

TO: Brandon Bedke
Goose Creek Water Master
P.O. Box 145
Oakley, Idaho 83346

FROM: Carl F. Austin
Double Diamond Ranch
P.O. Box 93
Oakley, Idaho 83346

SUBJECT: 2007 surface water use

DATE: 7 October 2007

1. The Double Diamond Ranch is entitled to 4.3 cfs of water from Goose Creek and tributaries, with the dates of diversion and shutoff being spelled out in our water rights.
2. The ranch utilizes surface water from Cold Creek and Goose Creek. The diversion from Goose Creek is controlled by two side-by-side gates and the quantity taken is measured by a weir. The diversion from Cold Creek is by both a gate and a pump when Cold Creek has adequate flow and by a gate when the creek is too low to enable pump operation. The quantity taken is measured by a weir.
3. Prior to the start of diversion, both weirs were cleaned out and re-calibrated.
4. The year 2007 saw Cold Creek with a total flow of only 1.2 cfs on 15 May, rising to 1.3 cfs on 28 May and falling to 0.7 cfs by 5 June and then dropping steadily to a total flow of 0.07 cfs on 2 July. Cold Creek never did show a spring runoff peak.
5. We did not bother to gage the total flow of Goose Creek, only measuring the amount we diverted. At the start of the diversion season Goose Creek was high enough to provide water with only one gate open. Midway through the season the second gate had to be opened and the last part of the season required a temporary dam as well.
6. Our water use day to day is an effort to balance the daily ups and downs of both creeks as both are very sensitive to the weather. This is accomplished by shifting the gates as needed. Once Cold Creek dropped below the flow of 0.3 cfs needed to be able to utilize the pump, we used the total flow of Cold Creek to flood irrigate "the Barn Meadow" using gated pipe and switched the hand lines served by the Cold Creek pump to two deep wells.

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7. At no time did we exceed the 4.3 cfs total diversion authorized although keeping the total diversion up to this amount was a real challenge this year owing to low water in Cold Creek, and ditch capacity for the Goose Creek diversion.
 8. All the gates were closed on 20 July and the irrigation of various meadows and hay fields switched to 5 deep wells.

Respectfully submitted



Carl F. Austin