

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

In the Matter of Instream Lease Application ) DETERMINATION and FINAL ORDER ON  
IL-16, Wasco County ) PROPOSED INSTREAM LEASE

**Authority**

Oregon Revised Statute (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. Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 690, Division 077 implements the statutes and provides the Department’s procedures and criteria for evaluating instream lease applications.

**Lessor**

Peterson Ponderosa Pines LLC  
54909 Hwy 197  
Maupin, Oregon 97037

**Findings of Fact**

1. On April 8, 2024, Peterson Ponderosa Pines LLC filed an application to renew instream lease IL-16, involving the entirety of Certificate 8873 for instream use.
2. The right to be leased is as follows:

**Certificate:** 8873 in the name of E. Karlen (perfected under S-7151)  
**Use:** Irrigation of 20.0 acres  
**Priority Date:** January 20, 1926  
**Quantity:** **Rate:** 0.25 Cubic Foot per Second (CFS)  
**Limit:** One-eightieth CFS per acre  
**Source:** Tygh Creek, tributary to White River

**Authorized Point of Diversion (POD):**

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 S	13 E	WM	31	SW NW	NONE DESCRIBED

**Authorized Place of Use:**

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 S	13 E	WM	31	SE NW	7.0
3 S	13 E	WM	31	NE SW	7.0
3 S	13 E	WM	31	NW SW	6.0
Total Acres					20.0

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. Certificate 8873 does not provide measured distances for the location of the point of diversion. Based upon additional information provided by the Department and the Lessor, for purposes of this instream lease, the point of diversion is described as follows:

Twtp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 S	13 E	WM	31	SW NW	3/8 MILE SOUTH FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 31

4. Certificate 8873 does not specify the duty limit per acre. However, all permits in the same general area are limited to 3.0 acre feet per acre.
5. Certificate 8873 does not specify the irrigation season; nor is an irrigation season specified by Basin Program or Decree. For the purposes of instream leasing, an irrigation season of April 1 through November 1, shall be used to establish when water may be protected instream.
6. The lease application includes the information required under OAR 690-077-0076(3). The Department provided notice of the lease application pursuant to OAR 690-077-0077(1). No comments were received.
7. The instream use is as follows:  
Tygh Creek, tributary to White River

**Instream Reach:** From the POD (as described in Finding of Fact No. 3) to the mouth

Certificate	Priority Date	Instream Rate (CFS)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
8873	1/20/1926	0.25	60.0	April 1 through July 29

8. Other conditions to prevent injury and enlargement are:
- Within the specified stream reach, the amount of water to which this right is entitled shall not exceed the quantity of water legally available at the original point of diversion. Stream channel losses and gains calculated based on available data and the use of water by senior appropriators will determine the amount of water to which this right is entitled downstream from the original points of diversion within the specified stream reach.
9. The amount and timing of the proposed instream flow is allowable within the limits and use of the original water right.
10. The protection of flows within the proposed reach is appropriate, considering:
- The instream water use begins at the recorded point of diversion;
  - The location of confluences with other streams downstream of the point of diversion.
  - There are no known areas of natural loss of streamflow to the river bed downstream from the point of diversion; and

- d. Any return flows resulting from the exercise of the existing water right would re-enter the river downstream of the reach of the instream water right.
11. The total monthly quantities of water to be protected under the existing and proposed instream rights in the reach will provide for a beneficial purpose.
12. The total monthly quantities of water to be protected instream under existing and proposed instream rights in the reach do not exceed the estimated average natural flow.
13. If approved, this instream lease is not reasonably expected to significantly affect land use as prescribed by ORS 197.180, OAR Chapter 660, Divisions 30 and 31, and OAR Chapter 690, Division 5.
14. Based upon review of the application, information provided by the Department's Watermaster, and other available information, the Department finds that the lease will not result in injury or enlargement. The order approving this instream 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.
15. If a right which has been leased is later proposed to be leased again, transferred and/or reviewed under an allocation of conserved water, a new injury review shall be required. For example, instream 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 any future transactions.
16. The Lessor has requested that the lease terminate on November 1, 2028. The lease may commence on the date this final order is signed.
17. The Lessor has requested the option of terminating the lease early with written notice to the Department.

### **Conclusions of Law**

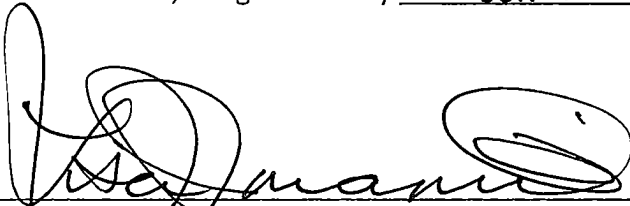
The Department concludes that the lease will not result in injury or enlargement, OAR 690-077-0077. The lease conforms to the applicable provisions of OAR 690-077-0015.

### **Now, therefore it is ORDERED:**

1. The Lease as described herein is APPROVED.
2. During each year of the term of the lease, the former place of use will no longer receive water as part of these rights, any supplemental rights, or any other layered irrigation water rights, including ground water registrations and permits.

3. The term of the lease will commence upon approval of the instream lease and terminate on November 1, 2028. For multiyear leases, the lessor *shall* have the option of terminating the lease any time each year with written notice to the Department. However, if the termination request is received less than 30-days prior to the instream use period (April 1 through July 29) or after the water rights' original period of allowed use has begun, the Department may issue an order terminating the lease but use of water may not be allowed until the following calendar year, unless the Director determines that enlargement would not occur.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this day JUN 11 2024.



Lisa J. Jaramillo, Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for  
Douglas E. Woodcock, Acting Director  
Oregon Water Resources Department

Mailing date: JUN 12 2024

*This document was prepared by Corey Courchane and if you have any questions, please call 503-979-3917.*