

March 18, 2023

Eric Evans  
Malheur County Planning Department  
251 B Street West, #12  
Vale, Oregon 97918

Dear Mr. Evans:

I want to object to the constructed pond on the southeast corner of the Rodriguez property on Sugar Ave. I think the pond will be used for his onion processing plant north of Payette. It will add to the salt problem on our farm just east of the pond.

We purchased the property on the east side of Rodriguez' pond around 1967 and have struggled with salt problems ever since. Dennis Price has subsoiled all the fields 6 feet deep with both a D8 and a D6 cat to penetrate restrictive layers that prevent draining water from moving down to the river. Dennis has also cleaned the diagonal drain ditch. Both efforts improved farm productivity.

Les Ito installed a drain system by his house 2 years ago south of highway 20-26 which drained a wet spot, in our field, one half mile north of his project. My grandfather put in a pump on 20-26 for drainage and we still run it at times to help drain Les' field to the south. We started running the pump today to drain the field north of 20-26 so WBH, our renter, can farm. Solutions to drainage problems have been complex in this area.

Cliff Montgomery, the previous owner of our Sugar Ave. farm, had a clam shell well next to Rodriguez' pond. We increased its depth hoping to improve drainage with no improvement. Current renters don't pay for 10 acres of field 5 in that farm. When we can afford it we will install more drain lines to attempting to improve field five.

I think the pond should be closer to the river like the Vale, Nyssa and Ontario waste ponds or in Idaho.

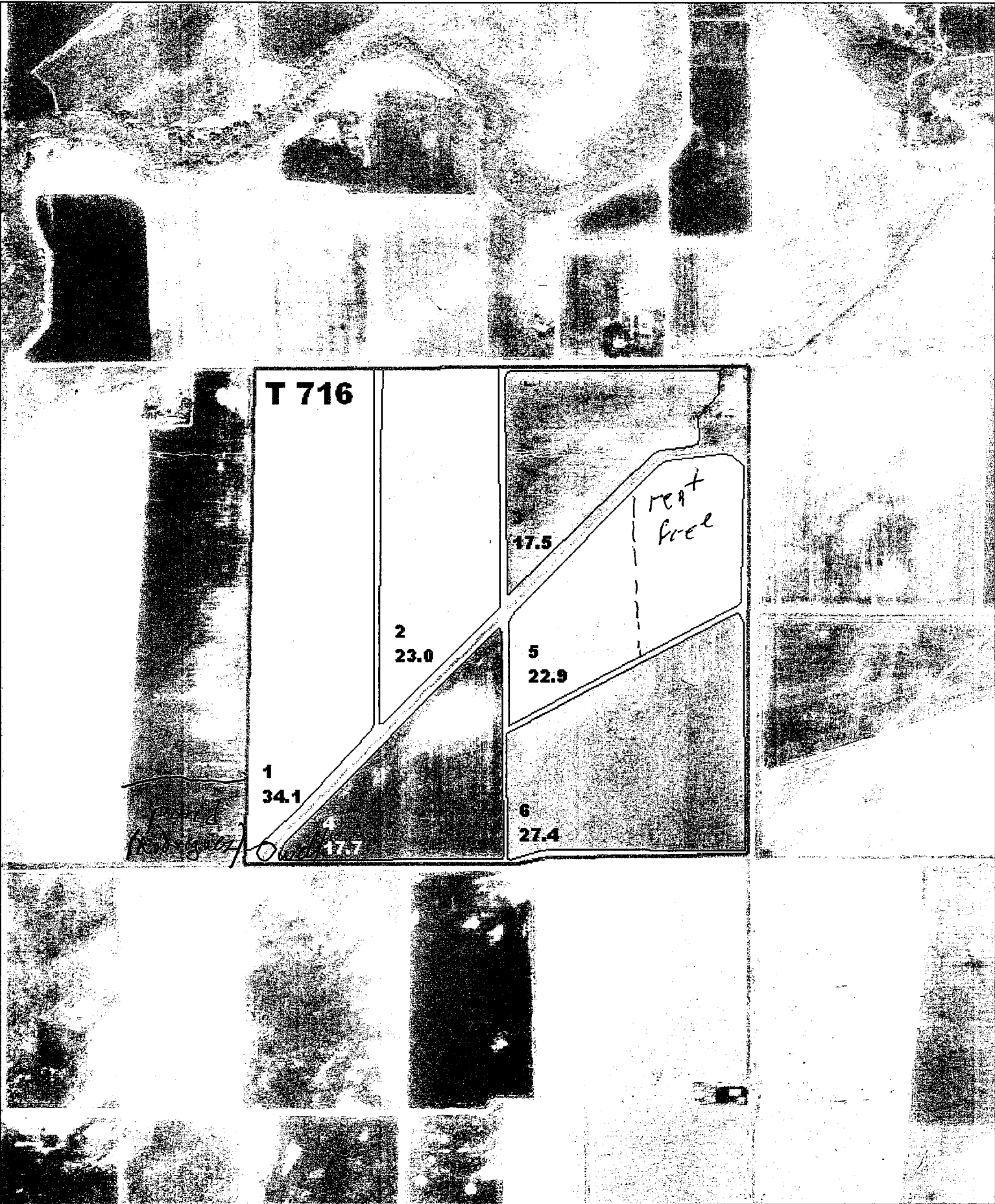
Sincerely,



Fred Trenkel, President  
Trenkel Farming & Livestock  
541-889-3554  
3861 Lincoln Drive  
Ontario, OR 97914

EXHIBIT #

4



Map of Tract = "16

Matheur County

400 0 400 800 Feet



0.0  
HEL, NHEL



Calculated Acres  
Status - NHEL  
Wetland



Map Printed: Dec 8, 2003



