



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

BRBA FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

Claim Number: 11-4313

Exam Date: 6/02/2026

Exam Time: 1:00pm

IDWR Staff Present: Christopher Holmes, Brian Wunsch

Claimant/Representative Present: Shane Roberts

☐ **No**

☒ **Yes**

Exam Location: Claim POU, generally the 13S 43E 5 SE

Examiner's Signature:

Purpose of Exam: Identify water source and confirm diversion system and flood irrigation capabilities.

Summary of Exam: A spring located to the north of the church parking lot at the base of a large tree is the original water source. The spring flows into a channel towards the east where a temporary dam in the upper field and lower field is placed to flood irrigate down ditches

throughout the fields. The temporary dams direct the flooded water to different areas of land, including through culvert systems underneath the highway to reach both sides of the road. The land is generally flat and allows flood irrigation.

Exam Narrative:

The source of water is a spring located ~40ft north of the church parking lot at the base of a large tree. The spring is well known by the local community. Topographic and NHD maps do not show the spring nor a natural flow from the location. NHD maps identify a Canal Ditch. The path of this Canal Ditch matches the actual source's main path. The field exam determined that the spring would historically flow into a channel following the general path of the current system if it was never developed and reach North Creek. This confirms that the source should be Unnamed Stream tributary to North Creek. The source is used for flood irrigation where stock drink from the flooded system. The western place of use in the NWSE and SWSE has a hill sloping north to south, allowing flood irrigation towards the highway from a temporary dam placement. The stream continues through a culvert under the side road. From here, the stream can be temporarily blocked to direct water to the northern edge, through the center, and along the southern edge of the flat property. On the southern edge of the property there are 4 culverts that allow water to gravity flow under the highway and to the southern place of use for flood irrigation (only one photograph included in this report). Once it reaches the southern place of use, the water generally flows east towards North Creek where it eventually reaches.

The claim describes 3 points of diversion. The conclusion from the field exam is that the temporary dam in the upper field and the primary diversion in the lower field located on the other side of the road are the diversion locations. From the second temporary dam, water is diverted north and south, where the water floods through 4 culverts under the highway. This conclusion carries over for the stockwater evaluation that the developed system is where the cattle are drinking from.

At the time of examination flood irrigation was not actively occurring. There was no temporary dam at the upper field but the system was described and aerial images confirm

irrigation on this field. The stream was flowing, but the channel was damaged over the last year and required attention. In the large trees off the claimant's property between the upper and lower field the stream was damaged from tree debris and the claimant was working with the landowner to address the issue. Currently, the water flows into the trees and then a large amount of water subs. The water that currently continues down the stream is too low to divert with reasonable effort. Because of the difficult water year, the claimant has spent the beginning of the irrigation season focusing on other projects on more productive ground. A water measurement was not feasible due to the characteristics of the system, the area is going through a historically poor snowpack requiring effort on more productive land, and the small stream recently incurred damages outside of the claimant's control. Historic aerial imagery along with the provided affidavit are satisfactory evidence to support historic use. The department's standard rate per acre will be recommended for the irrigation.

Explanation of Elements not Examined:

☐ **POD:**

☐ **POU:**

☒ **Quantity:** See previous comments.

☐ **Other:**

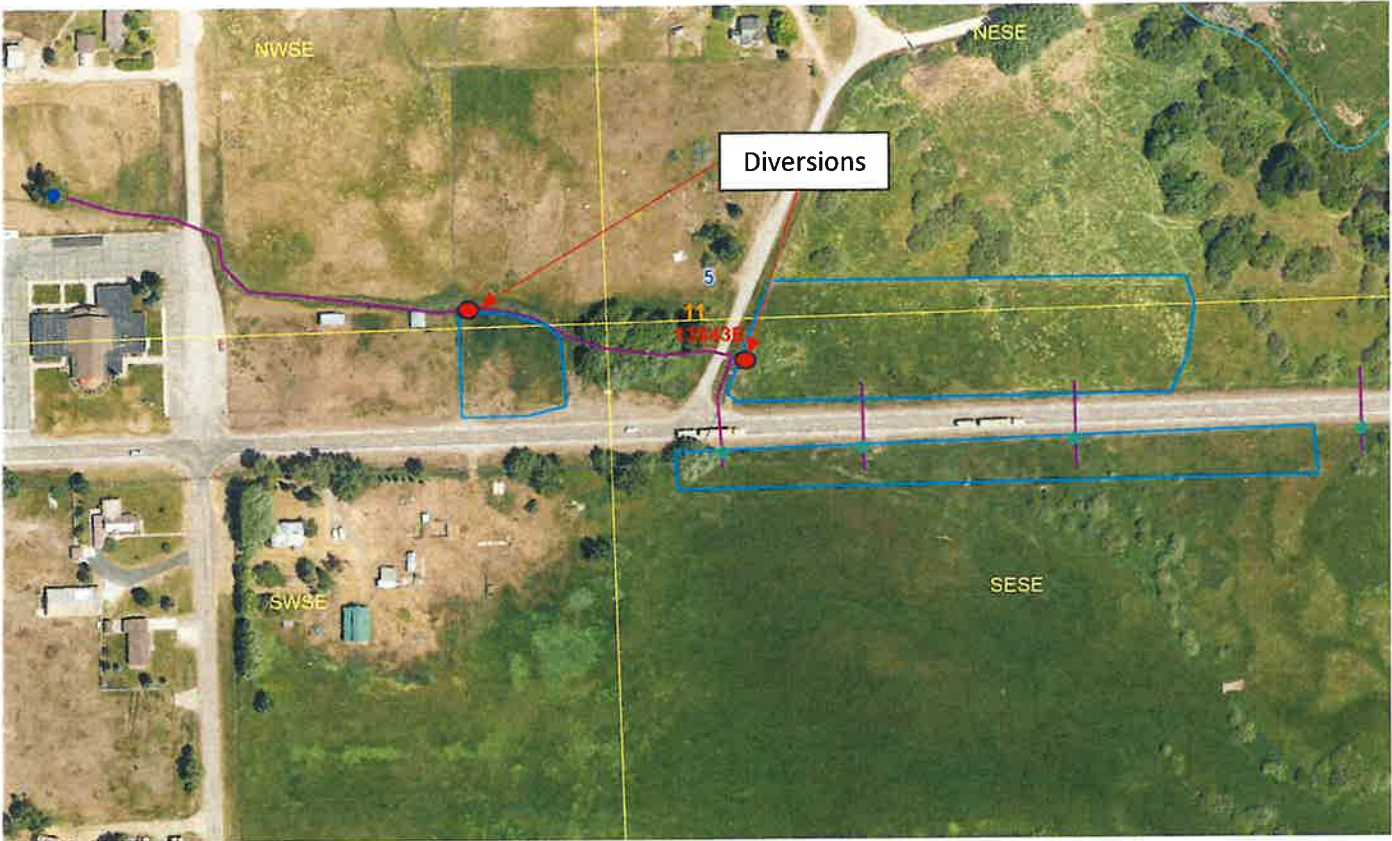
Amendments Needed:

☒ **No**

☐ **Yes:**

Flow/Volume Calculations: N/A

System Map:



- Spring Location: ●
- Water System: —
- Culvert Locations: ●
- Irrigation Claim POU: —

Photos:



Spring flowing from the base of the tree, picture downstream looking up.



Same picture location as above, from upstream looking down.



Stream entering claimed POU where the diversion point would be located.



Looking north from above photo.



Looking south from above photo.



Western most culvert under the highway reaching the southern POU.



POU south of the highway looking eastward from the above photo location.