



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LC-4220
WTR-4.03

MAY 05 2014

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Youmans
Beattie Farms Southwest
3025 NW Firwood Place
Corvallis, OR 97330

Mr. Richard Prinster
Beattie Farms Southwest
1076 Highway P
O'Fallon, MO 63366

Subject: Verification of 2013 Inadvertent Overrun Payback by Beattie Farms Southwest (Farm)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Youmans and Mr. Prinster:

Effective January 1, 2004, the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy (IOPP) established requirements for payback of inadvertent overuse of Colorado River water by users in the Lower Division States. In calendar year 2011, the Farm incurred an overrun in the amount of 453 acre-feet (af). In accordance with the IOPP, Griffin Ranches, Inc., on behalf of the Farm, submitted an IOPP Payback Plan (Payback Plan) in which the Farm outlined a fallowing program to pay back a minimum of 379 af of the Farm's 2011 overrun in 2013. By letter dated December 31, 2012, the Bureau of Reclamation approved the Farm's Payback Plan.

By email dated April 7, 2014, the Farm submitted a report (IOPP certification report) certifying the extraordinary conservation measure implemented by the Farm in 2013 and the amount of Colorado River water conserved for purposes of meeting the Farm's 2013 payback obligation. As outlined in the Farm's IOPP certification report, the Farm fallowed 76.28 acres from January through December 2013, and an additional 72.69 acres from July through December 2013. The Farm certified that through implementation of this fallowing it conserved 472 af of Colorado River water in 2013. The Farm requested that, of the 472 af, 379 af be applied towards the Farm's 2013 payback obligation, and the remaining 93 af be applied as early payback toward the Farm's 2014 obligation¹.

The IOPP requires that Reclamation monitor implementation of the extraordinary conservation measures outlined in approved payback plans. Reclamation conducted quarterly independent field verification inspections in 2013 and analyzed satellite imagery to verify the fallowing implemented by the Farm. The findings of Reclamation's verification analysis are included in the enclosed report, *Beattie Farms Southwest Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy 2013 Verification Report*.

¹In addition to the Farm's 2011 overrun of 453 af, the Farm had a 235 af overrun in 2012. In accordance with the IOPP, the Farm's payback schedule required the Farm to repay 37 af of its 2011 overrun, and all of its 2012 overrun (235 af) in 2014. Thus, the Farm's required payback amount in 2014 is 272 af.

The Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Technical Committee (IOPTC) met on April 10, 2014, to review the Farm's 2013 IOPP certification report and to make a recommendation regarding the adequacy of the report in demonstrating the achieved payback amount. The IOPTC unanimously recommended the Farm be credited with 472 af of payback for 2013. In its recommendation, the IOPTC acknowledged that, of the total payback, 379 af should be credited towards the Farm's 2013 payback obligation, and 93 af be credited as early payback towards the Farm's 2014 payback obligation.

Taking into consideration the recommendations provided by the IOPTC members, Reclamation's independent verification, and other information, I verify and make the final determination that the Farm conserved 472 af of Colorado River water during 2013 as documented in the Farm's 2013 IOPP certification report, and therefore credit the Farm with this amount of payback for 2013. Additionally, I approve the Farm's request that, of this amount, Reclamation apply 379 af to the Farm's 2013 payback obligation and 93 af as early payback toward the Farm's 2014 payback obligation. Applying the 93 af of early payback reduces the Farm's 2014 payback obligation to 179 af and the Farm's total outstanding overrun balance to 216 af. Reclamation appreciates the Farm's effort to provide payback in advance of its established payback schedule.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164 or pmatuska@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

Enclosure

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