BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Instream Lease IL-1386 and)	FINAL ORDER
Mitigation Credit Project MP-186, Deschutes)	TERMINATING INSTREAM
County)	LEASE & MITIGATION CREDIT
)	PROJECT

ORS 537.348 establishes the process in which a water right holder may submit a request to lease an existing water right for instream purposes. OAR Chapter 690, Division 077 implements the statutes and provides the Department's procedures and criteria for evaluating instream lease applications.

OAR 690-521-0100 to 690-521-0600 establishes the process in which anyone may submit a ground water mitigation project to the Department for the purpose of establishing mitigation credits in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area.

Lessor

Co-Lessor

Michael and Theodora Schrier

Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID)

P.O. Box 126 Hubbard, OR 97032

1055 SW Lake Court Redmond, OR 97756

laura@coid.org

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Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC) Mitigation Bank P.O. Box 1560 Bend, OR 97709 gen@deschutesriver.org

Findings of Fact

- 1. On March 27, 2014, Michael and Theodora Schrier, COID and the DRC Mitigation Bank filed an application to renew instream lease IL-1121 and mitigation credit project MP-147, involving a portion of Certificate 83571. The Department re-assigned the instream lease application number IL-1386 and the mitigation credit project MP-186 to differentiate it from the original lease and mitigation credit project.
- 2. The lease application requested to protect water instream for three years, terminating on October 31, 2016. A Final Order approving this lease and mitigation credit project was issued by the Department on April 24, 2014, as evidenced by Special Order Volume 92, Page 199. The mitigation credit project was awarded 28.8 mitigation credits for use in the Middle Deschutes and General Zones of Impact. These mitigation credits were assigned to the DRC Mitigation Bank and were to expire on December 31, 2016.

This is a final order in other than contested case. This order is subject to judicial review under ORS 183.484. Any petition for judicial review must be filed within the 60 day time period specified by ORS 183.484(2). Pursuant to ORS 536.075 and OAR 137-004-0080 you may either petition for judicial review or petition the Director for reconsideration of this order. A petition for reconsideration may be granted or denied by the Director, and if no action is taken within 60 days following the date the petition was filed, the petition shall be deemed denied.

- 3. The final order contained a condition allowing the Lessors and the Lessee to terminate the lease in any year of the lease, prior to the lease being exercised that season, with written notification to the Department from all parties to the lease.
- 4. On January 15, 2015, the Department received a request from Michael and Theodora Schrier, COID and the DRC Mitigation Bank to terminate the lease and mitigation credit project prior to the 2015 instream use period.
- 3. The lease was exercised during the 2014 water use period ending on October 31, 2014. Mitigation credits established by this project were not used to provide mitigation for ground water permits in 2014.

Conclusions of Law

The Department concludes that terminating the lease in advance of the 2015 instream use period is consistent with OAR 690-077.

Now, therefore it is ORDERED:

The Instream Lease described herein is TERMINATED and no longer in effect. The mitigation credits awarded to the Mitigation Project described herein are no longer valid.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 22 day of January, 2015.

Dwight French, Water Right Services Administrator, for

Tom M. Byler, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department

Mailing date: JAN 2 3 2015

This document was prepared by Derrick Wheeler and if you have any questions, please call 503-986-0898.