

1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-564-6700
www. agriculture.ks.gov



900 SW Jackson, Room 456
Topeka, KS 66612
785-296-3556

Mike Beam, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

August 21, 2023

RECEIVED

AUG 23 2023

Big Bend GMD #5

BIG BEND GMD #5
125 S MAIN ST
STAFFORD, KS 67578 1429

RE: Quivira National Wildlife Refuge Water Right Impairment,
USFWS Request to Secure Water and
Draft Supplement to KDA-DWR 2016 Final Impairment Report

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is a follow-up to my correspondence dated April 10, 2023, regarding the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's request to secure water pertaining to its Water Right, File No. 7,571, for the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, located in eastern Stafford County. You are receiving this communication because you have been identified as a water right holder whose water right(s) may potentially be administered as part of a plan to remedy the impairment of the USFWS's senior water right.

As referenced in my previous letter, my staff have completed a draft supplement to the 2016 final impairment report. That supplement was posted on August 14, 2023, to the KDA-DWR website at:

<https://agriculture.ks.gov/quivira>

The supplement does not reexamine the 2016 final impairment report nor reach a different conclusion than that report did, which is that upstream, junior groundwater pumping regularly and significantly impairs the Service's ability to use its Water Right File No. 7,571.

If you have questions or comments regarding the supplement, please submit them in writing, by **September 19, 2023**, either by email to KDA.DWR@ks.gov or by mail to Chief Engineer, Kansas Department of Agriculture, 1320 Research Park Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502.

Additional information, including the USFWS's Request to Secure Water and its cover letter, as well as updates and historical background information regarding this issue, is available on the KDA-DWR website at the above link.

Sincerely,

Earl D. Lewis Jr., P.E.
Chief Engineer

pc: KDA-DWR Stafford Field Office
Big Bend GMD No. 5
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

