

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

IN THE MATTER OF CERTAIN BASIN 75  
WATER RIGHTS, IN THE NAME OF THE  
UNITED STATES

Docket No. P-OSC-2022-001

**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR  
HEARING; ORDER STAYING  
HEARING**

**(FOURTH OF JULY CREEK  
ALLOTMENT)**

**BACKGROUND**

On May 23, 2022, Jaycob J. and Sheyenne A. Smith (collectively, “Petitioners”) filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources (“Department”) a *Verified Petition for Order to Show Cause* (“Petition”). Petitioners ask the Department to issue an order pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-224(1) “to show cause why the Water Rights” (*see* Petition Exhibit A) on the federal grazing allotment known as the Fourth of July Creek Allotment (“Allotment”) “have not been lost through forfeiture pursuant to Idaho Code Sec. 42-222(2).” *Petition* at 1.

On June 22, 2022, the Director issued an *Order Partially Granting Petition; Order to Show Cause* (“Order”) in this matter. In it, the Director partially granted the Petition and ordered the United States of America acting through the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (“Forest Service”) to show cause why 11 of the 16 stockwater rights at issue had not been lost through forfeiture pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-222(2). *See Order* at 5.

The Order gave the Forest Service 21 days from the completion of service to request in writing a hearing pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-1701A(1)–(2). *Order* ¶ 4, at 5. Service upon the Forest Service, via certified mail with return receipt, was completed on June 27, 2022. On July 15, 2022, counsel for the Department received and forwarded to the Department a special appearance letter from the United States Department of Agriculture, Office of the General Counsel (“USDA Letter”). The USDA Letter includes a request, on behalf of the Forest Service, for a hearing and a stay of said hearing in this case matter “until the conclusion of a lawsuit that the United States filed on June 2, 2022, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho, Civil No. 1:22-cv-00236-DKG, to challenge the lawfulness of the order[.]” *USDA Letter* at 1, 3.

**ANALYSIS**

Idaho Code § 42-224 states in pertinent part: “The stockwater right owner has twenty-one (21) days from completion of service of the order to show cause to request in writing a hearing pursuant to section 42-1701A(1) and (2), Idaho Code.” I.C. § 42-224(6), as amended by H.B. 608 (2022). The Forest Service was served a copy of the Order on June 27, 2022. Because the Forest Service’s request for hearing was received within 21 days from completion of service, the Director will grant the Forest Service’s request for hearing.

**ORDER**

Based upon and consistent with the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the United States of America acting through the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service's request for hearing is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing requested by the United States of America acting through the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is STAYED pending the outcome of the contested U.S. District Court case, Civil No. 1:22-cv-00236-DKG or until otherwise ordered by the Director.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

  
GARY SPACKMAN  
Director

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 28th day of July 2022, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Order Granting Request for Hearing; Order Staying Hearing (Fourth of July Creek Allotment)*, by the method indicated below, upon the following:

Alison C. Hunter  
William G. Meyers III  
HOLLAND & HART LLP  
P.O. Box 2527  
Boise, ID 83701  
[achunter@hollandhart.com](mailto:achunter@hollandhart.com)  
[wmyers@hollandhart.com](mailto:wmyers@hollandhart.com)

*Attorneys for Petitioners and Grazing Permit  
Holders Jaycob J. and Sheyenne A. Smith*

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

USDA Forest Service  
550 W Fort St., MSC 033  
Boise, ID 83724

*Stockwater Right Owner*

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

USDI BLM  
Idaho State Office  
1387 S. Vinnell Way  
Boise, ID 83709

*Stockwater Right Owner*

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

### ***COURTESY COPIES TO:***

John Murdock  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
Boise Field Office  
960 South Broadway A venue, Suite 400  
Boise, Idaho 83706-6240  
[john.murdock@sol.doi.gov](mailto:john.murdock@sol.doi.gov)

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

David Negri  
United States Department of Justice  
Environment and Natural Resources  
Division  
550 W. Fort St., MSC 033  
Boise, ID 83724  
[david.negri@usdoj.gov](mailto:david.negri@usdoj.gov)

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

Nicholas Pino  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the General Counsel  
26 Fort Missoula Road  
Missoula, MT 59804  
[nicholas.pino@usda.gov](mailto:nicholas.pino@usda.gov)

- U.S. Mail, postage prepaid
- Hand Delivery
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile
- Email

  
Megan Jenkins  
Administrative Assistant II