

(b) In the construction of new irrigation projects or extension of existing projects, rights-of-way which have not been reserved across Indian lands will be obtained in accordance with part 169 of this chapter.

**§ 171.13 Crops and statistical reports.**

An annual project crops and statistical report shall be prepared by the Officer-in-Charge. The landowner or farm unit operator shall cooperate in furnishing such information as requested.

**§ 171.14 Carriage agreements and water right applications.**

(a) *Pine River Indian Irrigation Project, Colorado.* If the Area Director determines that there is sufficient capacity in the project's carriage and/or distribution system in excess of that required by the project he is authorized to enter into carriage agreements with non-project water users to convey non-project water through project facilities for delivery to non-project lands.

(b) *Uintah Indian Irrigation Project, Utah.* If the Superintendent determines that there is sufficient capacity in the irrigation project's carriage and/or distribution system in excess of that required by the project, he is authorized to enter into carriage agreements with non-project water users to convey non-project lands. The Superintendent is also authorized to enter into carriage agreements with private irrigation or ditch companies for the conveyance of project water through non-project facilities for delivery to isolated Indian lands that cannot be served from project facilities.

(c) *Wapato Irrigation Project, Washington.* The Project Engineer is authorized to execute water right applications submitted by landowners in the project on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. Such applications should be submitted on the approved Departmental form.

**§ 171.15 Leaching water.**

(a) The Officer-in-Charge is authorized to furnish irrigation water for leaching purposes without the payment of operation and maintenance charges to any Indian trust land, or patent in fee land covered by a repayment contract, as an aid to improve land within

the project that is impregnated by alkali or in the development of new project land.

(b) Delivery of such water will depend upon the availability of water and the preparation of a definite plan of operation by the land operator satisfactory to the Officer-in-Charge. In addition, the operator shall agree to meet such reasonable leaching and cropping activities as shall be prescribed by the Officer-in-Charge.

(c) If prompt and beneficial use of the leaching water is not made by or before July 1 of the season for which it is granted, the Officer-in-Charge may declare the leaching permit forfeited. The normal water charges will be considered as assessed and any delinquency enforced as though no leaching privilege had been granted.

(d) In the case of patent in fee lands no water will be delivered for leaching purposes until the annual construction costs, when assessed, are paid.

**§ 171.16 Excess water.**

(a) *General.* On those irrigation projects where a water duty or water quota has been established each water user will be notified when his quota of water, as covered by the basic assessment and as announced in the public notice, has been delivered. In such cases, additional irrigation water, if available, may be delivered providing the water user so requests it and agrees to pay for the excess water in accordance with the excess water provisions as set forth in the public notice.

(b) *Flathead Indian Irrigation Project, Montana.* (1) After an agreement has been reached by the Commissioners of the irrigation district and the Officer-in-Charge as to the duty of water on individual tracts where water users claim excess requirements above the duty of water established for the project on account of porous or gravelly soils, the Officer-in-Charge is authorized to increase the quantity of water to be delivered to such tracts.

(2) The amount of water delivered in such cases will not exceed four (4) acre feet per assessable acre except in the Moiese Division where the amount shall not exceed six (6) acre feet providing there is sufficient water available in Lower Crow Reservoir without

having to draw on the water supply for the Mission Valley Division.

(3) The charge for such water shall be at the same general rate as established for project land not having such a porous or gravely condition.

**§ 171.17 Delivery of water.**

(a) Irrigation water will not be delivered until the annual operation and maintenance assessments are paid in accordance with the established annual rate schedule as set forth in the public notice issued by the Area Director. Under the following special circumstances, this rule may be waived and water delivered to:

(1) Trust and restricted lands farmed by the Indian owner when the Superintendent has certified that the operator is financially unable to pay the assessment and he has made arrangements to pay such assessments from the proceeds received from the sale of crops or from any other source of income. In such cases the unpaid charges will stand as a first lien against the land until paid but without penalty on account of delinquency.

(2) Non-Indian lands on which there is an approved deferred payment contract executed under the provisions of the Act of June 22, 1936 (49 Stat. 1803).

(3) Land on which an adjustment or cancellation of unpaid assessments has been recommended and final action is pending.

(b) Water will not be delivered to Indian trust or restricted land that are under lease approved by the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative acting under delegated authority until the lessee has paid the annual assessed operation and maintenance charges.

(c) No water will be delivered to Indian trust land under a lease that has been negotiated by an Indian owner until the owner has paid the annual assessed operation and maintenance charges or has made satisfactory arrangements for their payment with the Superintendent who has so notified the Officer-in-Charge.

(d) Water will not be delivered to any lands within an irrigation district which has executed a repayment contract with the United States until all irrigation charges, as assessed, are paid

in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contracts and the public notice as issued by the Area Director.

(e) All irrigation districts may make such rules and regulations as they may find necessary in regard to the delivery of the water to water users within the district who are delinquent in their payments to the district of assessed irrigation charges. Such rules and regulations will be adhered to by the Officer-in-Charge when it appears to be in the best interests of the United States and the district to do so.

(f) Water will not be delivered to lands that are subject to construction assessments not paid in accordance with part 134 of this chapter.

(g) Flathead Indian Irrigation Project, Montana—(1) *Secretarial Water Right holders.* (i) For all acres recognized by the Secretary of the Interior as entitled to a "Secretarial Water Right", the Officer-in-Charge is authorized to carry such water in the project's carriage and distribution system and deliver it: *Providing*, That landowner holding such a right requests it and his land is so located that the water can be delivered without undue expense to the project. Before this service is provided, the landowner must also agree to pay a minimum of fifty (50) percent of up to a maximum of one hundred (100) percent of the annual operation and maintenance charges as assessed against project lands in the same general area as his. Under such agreement the project will not be obligated to deliver more than that allowed for each acre of land under the Secretary's private water right findings less a proportionate share of the project's normal losses in transporting the water from the point of entry into the project's system to the point of delivery.

(ii) "Secretarial Water rights" are defined as those rights allocated to Indian allotments by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior by his approval on November 25, 1921, of the findings of the Commission appointed by him to investigate the "private rights" on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Authority: Sec. 9, Act of May 29, 1908 (35 Stat. 449).