

**BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of the Proposed Short-Term) Lease of Existing Water Rights for Instream) Use and Preliminary and Final Award of) Mitigation Credits, Certificate 76358,) Deschutes County)	DETERMINATION and FINAL ORDER ON PROPOSED INSTREAM LEASE & MITIGATION CREDIT PROJECT
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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 short-term 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 #1 Creative Water Solutions, LLC 64154 Pioneer Loop Bend, OR 97701	Lessor #2 Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) 1055 SW Lake Court Redmond, OR 97756 lauraw@coid.org
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Lessee
 Deschutes Water Exchange (DWE) Mitigation Bank
 PO Box 1560
 Bend, OR 97709
ghubert@deschutesrc.org

Findings of Fact

1. On June 21, 2006, COID, the DWE Mitigation Bank, and Creative Water Solutions filed an application to lease a portion of Certificate 76358 to instream use. The Department assigned the application number L-754.
2. Interest in a portion of the water right to be leased instream has been quit claimed from the original land owners. The lease application form identifies Creative Water Solutions as the interest holder in the water right. Individual quit claim deeds, along with supporting documentation, submitted on July 6, 2006, identify that interest in the portion of the right to be leased is held by Creative Water Solutions. The Department has determined that Creative Water Solutions is an interest holder in the right and is authorized to lease the water right instream.

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 right to be leased is as follows:

Certificate: 76358

Season of Use: April 1 to November 1, further limited as follows:

April 1 to May 1 and Oct. 1 to Nov. 1 described herein as Season 1

May 1 to May 15 and Sept. 15 to Oct. 1 described herein as Season 2

May 15 to Sept. 15 described herein as Season 3

Priority Date: October 31, 1900 and December 2, 1907

Use: Irrigation of 16.7 acres

Quantity: Rate:

Season 1 (limited to 1/80th Cubic Foot per Second (CFS) per acre)

Season 2 (limited to 1/60th cfs per acre)

Season 3 (limited to 1/32.4th cfs per acre)

Duty (limited to 9.91 acre-feet per acre)

Priority Date	Season 1	Season 2	Season 3	Duty
October 31, 1900	0.209 CFS	0.278 CFS	0.367 CFS	
December 2, 1907			0.148 CFS	
Totals	0.209 CFS	0.278 CFS	0.515 CFS	165.5 AF

The listed quantities reflect allowance of a 45% canal transmission loss as determined by decree of the Circuit Court of Deschutes County, dated March 24, 1933. Direct diversions, by certificate, are not allowed this transmission loss.

Source: Deschutes River, tributary to the Columbia River

Place of Use:

Irrigation of 16.7 acres						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Tax Lot	Acres
15 S	13 E	WM	4	NW SE	100	4.5
15 S	13 E	WM	17	NE SW	2900	7.1
15 S	13 E	WM	17	SE SW	2900	5.1

Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Survey Coordinates
17 S	12 E	WM	29	SE NE	COID North Canal POD #11 – 850 feet North & 630 feet West from the E ¼ corner of Section 29

4. The lease application includes the information required under OAR 690-077-0077(3). The Department provided notice of the lease application pursuant to OAR 690-077-0077(6). No comments were received.

5. The instream use is as follows:

Deschutes River tributary to the Columbia River

Instream Reach #1: From POD #11 (as described in Finding of Fact #3) River Mile 138

Certificate	Priority Date	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (af)	Period Protected Instream
76358	10/31/1900	Season 1: 0.115 Season 2: 0.153 Season 3: 0.283	91.02	April 1 – Oct. 26

6. Other conditions to prevent injury and enlargement are:

The amount of water to be leased instream under certificate 76358 does not include a 45% transmission loss associated with this right when used for its originally authorized purpose. The transmission loss may not be leased and protected instream.

7. Based upon review of the application, comments received, information provided by the Department's Watermaster, and other available information, the Department finds that the lease will not result in injury or enlargement. This finding is made through an abbreviated review recognizing that the lease may be modified or revoked under OAR 690-077-0077 if the Department later finds that the lease is causing injury to any existing water right or enlargement of the original right.
8. If a right which has been leased is later proposed to be leased again or transferred to an instream use under ORS 537.348 and OAR 690-077-0070 or OAR 690-077-0075 a new injury review shall be required. Transfers will be subject to a full and complete review to determine consistency with the requirements of OAR Chapter 690, Division 380 and Division 077. Approval of this lease does not establish a precedent for approval of future leases or transfers.
9. The lease will terminate on October 31, 2010.
10. The lessor has requested the option of terminating the lease early with written notice to the Department.

Preliminary Award of Deschutes Basin Mitigation Credits

11. The Lessee, a mitigation bank chartered by the Water Resources Commission, has requested that the portion of the right to be protected instream be used to generate mitigation credits.
12. The Department assigned this mitigation credit project number MP-88.
13. The Department provided notice of the mitigation credit project pursuant to OAR 690-521-0300 (6). The Department also provided notice of the mitigation credit project to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon Department of State Lands, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and the Department's Watermaster pursuant to OAR 690-521-0300 (7) and OAR 690-505-0630 (2). Comments were received from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. These comments identified a need for additional instream flow protections for recreation. Emphasis should be placed on protecting flows evenly during the late spring and summer period not otherwise affected by higher spring run-off.
14. The shaping proposed by the instream lease application protects water instream over almost the entire irrigation season at the maximum rates possible and appears to meet these recommendations. Therefore, no modifications were made to the lease based upon comments received.
15. The Department finds that **30.1** mitigation credits may be awarded to this mitigation credit project and assigned to the Deschutes Water Exchange Mitigation Bank. The mitigation

credits may be used to mitigate for ground water permit applications and existing conditioned ground water permits and certificates, providing mitigation pursuant to the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules, OAR Chapter 690, Division 505, within the **General and Middle Deschutes** zones of impact.

16. The mitigation credits expire on December 31, 2010.
17. The use and maintenance of the mitigation credits is subject to the terms and conditions of the Deschutes Water Exchange Mitigation Bank Charter.
18. The Department shall award final mitigation credits upon completion of the approved project by the applicant and verification by the Department that the project is complete. The issuance of the Final Order approving the proposed instream lease shall result in completion of the project and verification that the project is complete.
19. No precedent is set by this Final Order as to the amount of mitigation credits that may be generated by a subsequent mitigation credit project.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department concludes that the lease will not result in injury or enlargement, OAR 690-077-0077. The lease agreement conforms to the applicable provisions of OAR 690-077-0015.

This mitigation project results in mitigation credits pursuant to ORS 537.746 and OAR 690-521-0300 and 690-521-0400.

ORDER

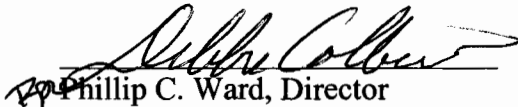
Therefore, it is ORDERED:

1. That the Short-Term Lease as described herein is APPROVED.
2. The former place of use shall no longer receive water as part of these rights during the term of the lease.
3. The lease shall terminate on October 31, 2010. The lessor and lessee shall have the option of terminating the lease with written notice to the Department provided to both the Salem office and Watermaster office. Written notice of termination of a lease must be provided by all lessors and the lessee. The written notice to Salem office must include original signatures. The notice to the Watermaster office may be made by fax or e-mail. The lease may be terminated at any time during a calendar year. However, if the termination request is received after the period of allowed use has begun for the water right(s) being leased, water may not be used under the right(s) leased until the following calendar year.
4. **Final Award of Deschutes Basin Mitigation Credits:** Issuance of this Final Order results in completion of the project and verification by the Department that the project is complete. The Department concludes that the mitigation credit project is awarded mitigation credits, as described above, pursuant to OAR 690-521-0400 and ORS 537.746. Mitigation Credits, in the amount of **30.1** credits, as described herein, are awarded to this mitigation project and assigned to the Deschutes Water Exchange Mitigation Bank. Mitigation Credits may be used

to satisfy a mitigation obligation of a ground water permit applicant and/or ground water permit/certificate holder in the **General and Middle Deschutes** zones of impact.

5. Mitigation credits are valid until used (or until they expire or are terminated) to satisfy a mitigation obligation of a ground water permit applicant and/or ground water permit/certificate holder within the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area pursuant to the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules. Mitigation credits are used when a person submits to the Department documentary evidence that valid credits have been obtained and assigned to satisfy a mitigation obligation.
6. The mitigation credits shall expire on December 31, 2010.
7. The use and maintenance of the mitigation credits shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Deschutes Water Exchange Mitigation Bank Charter.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 31ST day of July 2006.


Phillip C. Ward, Director

Mailing date: AUG 07 2006