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## IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Of the State of Nevada, in and for the County of Lander

\*\*\*\*\*\*

UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK, INC. A NEVADA CORPORATION Plaintiff. Case No.CV 9261 VS. ROBERT "BOB" ABBEY, GAIL G. GIVENS and GERALD M. SMITH Defendant. SUMMONS \*\*\*\*\* The State of Nevada sends greetings to the above-named defendant: You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon MARTIN G. CROWLEY, ESQ plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 237 So. Sierra St., Reno, Nevada 89501 an answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.\*

Note: When service is by publication, insert a brief statement of the object of the action. See Rule 4.

.2003

Martin G. Crowley, Esq. **American Legal Services** (State Bar No. 3049) 237 So. Sierra St. Reno, Nevada 89501 Phone (775) 786-5279 Fax: (775) 332-3013

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Attorney for Plaintiff

## IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LANDER

12	UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK, INC. a Nevada Corporation,
13	Plaintiff,
14	vs.
15 16	ROBERT "BOB" ABBEY, GAIL G. GIVENS, and GERALD M. SMITH
17	Defendants.
18	,
19	

Case No. \_ 9 2 6 1 Department No. 01

#### COMPLAINT

COMES NOW Plaintiff, UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK, INC., a Nevada Corporation 22 by and through its counsel, Martin G. Crowley, Attorney at Law and complain and alleged of the 23 Defendants, ROBERT "BOB" ABBEY, GALE GIVENS, and GERALD SMITH as follows:

### GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK, INC. is a duly licensed Nevada corporation in the State of Nevada under the ownership of DALTON WILSON.
- ROBERT "BOB" ABBEY, GAIL E. GIVENS, AND GERALD M. SMITH are 28 residents in the State of Nevada and are employees of the United States Department of the Interior,

18. 

Case No. 9261

Department: D-6

# IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LANDER

UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK INC,

APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF A WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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COMES NOW, Applicant, UNDERWOOD LIVESTOCK INC. by and through its attorney, MARTIN G. CROWLEY, Esq., and pursuant to NRS 34.150, et seq., prays this Court for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus. Such writ would command ROBERT "BOB" ABBEY, GALE G. GIVENS, AND GERALD M. SMITH, all of whom are the named defendants in civil case number CV 9261, to reconstruct the diversion structure which provided water for watering livestock and irrigation on the deeded 80 acres belonging to Underwood Livestock, Inc. which the water is appurtenant to and which the named defendants had caused to be to be removed on September 25, 2000. The Writ would further command that the three named defendants to remove all fences around the point of diversion and to remove the road barricade blocking access to Underwood Springs by Underwood Livestock, Inc.'s officers and employees.

This application is based upon the Affidavit of DALTON WILSON and the Points and Authorities which are attached hereto.

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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DATED this 10 day of March, 2003.

MARTIN G. CROWLEX, FSQ.

Attorney for Applicant

Bar No: 3049

237 So. Sierra Street

Reno, Nevada 89501

(775) 786-5297

PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS Page 2 o 8 f pages

#### AFFIDAVIT OF DALTON WILSON

STATE OF NEVADA	)
	) SS.
COUNTY OF EUREKA	)

DALTON WILSON, under penalty of perjury, swears :

- 1. That I am the Applicant herein as the owner of Underwood Livestock, Inc.
  which is a ranching business holding both deeded land and land belonging
  to the federal government known as the Underwood Allotment located in
  Lander County, Nevada:
- 2. That Underwood Livestock, Inc. is the holder of certain certificated water rights within the Underwood Allotment and which certificated water rights were held by several predecessors from 1917 to May 2002 when the water rights were transferred to Underwood Livestock, Inc. Attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A is a copy of State Engineers Water Certificate number 4613.
- 3. That on March 6, 1995 Underwood Livestock, Inc. duly filed with the Bureau of Land Management and the County Recorders' Offices in Eureka and Lander Counties a Claim For Possessory Interest which set forth all of the water rights claimed by Underwood Livestock, Inc. which were with in the 21, 0000 fee land acres belonging to Underwood Livestock, Inc. Attached to the Claim for Possessory Interest was proof of chain of title.
- 4. That from time to time Underwood Livestock, Inc. repaired or made improvements

PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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- on the waer sources which insured that there would b sufficient livstock water and irrigation water.
- That on October 5, 1998 Gerald M. Smith sent correspondence to Dalton Wilson 5. informing him that the water diversion structure on Underwood Creek which was situated one half mile west of Underwood Springs did not comply with the requirements of "Interim Management Policy For Lands Under Wilderness Review" inasmuch as Underwood Livestock, Inc. did not receive authorization from the Bureau of Land Management to maintain and improve the dam. Mr. Smith warned that if Underwood Livestock, Inc. could not prove that it had authorization to make the repairs and improvements from the BLM the structure could be removed at Underwood Livestock, Inc.'s expense.
- 6. On February 25, 2000, Underwood Livestock, Inc. sent correspondence to Mr. Smith reminding him that Underwood Livestock, Inc. had reconstructed and maintained the diversion structure in accordance with the rights afforded it with the patent, the certificated water right and the Claim to Possessory Interest on file in the BLM office and on file in the Eureka and Lander County Recorders' Offices. The letter pointed out-that Underwood Livestock, Inc. did not have to seek authorization from the BLM for work done to maintain and repair any water source structures. Because both the Taylor Grazing Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) specifically prohibited the federal government or any agency thereof from abridging any pre-existing rights in effect before the passage of those acts, PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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Undewood Livestock, Inc. was relying upon the Bureau of Land Management's reply to a 1996 Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) in which the Bureau admitted that thre was no authority for the Bureau to determine existence, status or use of pre-existing rights any entity with demonstrated pre-existing rights to obtain any special permits or other authorizations. Attached and incorporated herein is Exhibe B which is a copy of the FOIA and the BLM's response.

- 7. On April 10, 2000, Gale G. Givens sent certified correspondence to Underwood Livestock, Inc. commanding Dalton Wilson and Don Bowman to "arrange for the satisfactory removal of the dam by May 10, 2000 or face additional trespass penalties and a citation which could result in fines of not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months."
- 8. On September 25, 2000, Robert Abbey, Gale G. Givens and Gerald M. Smith directed employees of the BLM to remove the structure and, in fact, the structure was destroyed and removed. Certain armed BLM officers were directed to assume positions around the demolition activity. Thereafter Dalton Wilson and Don Bowman were ordered to pay the sum of \$27,900.64 for the alleged costs for removal.
- 9. On September 25, 2000, after removing the diversion structure Robert Abbey,
  Gale G. Givens, and Gerald M. Smith directed BLM employees to fence the area
  where the diversion structure had been situated and to block the road leading to
  the source of the water for the diversion structure. The area was in fact fenced
  PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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and a barricade was constructed to block access to the water source.

- 10. That the road barricade and the fence are, at the present time, still in place, and that Underwood Livestock, Inc. still is not able to make beneficial use of the water for either livestock watering or irrigation purposes on the 80 acres of deeded ground.
- That Underwood Livestock, Inc. has filed a civil action against the three named defendants. Whatever remedy may result from that case is not a speedy or or adequate remedy in that the continued prohibition from access to and use of water will result in further and immediate economic loss to Underwood Livestock, Inc.

DATED this 16th day of April, 2003

**DALTON WILSON** 

Subscribed and sworn to before me by

Dalton Wilson this 16th day

of April, 2003

NOTARY PUBLIC



#### POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

NRS 32.150, et seq., governs the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus.

NRS 34.160 provides that a district court may issue a Writ to compel the performance of an act which the law especially enjoins as a duty resulting from an office.

This case involves the willful and wrongful destruction of a crucial water diversion structure which was the personal property of Underwoood Livestock, Inc. and which was critical to the ranching operation and without which cattle could not be watered and crops could not be irrigated. The case also involves the willful and deliberated confiscation of the area around the point of diversion and the blocading of the only point of access to the Underwood water source.

NRS 34.170 provides "that a writ shall issue in all cases where there is not a plain, speedy, and adequateremedy in the ordinary course of law."

The applicant in the within pleadings has filed a civil lawsuit against Robert Abbey,

Gail G. Givens, and Gerald M. Smith personally and pointing out that the clearly established law specifically prohibits government employees from interfering with a private land owner's right to water, forage, and rights of way which have been legally recorded and filed. Any remedy which may be available in that lawsuit is not speedy and not adequate in terms of insuring that the applicant can utilize the water essential to the ranching operation. The applicant is without the ability to participate in his normal business.

NRS 34.200 provides that if the application for a writ is made upon notice, then the notice shall be at least 10 days and the the writ shall not be granted upon default, but shall be PETITION FOR A WRIT OF MANDAMUS

heard by the Court whether the adverse party appears or not.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2003.

MARTIN G. CROWLEY, ESQ.

Attorney for Applicant

Bar No. 3049

237 So. Sierra St.

Reno, Nevada 89501

(775) 786-5297

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF MANDAMUS

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