

3-18-1981

## Trial Transcript, Vol. 31, Afternoon Session

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case # 4993

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
WASHAKIE COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING

IN RE: )  
)  
THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION )  
OF RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN )  
THE BIG HORN RIVER SYSTEM )  
AND ALL OTHER SOURCES, )  
STATE OF WYOMING. )

Civil No. 4993

FILED \_\_\_\_\_  
3/27 1981  
*Margaret L. Hampton* CLERK  
DEPUTY

VOLUME 31

Afternoon Session

Wednesday, March 18, 1981

**ORIGINAL**

1 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Okay. Come to order,  
2 please. Mr. White?

3 Q (By Mr. White) I hand you what's been marked for  
4 identification, Mr. Billstein, as HB-29-A and ask  
5 you if you can identify that?

6 A Yes, this is the investigative form notes and  
7 associated planimeter sheet relative to Willow  
8 Creek.

9 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification  
10 as HB-16-A and ask you to identify that, please?

11 A This appears to be the planimeter sheets for the  
12 Dinwoody Bench portion of the Upper Wind River Unit.  
13 The numbers on the left-hand side refer to tracts  
14 identified, I believe, during the week of my depo-  
15 sition. I don't know whether those tracts have  
16 been modified at all in the interim, but at that  
17 time they matched the State tracts.

18 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, when we offer this,  
19 I'll exclude those tract numbers so that we are  
20 certain to have the tract numbers that we all agree  
21 on.

22 Q (By Mr. White) Were there no interview forms  
23 completed for the Dinwoody Bench area?

24 A That's correct. The hydrographic maps, as I pointed  
25 billstein-cross-white

1 out, reflect the results of the field work, and  
2 in the Wind River Federal Irrigation Project that  
3 is the basis of the conclusion.

4 The interviews that were conducted with Mr.  
5 Twitchell and Mr. Crook of BIA were not documented.  
6 The changes were, in fact, reflected on the work  
7 maps.

8 Q Mr. Billstein, I hand you what's been marked for  
9 identification as HB-15-A and ask you to identify  
10 that, please?

11 A This appears to be the planimeter sheets for the  
12 Wind River A Canal portion of the Upper Wind Unit.  
13 Again there are tract designations that you may  
14 want to qualify.

15 MR. WHITE: Okay. When we offer these, Your  
16 Honor, we'll not include those tract designations  
17 so that we have the tract designations that the  
18 parties agree upon.

19 Q (By Mr. White) Again with respect to 15-A, is it  
20 true that there are no interview sheets for that  
21 as well as for 16-A?

22 A That's correct. These exhibits refer to the Wind  
23 River Federal Irrigation Project lands. Within  
24 those boundaries there are some private irrigation

25 billstein-cross-white

1 systems. Those were broken out separate with  
2 respect to the drainages that furnished them, and  
3 if there were interviews associated with those  
4 systems, they would be included in those respective  
5 drainages.

6 Q Besides Mr. Twitchell, who else did you --

7 A It would have been Mr. Crook.

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1 MR. WHITE: Before I identify anything  
2 more, Your Honor, I think I'll offer some and  
3 try to clean things up.

4 (Brief pause.)

5 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, we would offer  
6 Exhibit HB-1, which was identified on, I believe  
7 the 9th of March, and is the table, typewritten  
8 table that shows the random checks made to  
9 verify the scale rectification of aerial  
10 photography by Mr. Billstein's employees or  
11 those working under his supervision, for the  
12 purpose of showing those verification checks  
13 that were made by Mr. Billstein or those working  
14 under his supervision, in order to verify the  
15 scale rectification done by Horizons on the  
16 aerial photography which comprises Exhibit C-56  
17 through C-136. That's the offer.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Is that the only one  
19 you're going to offer?

20 MR. WHITE: No, I'm going to go through a  
21 whole bunch more, but maybe we can take them one  
22 at a time.

23 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I'm willing to take  
24 them and put them all in evidence if there is  
25 no objection.

1 MR. WHITE: If the United States has an  
2 objection we'll hear it.

3 The next one I'd like to offer is HB-3,  
4 which is a certified copy of a GLO plat  
5 concerning one of those areas checked according  
6 to HB-1.

7 Next I'd like to offer HB-7, which comprises  
8 a certified copy of the surveyor's notes  
9 associated with that GLO plat.

10 Next I'd like to offer HB-8, which is the  
11 sheet containing the definitions of the various  
12 types of land, Types I through VI.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I think that's 9,  
14 Mr. White.

15 MR. WHITE: Is that 9?

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: As a deposition exhibit.

17 MR. WHITE: It was remarked for the trial  
18 and there should be another sticker in there.

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Oh, you got two stickers,  
20 you're going by the dark one, not the light one.

21 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry.

22 THE SPECIAL MASTER: That's okay. That now  
23 becomes 8.

24 MR. WHITE: Is that 8?

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: It is now 8, okay.



1 MR. WHITE: According to our records  
2 there's no --

3 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I have a little  
4 problem. Mr. David M. Dornbusch's resume and  
5 description of his firm is also marked -- well,  
6 that's C. This is WRIR C-8?

7 MR. WHITE: That was from the earlier --

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: So that would be the  
9 other side.

10 MR. WHITE: I hope I hadn't marked that.  
11 It should be a U.S. Exhibit.

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. Go ahead,  
13 Mr. White.

14 MR. WHITE: According to our records, at  
15 least at this time there was no HB-9 or HB-10.

16 We'd offer HB-11-A, which are the planimeter  
17 sheets, interview forms, investigation notes  
18 with respect to the Ray Unit.

19 HB-12-A, same thing with respect to the  
20 Coolidge Unit; HB-13-A, the same thing with  
21 respect to the Sub Agency; HB-14-A, there's no  
22 exhibit.

23 HB-15-A, planimeter sheets for the Wind  
24 River A Canal, and those are offered excluding  
25 the tract numbers which are on the far left-hand

1 column in order to insure there's no mistake  
2 about which tracts apply to which parcel of  
3 land.

4 HB-16-A also offered to show -- which  
5 contains the planimeter sheets for the Dinwoody  
6 Bench area. Again, the offer excludes the  
7 tract numbers in the left-hand columns.

8 HB-17-A is, comprises the interview sheets  
9 and investigator's notes and planimeter sheets  
10 for the Johnston Unit, we offer that.

11 18-A, same thing for the Lefthand Unit;  
12 19-A, same thing for the Midvail; 20-A, LeClair-  
13 Riverton. No exhibit for 21-A.

14 22-A, same thing for the East Fork of the  
15 Wind; 23-A, same thing for Dinwoody Creek.

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: The 23-A, was that?

17 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir. 24-A, same thing for  
18 Dry Creek; 25-A, same thing for Bull Lake Creek;  
19 26-A, same thing for Meadow Creek; 27-A, same  
20 thing for Pasup, for Dry Creek; 28-A, same thing  
21 for Crow Creek; 29-A, same thing for Willow  
22 Creek; 30-A, same thing for Cottonwood Creek;  
23 31-A, same thing for the Main Stem Big Wind;  
24 32-A, same thing for Muddy Creek; 33-A, same  
25 thing for Five Mile; 34-A, same thing for

1 North Fork Little Wind; 35-A, same thing for  
2 South Fork Little Wind River; 36-A, same thing  
3 for Main Stem Little Wind;  
4 37-A, same thing for Sage Creek; 38-A,  
5 same thing for Crooked Creek; 39-A, same thing  
6 for Trout Creek; 40-A, same thing for Spring  
7 Creek; 41-A, same thing for Big Horn Draw; 42-A,  
8 same thing for Main Stem Big Horn; 43-A, same  
9 thing for the North Fork of the Popo Agie; 30-A,  
10 same thing for the Main Stem Popo Agie; 35-A,  
11 same thing for the South Fork of Owl Creek;

12 36-A, same thing for the Main Stem of Owl  
13 Creek; 47-A is the same thing for Mud Creek.

14 Exhibits HB-11-A through 47-A with the  
15 exclusion of 14-A and 21-A for which there is  
16 no exhibits, are offered for the purpose of  
17 showing the planimeter calculations which were  
18 made by HKM as well as the other information  
19 contained therein upon which HKM -- or, excuse  
20 me, Mr. Billstein in part based his opinion.

21 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Are there objections to  
22 the admission of this evidence?

23 MR. ECHOHAWK: No, Your Honor.

24 MR. PERRY: No objection.

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. It shall be

1 that the exhibits just alluded to and specified  
2 in order by Mr. White are hereby admitted into  
3 evidence.

4 MR. WHITE: I got some more, Your Honor.

5 HB --

6 THE SPECIAL MASTER: That have already been  
7 identified?

8 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir.

9 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Okay.

10 MR. WHITE: We would offer HB-50-A, which  
11 are the Johnston field notes; HB-55-B, which were  
12 the Saunders field notes; HB -- There is no --  
13 there are no exhibits 51, 52, and 53. I should  
14 say, Your Honor, we are going to check the  
15 transcripts to make sure we haven't dropped one.

16 HB-54 is offered. That's the 1947 irrigation  
17 ditch schedule.

18 HB-55 is offered. That's the water ledger  
19 for the trust acres in the LeClair-Riverton area.

20 HB-56 through 60 we have, there is no  
21 exhibits, we will check those again from the  
22 transcript.

23 HB-61 is offered, showing -- for the purposes  
24 of showing the breakdown made by Mr. Billstein  
25 among the various types of lands included on C-137.



1 I believe, Your Honor, that yesterday  
2 you admitted the HB-137 -- the exhibits marked  
3 HB-137-8 through 14, 16 through 28, 30 and 32  
4 through 35, being the tables prepared by HKM,  
5 in the table of claims by water right. As I  
6 recall, those are the ones that have the permits  
7 on them and breakdown of acreages by type.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: My notes show that,  
9 but you better check the record.

10 MR. WHITE: My notes did too, but I wasn't  
11 certain so I'll reoffer them now just to make  
12 sure.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I believe they were  
14 admitted, you won't have to reoffer them, Mr.  
15 White. We can make a check of the record and  
16 make a double check.

17 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Yes.

19 MR. ECHOHAWK: I believe that was an offer  
20 of proof that Mr. White is making with those  
21 exhibits, if I am correct.

22 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, the offer of  
23 proof was under the draws and ravines, that it  
24 didn't require exhibits there.

25 The second offer of proof -- Well, let's see.

1 We began with the 71 tracts comprising 120 acres  
2 each less than two, there was nothing there.

3 The draws and ravines were an offer of proof.  
4 The next cross-examination was on the 56 through  
5 36, containing lands currently irrigated.

6 MR. WHITE: During the next recess, why  
7 don't we check; during the next recess.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I think you're getting  
9 daily records, aren't you; you're getting a  
10 transcript daily?

11 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir, we are. I would suggest  
12 we check during the break. I am 95 percent sure,  
13 but I want to make sure.

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Leo's keeping a list  
15 of those as they're being exhibited, and a  
16 tabulation of them, and I think we had those  
17 admitted yesterday.

18 MR. WHITE: Leo, what's your list show?

19 MR. SALAZAR: My list shows they were  
20 admitted.

21 THE SPECIAL MASTER: 137, 8, 10 and 11, are  
22 those the ones?

23 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry, 137 and what else,  
24 I couldn't hear the other two.

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: 137, 8, 10 and 11.



1 MR. WHITE: I believe it began with -8  
2 through 14, 16 through 28, -30 and -32 through  
3 35.

4 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You better check the  
5 record on those, Mr. White. I have the first  
6 four of them marked.

7 Are there any more in this group, in addition  
8 to those beginning with HB-50-A and -- through  
9 HB-61?

10 MR. WHITE: Not so far as I know, Your Honor.  
11 We're going to have to check the transcript to  
12 make sure, Your Honor, but the records indicate  
13 that there are not.

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And those are being  
15 offered for what purpose?  
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1 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Are they also planimeter  
2 working papers of the engineering groups?

3 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir. These contain informa-  
4 tion on which the -- let me specify "these":  
5 HB-50-A and HB-50-B and HB-54 and HB-55 are offered  
6 as information, facts and data upon which Mr.  
7 Billstein based in part his opinion.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: 56 through 61?

9 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry. There is no --

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I mean 61 --

11 MR. WHITE: 61 is offered to show the break-  
12 down -- that's HB-61 is offered to show the break-  
13 down computed by Mr. Billstein and showing the  
14 absolute amounts as well as the relative percent-  
15 ages by type, by land type, of those lands included  
16 within the 34,850 acres in Exhibit C-137.

17 MR. ECHOHAWK: No objection by the United  
18 States.

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: These exhibits as identi-  
20 fied and enumerated by Mr. White are hereby  
21 admitted into evidence.

22 (Exhibits HB-50-A, HB-50-B,  
23 HB-54, HB-55 and HB-61 were  
received into evidence.)

24 MR. WHITE: Then I would offer exhibits HB-2000  
25 billstein-cross-white

1 through 2012, 2012-A --

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Have these been identified  
3 yet and presented for admission?

4 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir. They were identified  
5 during the afternoon of March 18 -- excuse me --  
6 March 16.

7 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Do these look like what I  
8 have in my hand?

9 MR. WHITE: I can check them, Your Honor.

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: HB 2001 and two thousand  
11 -- they are mixed up, but they begin with HB-2000,  
12 and what --

13 MR. WHITE: I can take them --

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I can do that, Mr. White,  
15 and save you the trouble.

16 MR. WHITE: They start with HB-2000 and go  
17 through 2012 and then 2012-A and B and as you will  
18 recall, those were the affidavits of ownership on  
19 those two parcels.

20 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And how many in this group?

21 MR. WHITE: 2013 and 2014, for a total of --  
22 there should be 17, I believe, Your Honor.

23 THE SPECIAL MASTER: We are short one.

24 MR. WHITE: If I can see them, Your Honor, and

25 billstein-cross-white

1 make sure I have them squared away. I don't want  
2 you to be without one.

3 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I get 16 both times.  
4 I'll hand them back to you to look for the seven-  
5 teenth.

6 Have we received the copies of those in  
7 evidence?

8 (Whereupon an off-the-record  
discussion was held.)

9 THE SPECIAL MASTER: What date, Mr. White?

10 MR. WHITE: I have the 16th and 17th that they  
11 were dealt with, Your Honor.

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Very good. We have found  
13 them. Thank you.

14 (Whereupon an off-the-record  
discussion was held.)

15  
16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Let me make a corrective  
17 introduction in evidence now of HB-137, Mr. White.  
18 If our colloquy regarding that exhibit on page 2676  
19 of the transcript for Tuesday, March 17, does not  
20 unequivocally and unambiguously admit it into  
21 evidence, it is admitted now into evidence without  
22 doubt.

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billstein-cross-white

1 MR. WHITE: Are those the HB-137- series?

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Yes.

3 MR. WHITE: Thank you.

4 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Oh Lord, I'll bet I have  
5 found what you are looking for over here.

6 (Whereupon an off-the-record  
discussion was held.)

7 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Mr. White, could you be  
8 looking for --

9 MR. WHITE: Yes.

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, it's certainly  
11 understandable how an exhibit of only two pages  
12 can get lost in this mountain of paper.

13 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, before that last  
14 group that we discussed, 137- such-and-such is  
15 admitted, could we have a few minutes to look over  
16 the transcript because I still think that it was  
17 an offer of proof?

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You may indeed. We will  
19 stand in recess for five minutes.

20 MR. ECHOHAWK: Thank you.

21 (Recess.

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1 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Let's come to order.

2 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, it's my  
3 understanding that Mr. White is re-offering  
4 this group of exhibits, this 137-series?

5 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And I have admitted  
6 them into evidence, Mr. Echohawk.

7 MR. ECHOHAWK: Can I inquire from Mr. White  
8 for what purposes these are being admitted for?

9 MR. WHITE: For the same purposes as I  
10 said before, Your Honor, to show the -- Well,  
11 let me get the transcript.

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: These are in relation-  
13 ship to permits, unadjudicated lands and the  
14 planimeter.

15 MR. ECHOHAWK: You assert their admission  
16 by parties; is that right?

17 MR. WHITE: No, that's one of the bases,  
18 but they've already been admitted, Your Honor.

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, I know, but he  
20 has a right to know for what purpose you offered  
21 them, and he should be answered.

22 MR. PERRY: Your Honor, I understood that  
23 you had ruled yesterday that these were inadmissable  
24 on page 2669 and 2670.

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: If I have, I've changed



1 my mind and they're admitted today. I would  
2 rather err in having them join the other body  
3 of exhibits that are in evidence rather than  
4 err in excluding them at this point.

5 They don't all contain that much different  
6 in substance based on Mr. Billstein's work  
7 than the rest of the exhibits that are now in  
8 evidence.

9 MR. WHITE: We have those in order now.

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Okay. You are now --

11 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, I still don't  
12 believe I was answered as to the purpose.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You were not, and you  
14 have a right to, I beg your pardon.

15 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, it's the same  
16 purpose I set forth when I offered them before,  
17 and I can get the transcript and read it back  
18 to Mr. Echohawk as well as he can.

19 MR. ECHOHAWK: My inquiry is that the sole  
20 purpose they're being offered for is as to their  
21 admission by an agent or employee or party with  
22 respect to the issue of lands included within  
23 the category of unadjudicated trust in use?

24 MR. WHITE: That's not the sole purpose, and  
25 that's not even one of the purposes.

1 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, I'm reading  
2 right out of the transcript, from 2676 where  
3 Mr. White said he was offering them for.

4 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Mr. White said it  
5 was one of the purposes. There are additional  
6 reasons.

7 MR. ECHOHAWK: Could I inquire as to those  
8 additional reasons then?

9 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Yes.

10 MR. WHITE: It's in the transcript, Your  
11 Honor. It's offered for the purpose of showing  
12 the preliminary analysis by Mr. Billstein with  
13 respect to the lands included in unadjudicated  
14 in use, by type, and by permit number. And also  
15 for the purpose of showing those permit numbers  
16 involved with the unadjudicated lands in use  
17 which are described on Exhibit 137.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I admit those, in  
19 answer to your question, Mr. Perry, for whatever  
20 purpose they may have, for whatever probative  
21 value they may have. I expressed some doubt  
22 as to their value yesterday, but I will not  
23 exclude them from evidence.

24 MR. ECHOHAWK: For the limited purpose which  
25 Mr. White has identified them?

1 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You two have had your  
2 colloquy. Let me ask Mr. White. The group  
3 now, the HB-2000 group that you handed me is  
4 now ready to be --

5 MR. WHITE: Let me remake the offer because  
6 I fouled up the numbers when I gave them before,  
7 Your Honor.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right.

9 MR. WHITE: These include HB-2000 through  
10 2012, 2012-A, 2013, 2013-A and 2014.

11 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Very good. Are there  
12 objections to the introduction of this evidence?

13 MR. ECHOHAWK: No objections.

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: The exhibits just  
15 identified in the 2000 group by Mr. White are  
16 hereby accepted in evidence, admitted into evidence.  
17 Please correct me on that, are hereby admitted  
18 into evidence.

19 (Whereupon Exhibits HB-2000  
20 (through 2012, 2012-A, 2013,  
21 (2013-A and 2014 were  
(admitted into evidence.

22 Now, you have still pending HB-61 and HB-50-A  
23 through 55 that have not yet been admitted.

24 MR. WHITE: I meant to offer them previously,  
25 Your Honor. I now offer HB-50-A, HB-50-B, HB-54,

1 HB-55 and HB-61.

2 MR. ECHOHAWK: No objection from the  
3 United States.

4 MR. PERRY: No objection.

5 THE SPECIAL MASTER: The exhibits as listed  
6 are hereby admitted into evidence.

7 (Whereupon Exhibits HB-50-A,  
8 (HB-50-B, HB-54, HB-55 and  
9 (HB-61 were admitted into  
10 evidence.)

11 I think a short colloquy on the evidence  
12 just admitted is in order, Mr. White.

13 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir.

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I feel an over-  
15 riding duty to observe for all concerned that  
16 much of the evidence that you just introduced  
17 into this case and that has been admitted tends  
18 to verify the accuracy, the professionalism, the  
19 dedication to work and the thoroughness and  
20 the competence of the witness in having come to  
21 the conclusion that he did, and I thought you  
22 ought to know that.

23 MR. WHITE: I understand that, Your Honor.  
24 I've got no complaint or raise no challenge  
25 with respect to the professionalism of this  
particular witness. I couldn't, I couldn't do so

1 in good faith.

2 My purpose that those exhibits are offered  
3 for is to show that -- and they will be used  
4 later -- to show that, some of the folks upon  
5 which he relied may not have done that good a  
6 job.

7 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. I just  
8 wanted you to know what's going through my  
9 weary old mind.

10 MR. WHITE: So long as you remember we'll  
11 be coming back to them.

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, they're in  
13 evidence, I can't do much about that. All right.

14 MR. WHITE: If I could have a minute, Your  
15 Honor, I'd get some exhibits in numerical order.

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Take your time. We'll  
17 stay in session.

18 (Brief pause.)

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THE SPECIAL MASTER: Off the record.

(Whereupon an off-the-record discussion was held.)

THE SPECIAL MASTER: Any time you are ready.

Q (By Mr. White) Mr. Billstein, I hand you what's been marked for identification as HB-137-11-A and ask you whether or not that is a tabulation checked under your supervision pursuant to the stipulation of the parties in this action?

A. Yes, it is.

Q And that shows by tract number, which will be later identified on the aerial overlays, the type of lands involved therein as well as -- within each of the tracts as well as the number of acres for each of those types within each tract number, or numbered tract, I suppose?

A. That's right. It also shows a breakout of the acres by respective photograph, 8-183, 8-185 -- we can also see that there's a breakout by individual photograph such as 8-183, 8-185, with the cumulative total coming to 154 acres, which matches the total defined on Exhibit 137.

Q I hand you what's been marked for identification as HB-137-13-A and ask you whether or not that is the same type of tabulation for Bull Lake Creek as it  
billstein-cross-white



- 1 appears on Exhibit 137?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification as
- 4 HB-137-14-A and ask you whether or not that is the
- 5 same type of tabulation for Meadow Creek?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification as
- 8 HB-137-15-A and ask you if that is the same type of
- 9 tabulation for Dry Pasup Creek?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification as
- 12 HB-137-16-A and ask you if that is the same type of
- 13 tabulation for Crow Creek?
- 14 A. That's right. Please acknowledge at the bottom
- 15 that there's been some additional tract numbers
- 16 added which are above and beyond the tract numbers
- 17 that your technical people identified. These will
- 18 be delineated on the maps as a joint team effort
- 19 with your representatives as well as ours tonight.
- 20 Q. Ron, on my copy the last photo number and tract
- 21 number are illegible. Are they illegible on the
- 22 Court's copy?
- 23 A. No, I can read that to you.
- 24 Q. Would you, please?
- 25 billstein-cross-white

1 A. At the very bottom, left-hand side, 67 refers to  
2 photo 10-200. Tract 16-10, acres, 3.

3 Can you read the one right above that?

4 Q I have 16-7-A right above it.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q Very good. Thank you. Mr. Billstein, I hand you  
7 what's been marked for identification as HB-137-17-A  
8 and ask you whether or not that is the same type of  
9 tabulation but for Willow Creek?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification as  
12 HB-137-19-A and ask you if that's the same type of  
13 tabulation for the Wind River, Main Stem?

14 A. There are two pages as a part of this table, and it  
15 is the similar type of tabulation.

16 Q On the second page where you have Midvale written  
17 next to Tract 13, 112, does it mean that it should  
18 not be in the Wind River Main Stem, but should be  
19 in Midvale? Do you see where I'm talking about?

20 A. Yes, I do. I'm not quite sure on that one-acre  
21 tract, counselor. I would have to check that out.  
22 I believe that it's accounted for in the Wind River  
23 Main Stem, and it may have been a question on whether  
24 it was involved in Midvale or not.

25 billstein-cross-white

1 We have three specific ditch systems that had  
2 their head works torn out when the Wyoming Canal  
3 was built. Their use areas are now served from  
4 the Wyoming Canal, and they had been accounted for  
5 in Midvale originally.

6 I'm not sure whether that one-acre is involved  
7 in that tabulation or not. Perhaps we should  
8 defer this particular exhibit until I have a chance  
9 to talk to the people downstairs.

10 Q Let me have it back, Ron, so I don't forget to go  
11 through it again.

12 A Fine.

13 MR. WHITE: Is that okay with counsel and the  
14 Court if I temporarily remove this?

15 MR. ECHOHAWK: That's fine.

16 Q (By Mr. White) Ron, I hand you what's been marked  
17 for identification as HB-137-23-A and ask you if  
18 that's the same type of tabulation but for the South  
19 Fork of the Little Wind?

20 A Yes, it is. Just acknowledge that there's been  
21 some difference in tract numbers between your  
22 original tract delineations, but those will be taken  
23 into account at the time they are placed onto the  
24 exhibits.

25 billstein-cross-white

1 Q Referring to Tract 24-1, where in the right hand  
2 would the 112 acres be broken out by type? I  
3 don't see enough acres on there by type to make up  
4 112 for 24-1.

5 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry. I'm looking at the  
6 wrong one. It's been a long day.

7 Madam Reporter, did we identify 23-A?

8 Never mind.

9 Q (By Mr. White) I hand you what's been marked for  
10 identification as HB-137-24-A.

11 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Are you through with 23-A?

12 MR. WHITE: Yes.

13 Q (By Mr. White) And ask you if that's a similar  
14 tabulation but for the Main Stem of the Little Wind?

15 A. We are now transitioning out of what was done last  
16 night and what I had a chance to look at and what  
17 was done this morning and I haven't had a chance  
18 to look at.

19 Q Why don't you give it back to me, and do you have  
20 copies of these, Ron, so you can check them?

21 A. Yes, they should have copies downstairs.

22 MR. ECHOHAWK: I think we have copies of most  
23 of them.

24 MR. WHITE: Why don't I go ahead and give you

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your copies of everything right now?

MR. ECHOHAWK: All right.

THE SPECIAL MASTER: Do you want 23 back as well as 24, or just 24, right now?

MR. WHITE: I think we started having problems with 24, Your Honor, so you can keep that copy, and if there are any changes, we'll give you an amended one.

THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right.

\* \* \* \* \*

billstein-cross-white

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MR. WHITE: Off the record for a moment,  
Your Honor.

(Off-the-record discussion.)

MR. WHITE: Your Honor, could we take about  
fifteen minutes so Mr. Billstein could check  
the stipulated exhibits and make sure they're  
all right?

THE SPECIAL MASTER: Very well, let's go  
in recess for 15 minutes. We'll reconvene at  
five minutes to three.

(Thereupon a 15 minute  
recess was taken.)

\* \* \* \* \*



1 Q (By Mr. White) Mr. Billstein, I hand you again  
2 what was marked for identification as HB-137-19-A.  
3 Have you now had an opportunity to check that form?

4 A Yes, I have.

5 Q Is it a similar tabulation but for the Wind River  
6 Main Stem?

7 A That's right. There's one modification that we  
8 found, a one-acre tract that should be assigned  
9 to Midvale and circled it as Midvale.

10 What I would like to do is cross out that one-  
11 acre tract shown on this table. It is not included  
12 in the 487-total which matches C-137.

13 Q If you have the original there, Ron, just take  
14 your pen and strike through it.

15 A I'll do it.

(Witness marked document.)

16 Q Do you want to strike through it on both sides?

17 A Fine. Well, there's no planimeter sheet that goes  
18 with that. That's why you do have an open spot on  
19 the other side.

20 Q Okay. I hand you what's been marked for identifica-  
21 tion as HB-137-20-A and ask you whether that is a  
22 similar tabulation but for Muddy Creek?  
23

24 A That's correct.

25 billstein-cross-white

1 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification  
2 as HB-137-22-A and ask you if that is a similar  
3 tabulation for the North Fork of Little Wind?

4 A Yes, it is. You'll notice on the second page a  
5 comment relative to 36 acres is now Indian fee.  
6 We found 36 acres that is in fee ownership in our  
7 final checking.

8 Therefore, that should reduce the total on  
9 North Fork Little Wind from 1812 to 1776.

10 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification  
11 as HB-137-25-A and ask you if that's a similar  
12 tabulation but for Sage Creek?

13 A That's correct.

14 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification  
15 as HB-137-24-A and ask you if that's a similar  
16 tabulation for Main Stem Little Wind?

17 MR. WHITE: I think you already have that.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Yes, I have.

19 A (By the Witness) It is a similar tabulation.  
20 There are 112 acres on the planimeter sheets that  
21 did not show on the totals, so this would increase  
22 the total shown here for Main Stem Little Wind by  
23 112 acres.

24 Q I hand you what's been marked for identification  
25 billstein-cross-white

1 as HB-137-26-A and ask you if that is a similar  
2 tabulation but for the Little Wind River Basin,  
3 Crooked Creek?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification  
6 as HB-137-27-A and ask you if that's a similar  
7 tabulation for Trout Creek?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification  
10 as HB-137-28-A and ask you if that's a similar  
11 tabulation for Spring Creek?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification  
14 as HB-137-29-A and ask you if that's a similar  
15 tabulation but for Big Horn Draw?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. I hand you what's been marked for identification  
18 as HB-137-30-A and ask you if that's a similar  
19 tabulation but for Main Stem Big Horn River?

20 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Another one of those  
21 2-acre documents, isn't it?

22 MR. WHITE: Yes, sir.

23 A. (By the Witness) That's correct.

24 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, at this time the State  
25 billstein-cross-white

1 would offer the following exhibits which are part  
2 of those exhibits which will be offered under the  
3 stipulation, being HB-137-11-A, -13-A, -14-A, -15-A,  
4 -16-A, -17-A, -19-A, -20-A, -22-A, -23-A, -24-A,  
5 -25-A, -26-A, -27-A, -28-A, -29-A, and -30-A, for  
6 the purposes set forth in the stipulation which was  
7 read into the record.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Which is what?

9 MR. WHITE: Which has previously been read  
10 into the record, Your Honor.

11 MR. PERRY: No objection.

12 MR. ECHOHAWK: No objection.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Very well. The exhibits  
14 just listed by Mr. White beginning with 137-11-A  
15 are hereby admitted into evidence.

16 (Exhibits HB-137-11-A,  
17 HB-137-13-A, HB-137-14-A,  
18 HB-137-15-A, HB-137-16-A,  
19 HB-137-17-A, HB-137-19-A,  
20 HB-137-20-A, HB-137-22-A,  
21 HB-137-23-A, HB-137-24-A,  
22 HB-137-25-A, HB-137-26-A,  
23 HB-137-27-A, HB-137-28-A,  
24 HB-137-29-A and HB-137-30-A  
25 were received into evidence.)

21 MR. RADOSEVICH: Your Honor, may I at this time  
22 request the permission to cross-examine Mr. Billstein?  
23 Due to a change in a deposition, I will not be able  
24 to be here tomorrow or the next day. My cross will

25 billstein-cross-white

1 not take very long, and it will be exclusive of  
2 the Popo Agie.

3 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Are you concluded, Mr.  
4 White, for the day?

5 MR. WHITE: I can do some more after Mr.  
6 Radosevich is done, Your Honor, but I have no  
7 objection to his interrupting my cross.

8 MR. ECHOHAWK: I would object to Mr. Radose-  
9 vich again crossing. He has already had one chance,  
10 and I believe it was last week.

11 THE SPECIAL MASTER: He has, and normally I  
12 would sustain the objection, but I have tried to  
13 be as fair as I can, and I will overrule at this  
14 time. If he lived here, I would probably sustain  
15 you.

16 MR. RADOSEVICH: The nature of my cross is  
17 generally to the testimony that Mr. Billstein has  
18 provided simply because any of the activity below  
19 land are going to be affecting the water rights of  
20 my clients of both the city and other water users.

21 (FURTHER) CROSS-EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. RADOSEVICH:

23 Q So, Mr. Billstein, my understanding, as I was not  
24 here during the initial part of your direct testimony,  
25 billstein-cross-radosevich



1 is that you were testifying to the historic un-  
 2 adjudicated irrigated acreage or acreage in use  
 3 on the Wind River Reservation?

4 A. That's right.

5 Q. And your testimony is that there were 34,850 acres  
 6 in use at the moment -- in 1980? I'm sorry.

7 A. Under the definition of in use that we've spoken  
 8 to several times, the vast majority of that acreage  
 9 was served in 1980.

10 There may be some portions of spreader dike  
 11 systems that we felt that would have been irrigated  
 12 over the last couple of years. There may be some  
 13 fields that were in a plowed condition during 1980  
 14 that we felt to be irrigated lands in the long term.

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1 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) When you refer to irrigated  
2 lands, do you in fact mean irrigated or lands  
3 that are receiving water and producing other  
4 than what they would in a natural state?

5 MR. ECHOHAWK: Objection, Your Honor. I  
6 believe we covered all this ground before.

7 MR. RADOSEVICH: Your Honor, my point is,  
8 and I'd be happy to explain it, that the  
9 testimony just shortly was with respect to  
10 Class 5 and 6 land, is going to be included  
11 within this claim, and I would like to inquire  
12 into the nature as to how it came about since  
13 it is a significant amount, and particularly what  
14 impact it's going to have if it's granted on that  
15 acreage.

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: We've been through this  
17 at some length yesterday and this morning both,  
18 but I will overrule the objection and permit  
19 some questioning on this. So go ahead and answer  
20 it, Mr. Billstein.

21 THE WITNESS: These are lands receiving  
22 water induced by the works of man. Type V lands  
23 are not lands that are actively having water  
24 delivered to them. They are lands that are

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 receiving seepage water or sub-irrigated as  
2 a result of seepage water from man-made systems,  
3 that people on the Reservation who own those  
4 trust lands or are leasing those trust lands  
5 are getting some beneficial use from.

6 The Type VI lands that you referred to  
7 are in fact having water delivered to them,  
8 they're under an active system.

9 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) So then, Ron, is it correct  
10 to state that some of the Type V lands are  
11 receiving water, not directly, but indirectly,  
12 that is being delivered to adjudicated and  
13 unadjudicated lands?

14 A There may be seepage from canal systems that  
15 serve adjudicated lands.

16 Q Is there any of this acreage within the un-  
17 adjudicated area that has extended borders, such  
18 as perhaps if a farmer is receiving water and  
19 he just extends his field, extends his border  
20 beyond that, that is beyond an adjudicated water  
21 right?

22 A That would be a Type V land. There are farmers  
23 who do extend their ditches beyond their borders.  
24 If it's an active system it would have been mapped

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 in the active typing categories.

2 Q Would that be included in one of the other  
3 types of land then. --

4 A That's true.

5 Q -- if they extended the border?

6 A If they extended the border and it was on  
7 trust land it would have been included.

8 Q You testified earlier that under the Baylor  
9 Purvis Ditch, I believe it was called?

10 A That's right.

11 Q That there is a certain amount of acreage as  
12 a result of seepage which is not into your  
13 Class 5?

14 A That's right.

15 Q I'm asking your professional opinion now with  
16 respect to the continued irrigation. Should  
17 they either cease irrigating land in that area  
18 or should they improve their irrigation practices  
19 or line the canal, would those acreages still  
20 be receiving seepage or be as productive as they  
21 are now?

22 A You're getting in an area of agricultural  
23 engineering, but as I testified this morning,  
24 those lands do have laterals in them so there was

25 billstein-cross-radosevich



1 an active service at some time in the past.  
2 It appeared that seepage water had allowed  
3 the water table to be sufficiently high that  
4 they did not have to have an active delivery  
5 system to them.

6 Now, if there were certain on-farm improvements  
7 it might be that they could come back and bring  
8 those lands into a full production and allow  
9 it to be brought up into a higher type category.

10 Q Ron, is the converse wrong, that the lands may  
11 no longer be in your Class 5, but rather revert  
12 completely to their natural state, is that also  
13 a possibility?

14 MR. ECHOHAWK: Objection, Your Honor, it  
15 calls for speculation.

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: He may answer.

17 THE WITNESS: The only way they would not  
18 be Type V's would be if they turned into boggy  
19 swampy areas without any beneficial use in terms  
20 of grasses and such that people would be able to  
21 enjoy some benefit from.

22 Their natural state is a topic that I really  
23 can't respond to as what the natural state of  
24 that tract of land was before an irrigation system

25 billstein-cross-radosevich



1 was brought into the area.

2 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Let's look at it a different  
3 way, Ron. The point I'm trying to get at is  
4 if Type V lands are receiving their water supply,  
5 not from direct irrigation, it's a result of either  
6 leakage or over application of water, leakage of  
7 the system or over application on soils in  
8 and around that area, if they should improve the  
9 efficiency of the delivery system or cease  
10 delivering to an area or improve the application  
11 practices on the lands, would that in fact --  
12 could that in fact eliminate totally the seepage  
13 of the return flow, any type of moisture that's  
14 coming onto these lands unintentionally now?

15 A It could decrease the seepage coming onto those  
16 lands. The possibility, if that occurred and  
17 this particular instance that we're referring to,  
18 being that this was a system that had a history  
19 of use and laterals within it, if that improvement  
20 was made, perhaps it would then go into -- on a  
21 full-service delivery mode and actually have a  
22 higher water requirement system.

23 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Ron, did any of your  
24 investigations go to the source of the water

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 supply for these lands?

2 A For the Type V's?

3 Q No, for any of the 34,850 acres included in  
4 your study.

5 A Could you explain go to the --

6 Q Go to the water supply, the source of the water  
7 supply.

8 A I still don't understand the question.

9 Q Surface water, groundwater, river water. In  
10 other words, the source of the water supply to  
11 irrigate or to get to Class 5.

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You mean if it was  
13 a stream did they identify the stream?

14 MR. RADOSEVICH: Yes.

15 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Did you identify it?

16 A Yes, certainly. If you look at a standard,  
17 one of our standard exhibits, you would see  
18 water supply sources and a code in the respective  
19 use area tract, and that code refers to a water  
20 supply source.

21 Q Was there any determination of accuracy of that  
22 water supply for those unadjudicated but  
23 irrigated acreages?

24 MR. ECHOHAWK: Objection. We have already

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 covered this.

2 THE SPCEIAL MASTER: I will have to object  
3 because it's beyond the scope of cross-  
4 examination. It's understandable.

5 I mean I sustain the objection.

6 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Ron, what was the total  
7 acreage -- I don't have it, I have a blank here.  
8 What was the total acreage in Type V?

9 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You better add it,  
10 18 plus something. Do you know it by memory?

11 MR. WHITE: It's on the bottom of 61.

12 THE WITNESS: 3,973 acres.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I knew that the minute  
14 you said it.

15 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) And one other question with  
16 respect to areas within the unadjudicated areas.  
17 Were these acreages, do they include or exclude  
18 roads, stack yards, homesteads?

19 MR. ECHOHAWK: Objection, Your Honor. We  
20 covered this area before.

21 THE SPECIAL MASTER: We have indeed covered  
22 it before, but I'm going to ask you not to make  
23 the objection because Mr. Radosevich wasn't here  
24 when he heard it and it can be answered quite

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 quickly with a general statement.

2 THE WITNESS: We took means to eliminate  
3 any physical obstacle that we felt that was  
4 within mapping accuracy.

5 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) To exclude these areas?

6 A We tried to exclude those areas.

7 Q Does this -- Was it correct that among the  
8 areas that -- during the past cross-examination  
9 by Mr. White, that there was -- there was some  
10 overlap between or some discrepancy between the  
11 excluded areas and the areas that should have  
12 been excluded?

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And the what?

14 MR. RADOSEVICH: And the areas that should  
15 have been excluded.

16 MR. ECHOHAWK: Could I have the question  
17 read back, please?

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Could you read the  
19 question back, please.

20 (Thereupon the following  
21 (question was read back as  
22 (follows: "Q Does this --  
23 (Was it correct that among the  
24 (areas that -- during the  
25 (past cross-examination by  
(Mr. White, that there was --  
(there was some overlap between  
(or some discrepancy between  
(the excluded areas and the  
(areas that should have been  
(excluded?"

billstein-cross-radosevich



1 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Can you try to restate  
2 that, George?

3 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Was there a -- aside from  
4 the testimony that you provided on a number of  
5 acres during your study, during the past few  
6 days, a discrepancy between that amount and the  
7 amount that has been corrected to exclude  
8 perhaps some of these, farm yards, canals, stock  
9 yards? I was under the impression that we had  
10 a --

11 (Brief pause.)

12 MR. RADOSEVICH: I got clarified exactly  
13 what it was. I was under the impression --

14 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Is it true, Ron, that under  
15 cross-examination by Mr. White there was some  
16 areas to be excluded from the areas you've  
17 testified, the 34,850?

18 A I believe we found some isolated housing and  
19 some small roads that were criss-crossing  
20 through some use areas. My point at that  
21 particular time was the width of a pen on the  
22 hydrographic copy is about 30 feet in width,  
23 and you get into something of that order of  
24 magnitude and it wasn't of significance, covered

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1 up about a pen width.

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1 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Well --

2 A Any major physical obstacle, we made a major effort  
3 to try to exclude.

4 Q Again, for clarification for my purposes, am I  
5 correct in assuming, or is it, in fact, true that  
6 no economic study has been made as to the beneficial  
7 use on this Class V and Class VI land?

8 MS. SLEATER: Your Honor, I would object to  
9 this question insofar as we went over this as part  
10 of the opening days of Mr. White's cross-examination  
11 when this witness clearly indicated that he perform-  
12 ed no economic analysis.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, all he has to do  
14 is say it again now. I know it's duplicative, but  
15 he can certainly answer it quite readily.

16 A (By the Witness) There was no economic analysis.

17 MR. RADOSEVICH: I have no further questions.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: On your questions before  
19 the end, you wanted to know about discrepancies,  
20 and then you asked about ditches and construction  
21 material.

22 Did your question go to the possible inclusion  
23 of lands on which there was appropriated water  
24 also or overlapped into the lands that were --

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 MR. RADOSEVICH: Yes.

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Did you want an answer  
3 on that?

4 MR. RADOSEVICH: Yes.

5 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I thought you did, and  
6 that's why I brought it up, and maybe Mr. Billstein  
7 wants to add a little bit to his answer to you.

8 MR. RADOSEVICH: Yes, I did. Thank you.

9 A. (By the Witness) Speaking in the area of lands  
10 which have an adjudicated right, we found that  
11 there were some minor overlaps of acreage and are  
12 in the process of documenting those overlaps and  
13 will resubmit modifications tomorrow.

14 Q (By Mr. Radosevich) Okay. Those overlaps, Ron,  
15 were between unadjudicated and adjudicated or un-  
16 adjudicated or land not covered by a permit?

17 A. I'm speaking only of overlaps of adjudicated acres  
18 with unadjudicated in-use designated lands.

19 Q There was no overlap between unadjudicated acres  
20 and land not having any permit whatsoever, outside  
21 the boundary of a permit?

22 MS. SLEATER: Your Honor, I would like to  
23 object to this.

24 THE SPECIAL MASTER: That will be sustained  
25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 because that's not relevant whether there's a  
2 permit on it.

3 MR. RADOSEVICH: I'm sorry, Your Honor, but  
4 I thought there was a discrepancy with respect to  
5 also unadjudicated -- the total acreage as being  
6 some land outside of the permitted areas that have  
7 a permit on it. There was none; is that right?

8 MS. SLEATER: Your Honor, he just --

9 MR. RADOSEVICH: That's all.

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Okay. Mr. White?

11 Just one-half minute.

12 (Whereupon an off-the-record  
13 discussion was held.)

14 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, it would be my intent  
15 at this time to proceed back to the very detailed  
16 cross-examination with respect to those areas  
17 which appear to be light colored or dry on the  
18 Exhibits 56 through 156, those areas that appear  
19 from the photographs to be covered by trees or brush,  
20 and those areas which appear to include roads,  
21 those areas which appear to include buildings or  
22 other structures, those areas which appear to include  
23 drain ditches and canals, those areas which appear  
24 to include stack yards or haystacks, and those areas

25 billstein-cross-radosevich

1 which appear to include -- this is all within the  
2 blue areas designated on those exhibits -- stock  
3 ponds and reservoirs.

4 If you want me to go ahead and deal with those,  
5 I would be delighted to take them individually.

6 My suspicion, however, is that you are not  
7 going to let me do it, and if you are going to  
8 require me to make an offer of proof, I might as  
9 well line it up and do it now.

10 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Mr. White, let me think  
11 about that for one minute. I don't want to exclude  
12 anything that properly belongs in the cross-  
13 examination, but neither do I want to hear the same  
14 general type of material that is already in the  
15 record and that has recurred several times already  
16 in the record.

17 MR. WHITE: That's why I brought it up, Your  
18 Honor.

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And I think we probably  
20 agree that there has been a good bit of this in the  
21 record already and at what point do we have a  
22 sufficiency so we can say enough is enough?

23 Now, make your offer of proof for the balance.  
24 We have been into draws and ravines sufficient.

25 We have been into haystacks, I thought sufficient.



1 We saw one or two and described them, but if you  
2 have some evidence of haystack inclusion that  
3 should be excluded that mounts up to 20 or 30  
4 acres, I suppose you have the right to assert it,  
5 so maybe if you could go through that batch of work  
6 before you and take, for example, the 20 or 30  
7 percent most important, because if you have got  
8 them that involve an acre or a half an acre or  
9 acre and a half, I would not permit them in.

10 We have a 2-million-acre Reservation, reduced  
11 to something less than a hundred thousand acres  
12 of irrigation. Now we are looking at something  
13 that can be called in use or historic and we are  
14 down to 34,000, and we have chipped off a few hundred  
15 here and there on that, and maybe a few thousand,  
16 depending on my decision on it, and to listen to  
17 evidence now -- you know, we have been through like  
18 seventeen examples of less than an acre and a half  
19 to an acre -- how many acres do you think are involved  
20 in everything you have referred to there? Thirty  
21 acres? Twenty-five?

22 MR. WHITE: I have got to say initially, Your  
23 Honor, it's going to be a small acreage by small  
24 acreage, sometimes less than --

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: In one instance we found

1 in the records so far that after all of the study  
2 was made the in-use application of land to Class  
3 IV, I think, was ten acres. You came back in your  
4 offer of proof to show there was nineteen acres  
5 of ravines in that area.

6 Now, if the type of evidence you have is a  
7 continuation of that sort of thing, it's not really  
8 worth putting in the record.

9 MR. WHITE: Let me explain that, Your Honor,  
10 because I think it's a very important thing to  
11 recognize about Mr. Billstein's testimony. The  
12 evidence adduced through Mr. Billstein, as you know,  
13 the State has asserted, is outside of those issues,  
14 the factual issues, fairly raised by the pleadings.

15 The witness said he could not relate Exhibit  
16 137 to the values of the statement of claims or  
17 even the sources in the statement of claims. As a  
18 result --

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Now, you are getting  
20 terribly argumentative. You are talking about a  
21 legal issue that has little to do with my ten acres  
22 and nineteen acres in ravines.

23 MR. WHITE: Instead, Mr. Billstein had Exhibit  
24 137, which broke acres into use areas. Through  
25 pretty extended effort, the experts for the State

1 of Wyoming tried to determine which acreage --  
2 which parcels went into each use area.

3 It will be clear as we go through these  
4 various exhibits that come in by stipulation that  
5 our experts, being fresh to the project, did not  
6 put all parcels in the right use area.

7 What happened was that more land was included  
8 in that particular use area based on our initial  
9 estimate or initial allocation than initially was  
10 allocated by the time Ron said, "No, you have got  
11 some parcels in the wrong use areas. Those acres  
12 are still good acres."

13 The problem is that based on our first cut  
14 of this evidence, they were assigned to the wrong  
15 area, and that's the problem you run into when you  
16 have new evidence coming in, so I don't think that  
17 that particular instance should reflect unfavorably  
18 on the State or its experts.

19 THE SPECIAL MASTER: It doesn't, but it does  
20 reflect -- it does reveal the complexities of our  
21 subject matter, and it reveals the impossibility  
22 of avoiding these minute, not insignificant -- a  
23 foot of ground can be very significant sometimes,  
24 but relatively insignificant portions and items  
25 that I think in the interest of progress itself,

1 we have to kind of skip over.

2 Now, back to the material in front of you.

3 If the totals on each of the items in front of  
4 you are something less than 30 acres, I would ask  
5 that you not proceed with evidence and make an  
6 offer of proof and get them into the record in  
7 your offer of proof.

8 MR. WHITE: Okay, Your Honor. The stock ponds  
9 and reservoirs total nine acres. There's not one  
10 that's more than at most a few acres.

11 The haystacks and stack yards total 22 acres,  
12 again lots of little bitty parcels.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Yes, but, Mr. White, in  
14 all candor, can't a haystack get moved around from  
15 year to year on an irrigated parcel?

16 MR. WHITE: Sure, it might be. If it's moved,  
17 it's probably moved to some other location on that  
18 irrigated parcel.

19 I know that you don't like this hedgerow-to-  
20 hedgerow approach to the litigation --

21 THE SPECIAL MASTER: It isn't that I don't like  
22 it. I'm just trying to be reasonable on it. I  
23 think that it is almost too much.

24 MR. WHITE: Well, the point I'm trying to make,  
25 Your Honor, is I would like to go ahead -- or this



1 is what I would be doing for the rest of the  
2 afternoon, and if you don't want me to do it, just  
3 rule that way and I'll make my offer of proof.

4 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. I will rule  
5 that the evidence of the two items you have just  
6 mentioned are unnecessarily minute and not necessary  
7 to a relevant finding of right to use water and,  
8 therefore, I would ask that you make your offer of  
9 proof.

10 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, I meant to indicate  
11 that there were other areas besides the haystacks  
12 and stack yards and stock ponds. They similarly,  
13 with the exception of tree and brush cover or dry  
14 high ground, generally the Type IV that we talked  
15 about before, are also quite small.

16 Would you direct me to make an offer of proof  
17 on those also?

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I would, and I have a  
19 suspicion if I were in your shoes and you were in  
20 mine, you would make the same ruling.

21 MR. WHITE: I think it would all come out in  
22 the wash.

23 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I think you said it, it  
24 would all come out in the wash.

25 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, before Mr. White



1 proceeds, may I suggest that he possibly make his  
2 offer of proof in writing to be submitted tomorrow  
3 or some other time and move on with the other areas  
4 of cross-examination, or if he is finished, then  
5 perhaps we can let Mr. Billstein go home.

6 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Very well. I'll do what-  
7 ever is -- would you rather dictate it to somebody  
8 and hand it to me tomorrow?

9 MR. WHITE: No, sir, I would like to get it in  
10 the record, and it's one of those rare occasions  
11 where the party making the offer has the option  
12 of making the decision as to what form it is in.

13 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. Let him  
14 finish and get it in the record and be done.

15 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, if allowed to inquire  
16 of Mr. Billstein, the State would show through  
17 cross-examination of Mr. Billstein that approximately  
18 nine acres of the total acreage shown on Exhibit  
19 137 --

20 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I'm constrained to let  
21 me ask you to interrupt. If I were to change my  
22 mind and let you make your showing of proof of what  
23 you wanted to do and you did and two months from  
24 now the United States and the Tribes said, "In  
25 view of the hand of fairness in this litigation,

1 we are going to -- say that a date turned out to  
2 be something more than 1868 so it discombobulated  
3 the stipulation and in records we are going to go  
4 back and knock out every barn and every road and  
5 every pond and every haystack and every ditch and  
6 every profile and every program on every foot of  
7 every bit of non-Indian land around Thermopolis,  
8 Worland, Hyattville, Basin, Greybull, Lovell, Cody,  
9 up to Yellowtail Dam -- what would my ruling have  
10 to be, Mr. White, if asked that?

11 MR. WHITE: Let me talk about that, Your Honor.  
12 I know you have been interested in that, and I am  
13 glad you finally asked me because I want to talk  
14 about that for a length of time.

15 What we are dealing with are two distinct  
16 water rights, reserved rights and appropriated  
17 water rights under State law.

18 THE SPECIAL MASTER: That has nothing to do  
19 with the facts before us. These are facts of  
20 irrigating ground, not whenth [sic] comes the right  
21 to get the water.

22  
23 \* \* \* \* \*

24

25

1 MR. WHITE: But the state law that's  
2 applicable to these appropriative rights is  
3 quite different than the federal case law  
4 that's applicable to the reserved rights, and  
5 under the state law it's applicable to appropriative  
6 rights. Just because one year somebody has a  
7 haystack or doesn't irrigate all of his land  
8 or may rotate his land or doesn't make a profit  
9 off of his land for awhile and so he backs off  
10 or does any number of things which result in  
11 less than the full amount of adjudicated lands  
12 being irrigated in one year, just because he  
13 does that --

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You think --

15 MR. WHITE: -- doesn't mean --

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Does an Indian not  
17 have the same right to miss a year and go into  
18 fallow one year if he wishes? You mean because  
19 of the nature of his water is a different hand  
20 down from above, that he doesn't have the  
21 same rights as other users downstream?

22 MR. WHITE: Exactly.

23 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You do?

24 MR. WHITE: Exactly.

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: I believe that's the

1 most shocking, improbable thing to ask a court  
2 to believe I've ever heard in my 65 years on  
3 earth and almost 40 years in the law.

4 MR. WHITE: I say that not because it's  
5 an Indian, because this Court knows I'm part  
6 Indian myself.

7 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You're saying a  
8 Doctrine of Reserved Right. I know what you're  
9 saying.

10 MR. WHITE: I don't want you to think I was  
11 saying that --

12 THE SPECIAL MASTER: But how can you say  
13 that about two human beings? I'm supposed to  
14 judge the right to the uses of water in Water  
15 Division No. 3, and you're telling me that there's  
16 two different ways to use it. If your rights  
17 are reserved doctrine, we're going to measure  
18 where you put your outhouse, in effect, practically,  
19 but if you have a Certificate of Appropriation  
20 and it's been adjudicated, you can put your  
21 outhouse where you want to and your barn and  
22 your yard and you can do all kinds of things.

23 MR. WHITE: I'm not saying that, Your  
24 Honor. I'm saying there are two different  
25 standards which determine what the water rights



1 are for reserved rights and for appropriative  
2 rights. And I am not at all leary of this  
3 Court, the United States or the Tribes coming  
4 after whatever appropriative rights they want  
5 to come after so long as the standards which  
6 are applicable to appropriative rights under  
7 state law are applied. It's not a problem.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Mr. White, I'm not  
9 aware that the Indians have come after anybody's  
10 appropriative rights. They mind their own  
11 business and the State brought a lawsuit, and  
12 it's a lawsuit looking for a general mainstream  
13 adjudication for the right to use water. The  
14 Indians have nothing to do with this.

15 MR..WHITE: If --

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: And nor did the  
17 forest..

18 MR. WHITE: If anybody wants to challenge  
19 those appropriative rights, Your Honor, we have  
20 no problem with it so long as the appropriative --  
21 appropriate state law is applied to it. And I'm  
22 just saying there are two different sets of law,  
23 one for reserved rights made by the federal  
24 courts, in some cases the state courts, and one  
25 for appropriative rights that have been made



1 by the Wyoming Legislature and Wyoming Courts.

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER; I believe our  
3 discussion has added some light to this subject  
4 matter, and it's probably not the last mainstream  
5 adjudication in the Rocky Mountain West, so go  
6 ahead with the offer of proof.

7 MR. WHITE: Okay. I'm not sure where I was  
8 so perhaps I could start again.

9 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right.

10 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, if the State of  
11 Wyoming was allowed to inquire of Mr. Billstein  
12 on cross-examination, he would demonstrate that  
13 of the 34,850 acres shown on Exhibit 137,  
14 approximately 9 acres are acres which are  
15 occupied by stock ponds for reservoir. He would  
16 also indicate that approximately 22 acres are  
17 occupied by haystacks or stack yards.

18 Parenthetically, Your Honor, I'd give the use  
19 area breakdown, but I'm afraid we have not  
20 correlated our use areas under the stipulation.

21 He would also testify that approximately  
22 24 acres are covered by drain ditches or canals.

23 THE SPECIAL MASTER: In addition to the 90  
24 acres yesterday?

25 MR. WHITE: Those were draws and ravines

1 yesterday, Your Honor.

2 He would also testify that approximately  
3 37 acres are covered by buildings and farm  
4 units; also testify that approximately 13 acres  
5 are covered by roads; also testify that approximately,  
6 small scattered tracts totaling approximately  
7 272 acres are covered by trees and brush. And  
8 if allowed to continue my examination with respect  
9 to those lands which appear very light colored  
10 and do not appear to be irrigated on Exhibits 36  
11 through 156, his testimony would show an  
12 accumulative amount of 6,073 acres of high --  
13 of dry ground that were not in irrigation or  
14 under irrigation at the time those photographs  
15 were taken.

16 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You have every right  
17 to proceed with those photograph areas if you  
18 think they were dry.

19 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry, I thought I couldn't  
20 go back into those.

21 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Those have nothing to  
22 do with what we're talking about now.

23 MR. WHITE: I withdraw that portion of my  
24 offer of proof.

25 THE SPECIAL MASTER: You were in some of

1 those. If you have 6,000 acres you think are  
2 not irrigable, you show them. You started to  
3 do that, and he went through a half dozen  
4 tracts, and we can draw our conclusions when  
5 it's decided.

6 MR. WHITE: Your Honor, --

7 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor --

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Just a minute. Go  
9 ahead, Mr. Perry.

10 MR. PERRY: I believe that the Court's been  
11 more than patient with Mr. White going into the  
12 6,000 acres he's referring to; if I understand  
13 correctly, are predominately the Type IV's and  
14 this was the entire line of questioning for  
15 hours and hours that he went into a number of  
16 these. We objected on a number of occasions and  
17 The Master was more than patient with Mr. White  
18 allowing him to show light-colored parcels  
19 contrasting with dark-colored parcels, so I think  
20 we really are getting back exactly into the exact  
21 line of questioning that --

22 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, let's see if we do.  
23 Right now we're saying he doesn't.

24 I'm not excluding in my ruling his right to  
25

1 go into an examination of any areas that are  
2 classified, any of these classifications which  
3 he feels have no right to be classified. Now,  
4 he has stated that these five categories that  
5 he's mentioned, I have properly ruled, I think  
6 properly ruled, needn't be and shouldn't be  
7 in evidence, but if he has another category like  
8 those of those several days that we spent on  
9 Monday and Tuesday regarding areas that appear  
10 lighter than other areas, he's welcomed to  
11 proceed with them. We may see. Maybe we can  
12 proceed with about five or six more and I'll  
13 rule on it again that it is sufficient, but I  
14 certainly don't mean to exclude those because  
15 those are entitled to be looked at. But I don't  
16 want to look at 13 acres of roads bordering 34,000  
17 acres of irrigated land because I think it's  
18 diminimus. And I don't want to look at 37  
19 acres of buildings and yards, farm yards in  
20 35,000 acres of irrigated land because I think  
21 it's diminimus.

22 MR. WHITE: I understand. Your Honor, I  
23 wonder if we could take a short recess so I  
24 could ask the Reporter to read back that offer  
25 of proof and make sure I get the correct numbers.



1 I'm not sure that I did.

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Well, I took them  
3 down; you can take either one you want. Do  
4 you want Merissa to reread them, she'd be  
5 happy to.

6 We're going to quit here at four o'clock,  
7 we're all pretty tired. It's been a long,  
8 tough week and we'll put in a good long day  
9 tomorrow, and that gives you about an hour for  
10 your work, if that's agreeable with you.

11 Can you read that, Merissa?

12 She'll read it to you, if you wish.

13 (Off the record while  
14 (Reporter reread back the  
(offer of proof to Mr. White.

15 MR. WHITE: Maybe if we're going to break  
16 at four this would be the time to do it.

17 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. We stand  
18 in recess until tomorrow, and I hope all of you  
19 really cooperate and we'll finish up tomorrow  
20 night. I'm ready to go until six o'clock if  
21 you want so we don't have to go into Friday.

22 MR. DONNELL: What time tomorrow, Your  
23 Honor?

24 THE SPECIAL MASTER: 9:15.

25 MR. WHITE: Is there any chance that we could



1 start a little bit earlier, Your Honor?

2 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Sandy, I can appreciate  
3 that kind of a question. You know, I'm ready  
4 for 9:15 Monday, but I'm told 10:00 is more  
5 convenient so we wait until 10:00. I'm ready  
6 for 9:15 the other day and we get 10:00. Today  
7 I say we can go at 9:15 and you say can we have  
8 it a little earlier, say 8:30 or something.

9 MR. WHITE: I was just trying to say I'm  
10 sure we would try to get Ron off the stand and  
11 we want him to get home as soon as he can. If  
12 he gets out of here 6:30 it might be a little  
13 difficult.

14 THE SPECIAL MASTER: What time do you want  
15 to start?

16 MR. ECHOHAWK: Your Honor, I would prefer,  
17 if possible, even going on tonight and starting,  
18 say at eight o'clock tomorrow morning. It appears  
19 Mr. White's fairly close to being done.

20 THE SPECIAL MASTER: Do you have something  
21 you can do in this case in the next hour?

22 MR. WHITE: No. Well, I can take a few  
23 minutes and get some of these exhibits together  
24 and go through those light areas, Your Honor.  
25 The problem is that we also have to get under the

1 stipulation, we have to finish the rest of the  
2 tabulation sheets and mark each parcel on those  
3 maps. There's no way in the world we'll get  
4 that done --

5 THE SPECIAL MASTER: All right. Let's do  
6 it, let's meet at 8:30 in the morning.

7 MR. WHITE: All right.

8 THE SPECIAL MASTER: We'll meet at 8:30  
9 rather than 9:15.

10 (Thereupon the hearing  
11 (was recessed at 3:50 p.m.)

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INDEX TO EXAMINATION

1

2

WITNESS: RON BILLSTEIN

3

4

Cross-examination (Resumed) By Mr. White 2685

5

Cross-Examination By Mr. Radosevich 2773

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

		<u>IDENTIFIED</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>
1			
2			
3	HB-50-B	2716	
4	HB-55-A	2717	
5	HB-33-A, 34-A	2724	
6	HB-35-A, 36-A, 37-A	2725	
7	HB-38-A, 39-A	2726	
8	HB-40-A, 41-A, 42-A, 43-A	2727	
9	HB-44-A	2728	
10	HB-45-A, 46-A, 47-A	2729	
11	HB-11-A	2730	
12	HB-12-A, 13-A, 17-A	2732	
13	HB-18-A, 19-A	2733	
14	HB-28-A, 22-A, 23-A	2734	
15	HB-24-A	2735	
16	HB-25-A, 26-A, 27-A, 28-A	2736	
17	HB-30-A, 31-A	2737	
18	HB-29-A, 16-A	2740	
19	HB-15-A	2741	
20	HB-1, 3, 7, 8, 11-A, 12-A, 13-A, 14-A,		2748
21	15-A, 16-A, 17-A, 18-A, 19-A, 20-A,		
22	22-A, 23-A, 24-A, 25-A, 26-A, 27-A,		
23	28-A, 29-A, 30-A, 31-A, 32-A, 33-A,		
24	34-A, 35-A, 36-A, 37-A, 38-A, 39-A,		
25	40-A, 41-A, 42-A, 43-A,		
	HB-50-A, 54, 55, 61	2752	
	HB-137		2754

INDEX TO EXHIBITS CONTINUED

		<u>IDENTIFIED</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>
1			
2			
3	HB-2000 through 2012, 2012-A, 2013 and 2014		2759
4			
5	HB-50-A, 50-B, 54, 55 and 61		2760
6	HB-137-11-A, 137-13-A	2762	
7	HB-137-14-A, 137-15-A, 137-16-A	2763	
8	HB-137-17-A, 137-19-A	2764	
9	HB-23-A	2765	
10	HB-137-24-A	2766	
11	HB-137-19-A, 137-20-A,	2769	
12	HB-137-22-A, 137-25-A, 137-24-A	2770	
13	HB-137-11-A through HB-137-30-A (with the exception of 12-A and 18-A)		2772
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			



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REPORTERS' CERTIFICATE

State of Wyoming )  
:  
County of Laramie )

We, Merissa Racine and Viola J. Lundberg, Registered Professional Reporters and Notaries Public, hereby certify that the facts as stated in the caption hereof are true; that we did at the time, date and place, as set forth, report the proceedings had before the Honorable Teno Roncalio, Special Master Presiding, in stenotype; that the foregoing pages, numbered 2683-2805, inclusive, constitute a true, correct and complete transcript of our stenographic notes as reduced to typewritten form under our direction.

We further certify that we are not agents, attorneys or counsel for any of the parties hereto, nor are we interested in the outcome thereof.

Dated this 18th day of March, 1981.

Merissa Racine  
MERISSA RACINE  
Registered Professional Reporter

Viola J. Lundberg  
VIOLA J. LUNDBERG  
Registered Professional Reporter

MERISSA RACINE - NOTARY PUBLIC  
COUNTY OF LARAMIE STATE OF WYOMING  
My Commission Expires Mar. 10, 1984