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JUN 28 2000

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

Fax to: John Westra, IDWR

327-7866

From: Connie Brandau, Watermaster 57-R

495-2529

John,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from BLM and my reply. Please review it (to make sure I haven't stuck my foot in my mouth or further re-arranged my anatomy in an embarrassing way) and get back to me before I mail it off.

Thank you so very much!!!

Connie

1- Case
2 pg BLM letter
2 pg my response

5 pg total

Connie Brandau, Watermaster 57-R
HC 79 Box 61
Malba, ID 83641
June 25, 2000

Bureau of Land Management
Daryl Albiston, OFM
3948 Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705-5389

Re: Permit to Appropriate Water NO. 57-07692

Dear Mr. Albiston:

My comment as Watermaster 57-R concerning your application for permit was submitted to IDWR on 6/12/00. This letter is to satisfy your request for further comment concerning the need for a measuring device and lockable controlling works of a type acceptable to IDWR as part of the diverting works.

Your application for permit is for .20 CFS (or 10 minora inches) of water. That is enough water to irrigate about ten acres of land even though it is not your intent to do that. One Cubic Foot per Second (cfs) equals 448.8 gallons per minute (Water Measurement, Bulletin No. 552, reprint 1992, page 45). Your application for .20 cfs converts into 129,254.4 gallons per day, a consumption rate of 154 gallons of water per head of livestock per day for the 825 listed on the permit application. To me, that is a totally unreasonable amount.

In my experience there are very few springs in the Owyhee Resource Area that flow at that rate. If that spring

does naturally flow at that rate I feel that the IDWR requirements are justified.

If however the actual flow rates are less than .20 CFS I would recommend to BLM that those flow rates be measured (in gallons per minutes and then converted to CFS) and the permit application be refiled for the naturally occurring CFS/flow rate. If that were done it would probably not be necessary for either the measuring or flow control devices.

If the flow rates for the spring that is a tributary of Alkali Creek were typical of other springs in this area, they would probably be somewhere around one or two gallons per minute which calculates out to 1440 to 2,880 gallons per day, from less than .01 cfs to about .02 cfs.

I would be happy to meet with you and IDWR personnel on site for an accurate flow rate measurement and visual inspection to further determine the advisability of IDWR granting this water right.

Respectfully,

Connie Brandau
Watermaster 57-R

cc: IDWR
file

Fax to: John Westra, IDWR 327-7866
From: Connie Brandau, Watermaster 57-R 495-2529



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Lower Snake River District
Boise Field Office
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5389
<http://www.id.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:
7200

JUN 14 2000

*Hand
copy
5-200*

State Water District No. 57R, Watermaster
Attn: Connie Brandeau
HC79, Box 61
Melba, Idaho 83641

Re: Permit to Appropriate Water No. 57-07692

Dear Ms. Brandeau:

This office has received a Permit to Appropriate Water No. 57-07692 subject to the following provisions (copy attached):

- Use of the water will be regulated by the watermaster of State Water District No. 57R.
- Prior to diversion of water under this right, the right holder shall install and maintain a measuring device and lockable controlling works of a type acceptable to the Department as part of the diverting works.

The point of diversion is Alkali Spring (T. 02 S., R. 04 W., ;Sec. 33 NWNWSE), a spring in the head of Alkali Creek an intermittent tributary to Reynolds Creek. Place of use is T. 02 S., R. 04 W.; Sec. 33 NWSE.

A portion of the springs water is diverted through a stock tank with no float valve and back into Alkali Creek via a buried overflow line.

BLM questions the need for a measuring device and lockable controlling works on a spring development of this nature in an intermittent stream drainage. This office requests your comments concerning a need for the above described devices.

BLM's Petition for Reconsideration and supporting evidence must be filed with IDWR within 14 days of the certified mailing date of June 8, 2000, or June 21, 2000.

Your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Daryl Albiston
Owyhee Field Manager

Attachment: Permit Approval Notice from IDWR