

IDWR Claim Investigation Field Report

WR # 11-432

Christian Stewart – Water Resource Agent

6/5/2026

Narrative

On 6/4/2026 I conducted a field examination for claim 11-432. First, I tried to locate the point of diversion from the location shown on the map provided by the claimant. I walked the length of Big Spring Creek from the trout farm to the confluence with the Bear River. The claimant described the point of diversion as a canal. I did not observe any canals, ditches, pumps, or siphons capable of diverting water from Big Spring Creek from the trout farm to the confluence. I also walked the length of the other stream (Little Spring Creek?) located north of the wastewater treatment plant. I similarly found no canals or other diversions from this water source in the vicinity of the area indicated by the claimant.

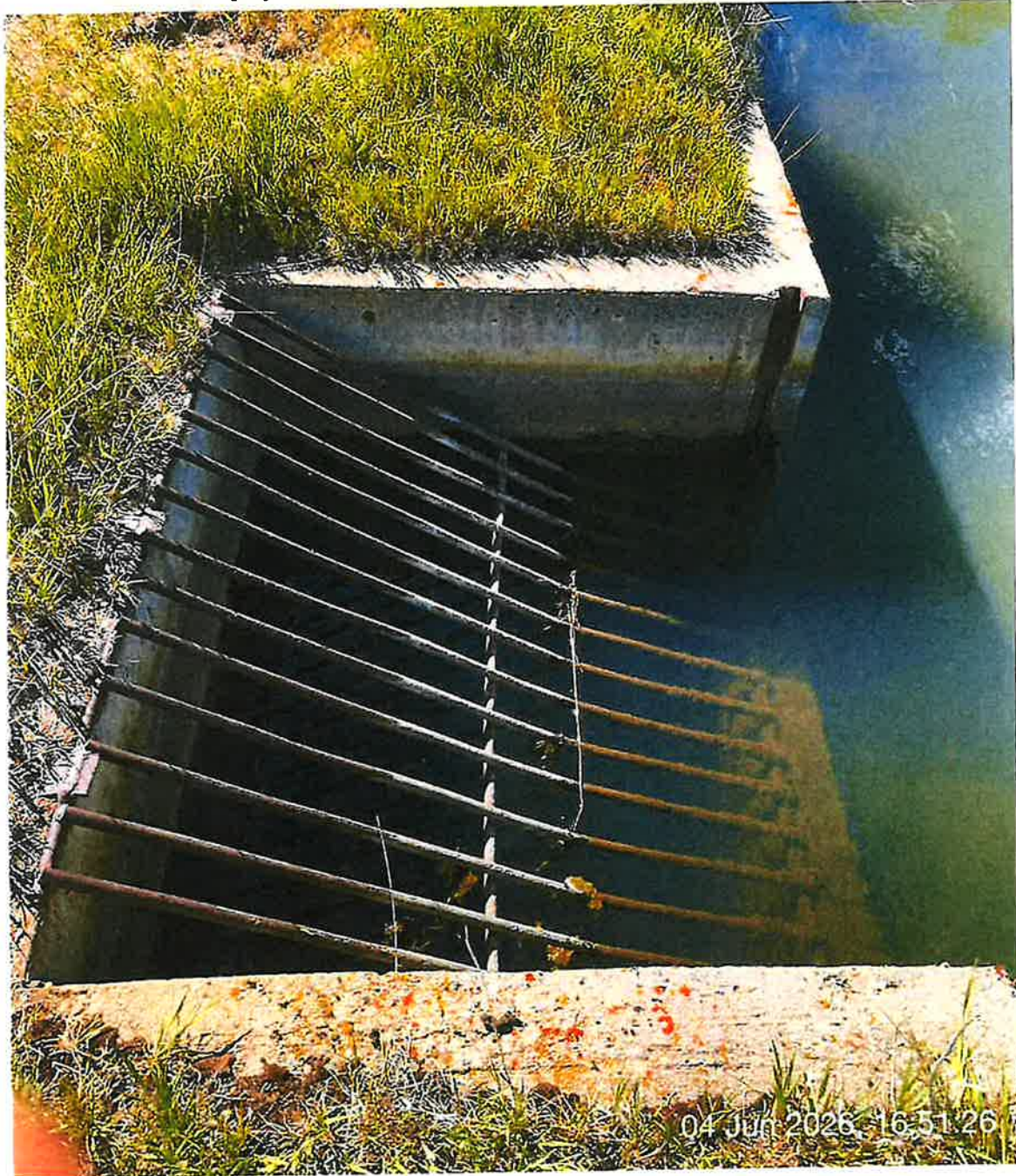
I also visited the location where the claimant claims water from the supposed canal is conveyed to Soda Canal. At this location, I found two concrete structures that did not contain any water. One of the concrete structures was located on the Soda Canal, one was located on the other side of Soda Creek about 140 feet away to the southwest. It is possible that these concrete structures represent the inlet and outlet to a siphon under Soda Creek. There was a ditch channel into these structures visible. I walked the channel until it terminated at the Union Pacific Railroad berm about 260 feet south of the second concrete structure. Although the channel was visible, there was no culvert underneath the railroad, and therefore no way to convey water to the Soda Canal underneath the railroad. The ditch channel looked like it had not carried water in many years, if it ever carried water.



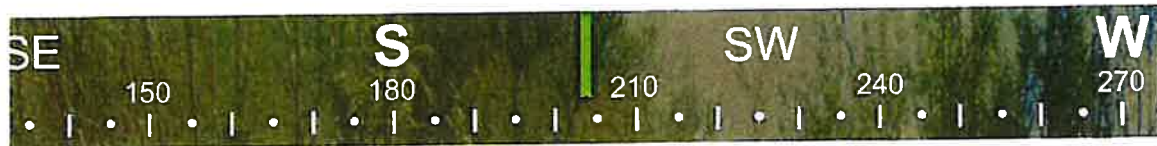
Concrete structures near the Soda Canal.



☉ 315°NW (T) ☉ 42.659712°N, 111.608096°W ±13ft



Concrete Structure #1 located on the Soda Canal. There was not water flowing from the structure into the Soda Canal.

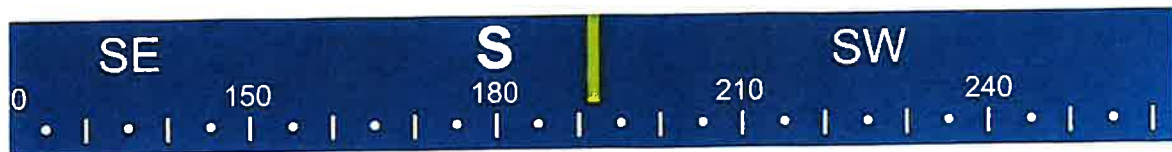


☉ 204°SW (T) ● 42.659360°N, 111.608340°W ±9ft



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Concrete Structure #2 located southwest of Soda Canal across from Soda Creek. The structure is filled with some shallow, visibly stagnant water, likely from local surface runoff. There is no water flowing into the structure from the ditch.



☉ 192°S (T) ● 42.658863°N, 111.608344°W ±9ft



This is likely a former canal/ditch channel. The streambed terminates at the Union Pacific Railroad. There is no culvert flowing under the railroad that can convey water.



Google Earth elevation profile of the supposed canal, based on the map provided by the claimant.



The elevation profile shows that there is a substantial elevation gain (+18ft) from where the supposed diversion from Big Spring Creek is located and the highest point on the supposed canal. The elevation of the supposed point of diversion is notably lower than where the supposed ditch channel intersects Soda Canal.