



WATER-RIGHT DOCKET

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

Docket No: 14

UNNAMED WELL, DOMESTIC

State Water Rights Documentation

00-00-0000: statement of claim for existing water rights: domestic; for the water courts of the state of montana 76g-w-162347-00

Form No. 76-D R2/80

STATEMENT OF CLAIM FOR EXISTING WATER RIGHTS DOMESTIC

76G-W-162347-00

For the Water Courts of the State of Montana

United States of America
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National/Historic Site

1. Owner of Water Right _____ / _____ / _____
Last First Middle Initial

Co-Owner or Other
Interest Owner _____ / _____ / _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address P.O. Box 790
City Deer Lodge State Montana Zip Code 59722
Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone No. (406)846-2070

2. Person completing form Taylor _____ / Jimmy _____ / D. _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address P.O. Box 790
City Deer Lodge State Montana Zip Code 59722
Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone No. (406)846-2070

3. Use: ☒ Domestic

4. Source of Water: (Check Only One)

☐ Spring Name _____
☒ Well Name unnamed
☐ Stream Name _____ Tributary of _____
☐ Lake Name _____ Stream _____
Tributary of _____
☐ Reservoir Name _____ Stream _____
Tributary of _____

5. Point of Diversion: County Powell
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 33, T 8 N, R 9 W
Lot _____, Block _____, Subdivision _____

6. Means of Diversion:

☒ Pump Capacity 15 gpm
☐ Gravity flow
☐ Other: Explain _____

7. Place of use and acres irrigated. County Powell
0.25 acres, SW 1/4 NE 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 33, T 8 N, R 9 W
Lot _____, Block _____, Subdivision _____

8. Number of persons served 10

9. Flow rate claimed: 15 ☐ cubic feet per second
☒ gallons per minute
☐ miner's inches

10. Volume claimed: 2.5 acre-feet per year

11. Period(s) of use: January / 1 to December / 31
Month Day Month Day

12. Check one: ☐ Decreed Water Right ☐ Filed Appropriation Right ☒ Use Water Right
Priority date or date of first use
1919
Hour Month Day Year

13. Attach copies of the Decree, Record of Filing or Proof of Use Right.

14. Attach copies of aerial photographs, U.S. Geological Survey maps or such other documents necessary to show point of diversion, place of use, place of storage, and conveyance facilities.

15. Notarized Statement signed by claimant.

STATE OF ~~MONTANA~~ COLORADO)
: ss.
County of ~~Rowell~~ Jefferson)

I, William L. Mekeel, having been duly sworn, depose and say that I, being of legal age and being the claimant of this claim of existing water right, and the person whose name is signed to it as the claimant, know the contents of this claim and that the matters and things stated there are true and correct.

William L. Mekeel

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 26th day of MARCH, 1982.

Robert G. Kirkman
Notary Public for the State of ~~Montana~~ Colorado

Residing at 1145 W 8th Ave ARVADA CO
My Commission expires Jan. 10, 1984

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
BILLINGS FIELD OFFICE



TED SCHWINDEN GOVERNOR

1537 AVENUE D, SUITE 121

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 248-6540

BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102

This statement is used to show receipt of
Statement of Claim form(s) from Natl Park Service

on the following property:

Filing of water rights for all Natl Park Service
areas in the State of Montana
Both appropriative and reserved rights.

DATED this 29th day of April, 1982.

Kate Bernhardt
WATER RIGHTS BUREAU

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Other Supporting Information

The crew at the home ranch assisting manager John Bielenberg numbered ten in May 1900:

Henry Vaughn	\$40.00
William Stockman	35.00
Antoine Menard	35.00
James Meany	25.00
James Wills	15.00 expense on road
Ham Sam	200.00 [probably two months pay]
James Wills	6.80
Henry Graham	10.00
C. P. H. Bielenberg	100.00
William Pinkert	25.00 ⁸

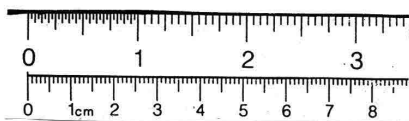
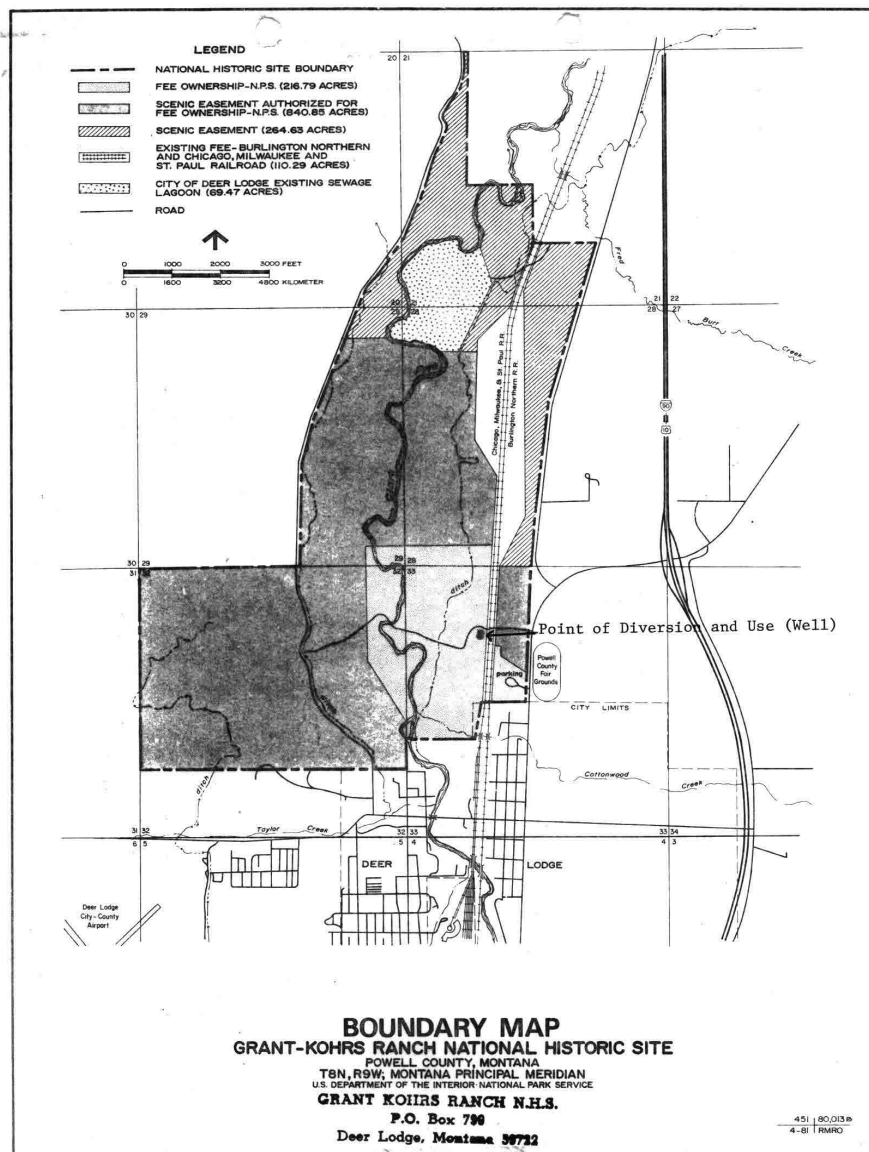
In December the number of hands was even smaller than in May--including only Henry Vaughn, A. Menard, William Stockman, N. J. Bielenberg, Wilhemenia Schuhardt, "cook" (at the main house), and W. Pinkert. In the winter of 1900 the home ranch crew consisted of about seven persons and John Bielenberg.⁹

8. *Ibid.*, May 1900. Antoine Menard was, for about thirty years, the handyman at the ranch and lived for part of that time in the old Tom Stuart place, which sat in the field where the visitor contact station is now located.

9. *Ibid.*, December 1900. The additional hand listed this winter was "Ham Sam, Chinaman," as he usually appears on the various ledgers and in the check stubs that remain among the papers at Grant-Kohrs Ranch. He was frequently only paid every other month. Assuming that he remained at the home ranch in December 1900 and performed his regular cooking duties for the bunkhouse crew, but did not appear on the ledger, the total work force at the ranch stood at seven, not including John Bielenberg, plus J. M. Boardman, whose name appears from time to time in the account books. Presumably Boardman, as a manager of the range herd, frequently came to the ranch to confer with John Bielenberg or to pick up horses for the range cowboys and ranches, since by 1900 he would have done any conferring with Con Kohrs at the Helena house.

The small crew retained at the home ranch, as opposed to the large one providing manpower for the roundup, is also mentioned in a letter to the Montana Historical Society by a nephew of Conrad Kohrs, J. H. Gehrmann of Davenport, Iowa, dated 19 Nov. 1974. Mr. Gehrmann visited the ranch in 1904 when he was twelve and again a few years later. (His recollections in the 19 Nov. 1974 letter and in an interview with Historical Architect Peter Snell of the Denver Service Center will be used later in this chapter as well.) Mr. Gehrmann recalled that "A skeleton crew of cowboys was employed during the winter." The 19 Nov. 1974 letter also contains a delightful account of the two cooks, Wilhemenia in the ranch house, and Ham Sam, the Chinaman, in the bunkhouse:

Augusta had brought back from Germany a distant relative, Wilhemenia, who was an excellent cook, but brooked no interference in her kitchen. Especially the presence of small boys. So my brother and I when we
(continued)



Docket Information

Number of Documents in Docket 5

Documents Dated from to

Docket Compiled: 3/28/2011