

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS**

THEODORE R. BOOTH

Special Master

VALERIE MCCOY

Deputy Clerk

Subcases: 67-15208, 67-15209, 67-15210, 67-15211, and 67-15212

07/08/2025

2:00 p.m. (M)

Court Minutes

This was the time and place set for the Status Conference.

Parties present:

Gary Gallant (C 15208, 15209, 15210, 15211, 15212) -- Pro Se

USDI-BLM (O 15208, 15209) -- Michelle Ramus, Mark Widerschein

Idaho Dept. of Lands (O 15211, 15212) -- Kayleen Richter

Also Present:

IDWR

-- Lacey Ramell-O'Brien,
Evan Roda, Suzy Cooley, Craig
Saxton

Counter

Description

02:00:21

Case called; parties identified. Court gives an update on subcases. Court asks IDWR for an update. Ms. Rammell-O'Brien provides update on documents sent back in April and feels as though there is positive movement for a settlement. Court requests an update from US. Mr. Widerschein states that he has nothing to add to IDWR's summary. Court asks for update on what settlement would entail. Ms. Rammell-O'Brien states: 67-15208, parties would agree to disallow the water right and would therefore be in BLM's name. 67-15209, parties agreed to disallow the water right. 67-15210, unobjected and water right has been recommended disallowed by department. 67-15211, also recommended disallowed due to Dept. of Lands filing on this subcase. 67-15212, object filed by DOL and recommended disallowed by IDWR. Ms. Ramell-O'Brien stated that claimant, Mr. Gallant, stated that he sold the permits and was happy with settlement, but would allow to speak himself.

02:04:41 Mr. Gallant confirms that permits are for usage of either be on Federal or State lands and not for the water itself. Court asks Mr. Gallant what he would like to do moving forward. Mr. Gallant stated that where he's sold the permits, he's happy with whatever the Court decides.

02:05:57 Court asks update from Dept. of Lands. Ms. Richter states that Tom is currently out of town and that she will need to follow up with him as the selling of the permits was not something she was aware of.

02:06:44 Court asks IDWR as to what happens once the permits are sold and ensuring that it does not cut off the new owners' name. Court states that the opportunity for the new owner is preserved. Mr. Widerschein states that this is also the first he's heard of the selling of the permits and that he believes that it might be appropriate to set a deadline for the new owner to follow up on the claims.

02:08:35 Court states that in subcases previously, new owners have been added to the certificate mailing, not as a party but to inform of the changes made. Ms. Rammell-O'Brien states that her understanding that Mr. Gallant did not sell the land itself, but the permits for the land. Mr. Gallant confirms. Mr. Saxton agrees with Ms. Rammell-O'Brien and that the new permittee would be establishing a new water right on their uses and not included with Mr. Gallant's original claim.

02:10:38 Court clarifies statements from IDWR. Ms. Rammell-O'Brien and Mr. Saxton provide clarification and Mr. Gallant confirms that he does still own the base deed property. Court offers to set a new status conference to allow Ms. Richter time to review new information. Ms. Richter states that she would need a couple of weeks for review. Court asks for clarification in regard to the usage of the land. Ms. Richter states she is not entirely sure. Court asks Mr. Gallant to provide the new permit holders information to include them on the mailings. Mr. Gallant states that the new permit holders are Cody and Brittany Chandler, 208-740-908. Court asks IDWR to get the mailing address for new permit holders and asks for objections. No objections.

02:16:29 Court sets continuation of status conference for August 5, 2025, at 1:30p.m. MT. All parties agree. Court asks Ms. Rammell-O'Brien to follow up for address of the Chandlers. Ms. Rammell-O'Brien asks Mr. Widerschein for assistance from BLM. Mr. Widerschein agrees and has sent an email to Fred Price.

02:18:59 Adjourned.