

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 24, 2026
To: Transfer 90498
From: McKenna Webster
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This transfer proposes to change the nature of use, place of use, and period of use for a 55-acre portion of water right 35-14962. The applicants are expanding an existing feedlot and need to provide additional water for their cattle. An existing well will be utilized.

Authority to File:

According to IDWR records, the applicants are the current owners of the water right included in the transfer. Additionally, Bingham County parcel data shows that the applicant is the owner of the proposed place of use. A warranty deed was provided, which identifies Gary Johnston as a trustee of the Pingree I Trust and Pingree II Trust.

Water Right Validity:

The water right was decreed in 2002. Aerial imagery suggests cultivation and irrigation of the place of use for over a decade. Forfeiture is not an issue.

Injury to Other Water Rights:

The point of diversion is in the ESPA; however, no change is being made to the point of diversion. No ESPA model analysis required. The transfer application was advertised, and no protests were received. Watermaster does not oppose the application. No injury identified.

Enlargement of Use:

To prevent enlargement, the volume being transferred is limited to the historical consumptive use volume associated with this right. Alfalfa is a recent crop that has been grown and irrigated on the 55 acres. ET-IDWR calculates the ET value for alfalfa at 2.64 af/acre. The volume available for watering cattle at the expanded feedlot will be 145.2 acre-feet. The authorized diversion rate, volume, and acreage will not increase as a result of the transfer.

Local Public Interest:

No issues identified.

Beneficial Use / Conservation of Water Resources:

No issues identified.

Effect on Economy of the Local Area:

No issues identified.

Effect on Agricultural Base of the Local Area:

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.