



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

BRBA FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

Claim Number: 11-300

Exam Date: 09/02/2026

Exam Time: 10:00 AM

IDWR Staff Present: Brent Bonney, Brian Wunsch

Claimant/Representative Present: None

Exam Location: Fields Northeast of 1788 Stauffer Canyon Road.

Township	Range	Section	Quarter Quarter
11S	43E	34	NWSW
11S	43E	34	SESW
11S	43E	34	NENE
11S	43E	34	NWNE
11S	43E	27	SWSE

Examiner's Signature: 

Purpose of Exam: To identify the Points of Diversion out of Stauffer Creek and to better understand the diversion works.

Summary of Exam: Agents walked up and down Stauffer Creek to identify the points of diversion and how they work. GPS points and photos were taken at each.

Exam Narrative:

Agents began the field examination by walking downstream along Stauffer Creek. Although the stream was dry at the time of inspection, agents were able to identify what appear to be the primary diversion features within the stream bed.

The first two diversion structures encountered are shown in Figures 1–3. One diversion consists of a tarp used to impound water and direct flow into a ditch running east. The second diversion is a culvert accompanied by boards that can be used to dam the culvert and redirect water into a series of ditches extending north and northeast.

Further downstream, agents located a check dam constructed of willows and mud (Figure 4). Continuing along the creek, agents arrived at a cement structure housing three pipes, each conveying water in a different direction (Figure 5). Metal plates found nearby could be used to block or regulate flow through each pipe, directing water into associated ditch systems. Another check dam, also built from mud and willow sticks, was identified shortly downstream (Figure 6). Its purpose was unclear, as no adjacent ditch was present. It is possible that this feature was intended to back water up the creek to another diversion point. Due to its uncertain function, this location is not being recommended as a point of diversion.

At the furthest downstream diversion site identified, agents observed several indicators of diversion activity but were unable to determine the exact diversion method (Figures 7 and 8). A prominent stick protruding from the creek bed likely served as a marker indicating where the creek should be dammed, and a pipe situated nearby appeared positioned to receive diverted flow.

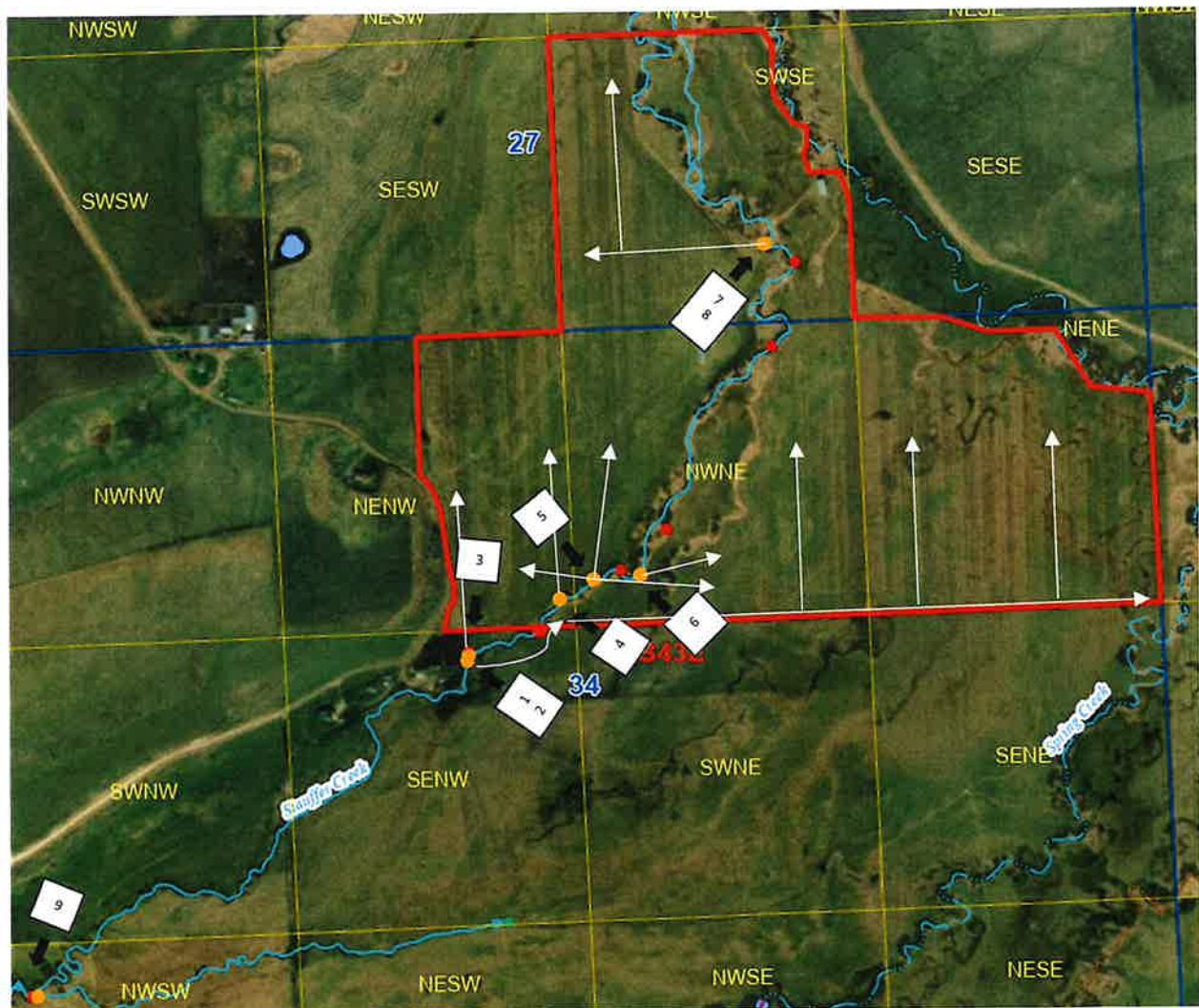
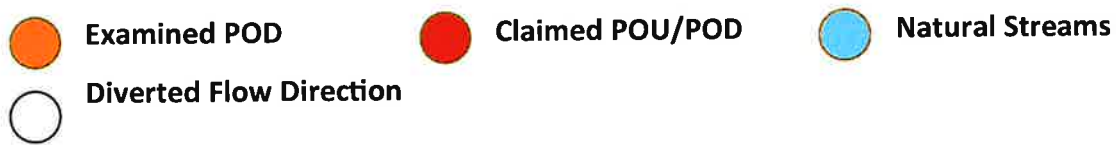
Agents then inspected the final claimed point of diversion referenced by the claimant (Figure 9). No evidence of a ditch leading from this location to the claimant's place of use was observed. As a result, this claimed point of diversion is not being recommended.

Agents spoke with a neighboring landowner who confirmed that a ditch runs along the southern boundary of the claimed POU and conveys water to the POU. Due to the natural topography, water flows in a northeasterly direction to irrigate the entirety of the claimed POU.

Conclusion:

Figures 1–5, 7, and 8 are being recommended as the points of diversion. Because the claimant has not responded to requests for additional information, these recommendations reflect the best determination agents were able to make based on the field observations available.

System Map:



Photos:

Figure 1: Diversion into the ditch appears to be achieved by placing a tarp in Stauffer Creek to temporarily impound and redirect flow.



Figure 2: The ditch that water is diverted to by the diversion in Figure 1.



Figure 3: Culvert diverts water from Stauffer Creek into ditches.



Figure 4: Check dam that diverts Stauffer Creek.



Figure 5: Cement diversion from Stauffer Creek.



Figure 6: Check dam that backs the water from Stauffer Creek.



Figure 7: A clear point of diversion, but it is not apparent how the claimant pushes the water from Stauffer Creek to a pipe.



Figure 8: Pipe that water is pushed into from Figure 7.



Figure 9: Furthest claimed diversion. No ditch was found running to POU.

