please contact me within the next thirty (30) days at (208) 334-2190 to either schedule an examination or submit a relinquishment or assignment form. If you no longer own the place of use property and/or do not respond to this letter, the department will work with the current property owner to issue a license or void the permit.

Sincerely,

Justin Shearer
Water Resource Agent, Sr.

Enclosures: Relinquishment of Permit form
Assignment of Permit form
Water Permit Report and Map



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region • 2735 W Airport Way • Boise ID 83705-5082

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BRAD LITTLE
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

April 25, 2019

GEORGE E COLWELL
CHERYL F COLWELL
PO BOX 251
NORTH POWDER, OR 97867

COPY

RE: Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No. 65-22769

Dear Permit Holder:

We are planning to conduct water right examinations in the vicinity of the above-referenced permit **this season**. An examination is needed to verify the water use in order to issue a water right license.

The above-referenced permit authorizes **0.550 CFS** from **GROUND WATER** for **STOCKWATER** use. **If you have developed a beneficial use and still own the place of use property, please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an examination.**

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed, but have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the enclosed Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop a beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Assignment of Permit form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

Please contact me within the next thirty (30) days at (208) 334-2190 to either schedule an examination or submit a relinquishment or assignment form. If you no longer own the place of use property and/or do not respond to this letter, the department will work with the current property owner to issue a license or void the permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Justin Shearer', is written over a horizontal line.

Justin Shearer
Water Resource Agent, Sr.

Enclosures: Relinquishment of Permit form
Assignment of Permit form
Water Permit Report and Map



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region • 2735 Airport Way • Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

Phone: (208) 334-2190 • Fax: (208) 334-2348 • Website: www.idwr.idaho.gov

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

June 27, 2017

GEORGE COLWELL
CHERYL COLWELL
3990 HWY 52
PAYETTE, ID 83661

RECEIVED

JUL 03 2017

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

RE: Scheduling Field Exam for Water Right Permit No. 65-23285

Dear Permit Holder:

We are planning to conduct water right examinations in the vicinity of the above-referenced permit **this season**. An examination is needed to verify the water use in order to issue a water right license.

The above-referenced permit authorizes **0.120 CFS** from **UNNAMED DRAIN** tributary to **SNAKE RIVER** for **STOCKWATER** use. **If you have developed a beneficial use and still own the place of use property, please contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule an examination.**

If you did not develop a beneficial use of water under the permit during the beneficial use period, a license cannot be issued and the permit should be relinquished. If that use was developed, but have ceased using the water and you currently carry no interest in it, please relinquish the permit by submitting the enclosed Relinquishment of Permit form (no fee required).

If you did develop a beneficial use of water under the permit, but you no longer own the place of use property identified in the permit, please submit the enclosed Assignment of Permit form with the applicable \$25 processing fee.

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Sincerely,

Justin Shearer
Water Resource Agent

Enclosures: Relinquishment of Permit form
Assignment of Permit form
Water Permit Report and Map