

ORDER NO. 1197 Timeline

June 7, 1976	U.S. Supreme Court holds that a federal reserved water rights exists to maintain the pool level of Devils Hole.
March 24, 1978	U.S. District Court issues final revised findings of fact and conclusions of law, wherein the court holds that “[t]he State of Nevada is under a continuing obligation to be aware of the requirement for a minimum 2.7’ water level at Devil’s [sic] Hole in its consideration of applications for groundwater permits in the Ash Meadows area”
May 14, 1979	Nevada State Engineer issues Order No. 724 establishing the Amargosa Desert Ground Water Basin, which encompasses the Ash Meadows area.
June 25, 1979	Nevada State Engineer rejects 28 application for permits to withdraw groundwater in the Amargosa Desert Ground Water Basin (Ruling No. 2480).
September 21, 1982	Nevada District Court issues ruling upholding the State Engineer’s issuance of Order No. 724. The court notes that “experience has shown that properly designated basins are the most efficient means of protecting, preserving and fairly administering a valuable public resource.”
December 15, 1982	Nevada State Engineer rejects 117 application for permits to withdraw groundwater in the Amargosa Desert Ground Water Basin (Ruling No. 2793).
September 5-6, 2007	Nevada State Engineer holds an administrative hearing on protests filed by the National Park Service and Fish & Wildlife Service to groundwater withdrawal applications seeking to move points of diversion closer to Devils Hole.
November 4, 2008	Nevada State Engineer issues Order No. 1197.
December 3, 2008	A petition for judicial review of Order No. 1197 is filed in state district court.
July 7, 2009	The United States submits a Notice of Intent to Participate as Real Party in Interest.
November 13, 2009	The United States submits a Response Brief urging the state district court sustain the State Engineer’s issuance of Order No. 1197.
September 3, 2010	The United States submits an Answering Brief again urging the state district court sustain the State Engineer’s issuance of Order No. 1197.
June 9, 2016	District Court issues a decision upholding Order No. 1197.
February 16, 2017	Nevada State Engineer issues Ruling No. 6382, which applies Order No. 1197 retroactively in denying applications for well permits that seek to move the points of diversion closer to Devils Hole.