

CORRECTED

Bruce Osojnak

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Division of Water Rights

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Email: waterrightsutah.gov

Attn.: Comments for Study of Emery/John's Valley.

Subject: Public comments for meeting regarding Emery/John's Valley Water Study.

13 January 2025

Request of:

Utah Water Rights adding comments to Utah Geological Survey Study of Emery/John's Valley of Bryce, Utah. Public meeting 14 November 2024 at Panguitch, Utah.

To Discuss:

Water issues relating to current use,, future growth, and historic water considerations..

Surface Water quality and use – Residential, gardens, and animals.

Ground Water quality and use - To meet the needs of domestic use.

Treated Water – To dispose of Used Water.

Providing Comments:

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I am a current resident of Widtsoe.

Widtsoe became a historic town in Garfield County in the early 1900's, with one acre plotted lots.

Relate to Study:

This Water Study was brought about due to Commercial and Development on a large scale concerning water use.

This water flows from South to North following the East Fork Sevier River within Basin #64 of Utah Water Rights area.

Divide study by:

Emery Valley

Bryce Valley/ National Park Bryce area Hotels.

Properties and Development are on North & South of Hwy. 12.

View area extended to north into John's Valley (area #64) as separate.

Discuss John's Valley to North above Bryce Canyon Airport property by a line East/West.

Consider View to; Pine Lake, Tom Best Springs, Widtsoe Cemetery, Widtsoe, Old Escalante Road, Old Steed Ranch, to Black Canyon of needs.

Any Water North of Bryce Canyon Airport line should be thought to supply the North.

Water(s) include surface, ground, and discharged.

Think of large treatment discharge use and systems for Commercial and Development are affecting flows to North from South as surface and ground water contributing affects all North properties in recharging ground water.

Consider water use as Historic - North of Airport line as grandfathered.

Conclusion :

Analyze water flows in relation to flows.

Area: Upper #64

Emery Valley

Bryce Valley / South of Highway 12.

Bryce Valley / North of Hwy. 12 to South of line East/West of Bryce Canyon Airport.

John's Valley North of Airport line.

Widtsoe and Residents along East side of John's Valley.

Water use:

Surface Water.

Ground Water.

Discharge Water.

Restrictions:

Seasons – rain / snowfall.

Available surface water.

Fluctuations to water table.

Density of use in discharge waters.

Historic Land and Water Rights:

Widtsoe Town site Land and Water Rights were removed by US Government under duress. Paid pennies on the dollar during great depression program. Resulting in loss of water rights of water system previously established.

Consider:

Water use as historic – North of Airport line as grandfathered.

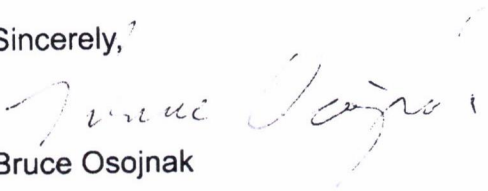
Needs of Widtsoe Town site for Surface, Ground and treated water as separate from Commercial and Development parcel land.

Water is in demand as always- for growth and use to existing users.

View segmented areas of study for determination of water use, especially John's Valley.

The needs of grandfathered development and site uses on existing plot lots should be allowed to met grandfathered conditions. Not to new added burdens of guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bruce Osojnak", written in a cursive style.

Bruce Osojnak