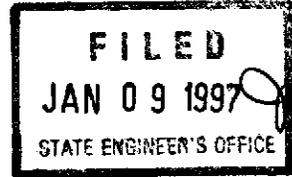


IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

In the Matter of Application Number 62437
Filed By U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
On September 4, 1996, To Appropriate The
Waters Of Pahranaqat Lake



Comes Now Lincoln county Commissioners on behalf of their electorate
Whose post office address is Post Office Box 90, Pioche, Nevada 89043
whose occupation is County Government/Administration, and protests the granting
of Application Number 62437, filed on September 4, 1996
by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to appropriate the

waters of Pahranaqat Lake situated in Pahranaqat Valley, Lincoln
Underground or name of stream, lake, spring or other source
County, State of Nevada, for the following reasons and on the following grounds, to wit:

The proposed use change from irrigation to solely wildlife is not
Irrigation serves the purposes to provide water for wildlife therefore
a change will not enhance wildlife but will prove detrimental to other
multiple uses. This proposed change can be used through federal supremacy
laws to impair prior existing uses. The proposed recovery plans of
several species by the service proposes projects that were strongly
opposed by residents of the valley. The proposed projects disregard
prior water rights, property rights and propose economic disaster for
valley farmers and ranchers. The public will not be served well in a
change such as this and it poses potential economic and social threats.
THEREFORE the Protestant requests that the application be denied

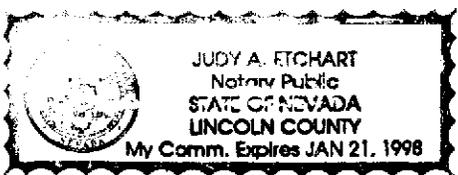
Denied, issued subject to prior rights, etc., as the case may be

and that an order be entered for such as relief as the State Engineer deems just and proper.

Signed Edward Wright
Agent or Protestant

Edward Wright, Chairman Lincoln County
Printed or typed name, if agent
Commission
Address Post Office Box 90
Street No. Or P.O. Box No.
Pioche, Nevada 89043
City, State and Zip Code No.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of January, 1997



Judy A. Etchart
Notary Public
State Of Nevada
County Of Lincoln

\$25 FILING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY PROTEST. PROTEST MUST BE FILED IN DUPLICATE.
ALL COPIES MUST CONTAIN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.

Jho