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Department of Water Resources

To: Dept of Water Resources

15 July 96

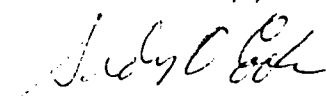
Attn: Gary Spackman

Pursuant to our telephone conversation, I am following up with a formal written complaint. On or about June 27, 1996 water began flowing across the access road to my house. The flow gradually increased until Sat July 6 a point of complete saturation was reached and the road became so soft the when I tried to leave about 4:00 pm my 3/4 ton 4X4 truck sunk right to the frame. Only four hours earlier my father had taken a 28 ft motor home down that road. Unable to reach the owner (Dean Stokes) I went up to the land behind me and found two twelve inch culverts and two ditches that were dumping water directly on the hillside above the road. On 7 Jul I took my tractor down to pull the truck out and the tractor became mired as well. The tractor was able to pull itself out. The truck however had to be pulled out. It was then trapped at my house where it remained until 15 July when my neighbors land dried enough to get it out. On July 8 my well started pumping mud, and although it is clearing is still cloudy as of this writing. The road still has water percolating up through it and is impassable. As of this time I have been basically denied access to my house for 8 days. Normally I would seek redress through the water master. In this case it is the water master that is doing the flooding. The land is owned by Dean Stokes and leased by John Tracy. John Tracy flood irrigated the side of a hill. An area Approximately 100 yds by 200 yds with no crop, and hadn't been any crop in at least three years, with approximately 36 inches of water for over two weeks. As of this time the water has been off for over a week and water is still coming out of the electrical outlet of my neighbors well head, it is still percolating out of the road; which is still impassable. I can not think of any more blatant waste of water; besides being very destructive other peoples property. This would be bad enough if it were just a user but to have a water master act in such a manner is inexcusable.

Three actions need to take place.

1. Action needs to happen regarding the waste of water.
2. Action need to take place against such an irresponsible water master.
3. If there so much water available I would like water rights so that I may irrigate the 5 acres I own. I'll even use it responsibly and plant a crop.

Sincerely,


Sidney D. Cook
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