

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

In the Matter of Time-Limited Instream)
Transfer Application)
T-10193, Jackson County) **FINAL ORDER APPROVING A
CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE AND
CHARACTER OF USE**

Authority

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 540.505 to 540.580 establishes the process in which a water right holder may submit a request to transfer the point of diversion, place of use, or character of use authorized under an existing water right. Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 690, Division 380 implements the statutes and provides the Department's procedures and criteria for evaluating transfer applications. OAR Chapter 690, Division 077 provides additional criteria for evaluating transfers to instream water rights.

Applicant

ANN WISNOVSKY
1352 APPLGATE RD
JACKSONVILLE, OR 97530

Findings of Fact

1. On June 5, 2006, ANN WISNOVSKY filed a time-limited instream transfer application proposing to change the character of use and place of use of the water rights under Transfer T-9669, approved by the Oregon Water Resources Department (Department) on February 3, 2006, as evidenced by Special Order Volume 68, Page 20, to instream use until such time that conditions for termination of a stored water use contract agreement between the applicant and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) are met. The Department assigned the application number T-10193.
2. The applicant has requested that approval of this time-limited instream transfer be contingent upon the applicant entering into a stored water use contract with the BOR and approval by the Department of a permit to use stored water.
3. Consistent with land use requirements, prior to submitting the time-limited instream transfer application, the applicant provided notification of the intent to file the instream transfer application to Jackson County. Additionally, the Department provided notice of the proposed action to Jackson County upon receipt of Transfer Application T-10193.

This final order is subject to judicial review by the Court of Appeals under ORS 183.482. Any petition for judicial review must be filed within the 60-day time period specified by ORS 183.482(1). Pursuant to ORS 536.075 and OAR 137-003-0675, you may 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.

4. Notice of the application for transfer was published on June 27, 2006, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
5. Two new certificates were issued April 1, 2011, for the water right evidenced by Special Order Volume 68, Page 20. The new certificates are 86833 and 86834.
6. On December 9, 2011, the Department sent the applicant a letter requesting information on the status of the BOR contract, a permit application to use stored water, and whether the applicant was still interested in pursuing the time-limited instream transfer application.
7. On January 5, 2012, the applicant responded but did not clearly indicate whether they were still interested in pursuing the project.
8. On November 9, 2012, an unsigned copy of the proposed contract with the BOR was submitted to the Department.
9. On February 1, 2013, the Department sent the applicant additional correspondence to follow up on the status of the BOR contract and permit application to use stored water.
10. On June 17, 2013, a signed contract with the BOR and a surface water permit application to use stored water, application number S-87908, were submitted to the Department. The permit application is being processed concurrently with this time-limited instream transfer application.
11. On December 19, 2014, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-10193 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of January 20, 2015, for the applicant to respond. The deadline was later extended. The applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a Preliminary Determination and provided the necessary information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.
12. On August 24, 2015, the Department issued a Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-10193 and sent a copy to the applicant. Additionally, notice of the Preliminary Determination for the transfer application was published on the Department's weekly notice on August 25, 2015, and in the Medford Mail Tribune newspaper on August 31, 2015, September 7 and 14, 2015, pursuant to ORS 540.520 and OAR 690-380-4020. No protests were filed in response to the notices.

13. The first right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 86833 in the name of ANN WISNOVSKY (confirmed by Rogue River Decree (F) State Water Board)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 35.0 ACRES AND STOCK USE
Priority Date: September 1, 1857
Rate: 0.70 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (CFS) (IF AVAILABLE AT THE ORIGINAL POINT OF DIVERSION: FARMER'S DITCH LOCATED IN THE NE1/4 NE1/4, SECTION 14, T 39 S, R 3 W, W.M.; ORIGINAL

COORDINATES: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174) or its equivalent in case of rotation, measured at the point of diversion.

Source: LITTLE APPLGATE RIVER, a tributary of the APPLGATE RIVER

Authorized Points of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances/GPS Coordinates
38 S	3 W	WM	33	SW SE	ADDITIONAL POD: 300 FEET NORTH AND 1520 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 33
39 S	3 W	WM	14	NE NE	FARMER'S DITCH: ORIGINAL COORDINATES: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174

Authorized Place of Use:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
38 S	3 W	WM	33	SE NE	4	5.0
38 S	3 W	WM	33	NE SE		4.9
38 S	3 W	WM	34	SW NW	3	11.7
38 S	3 W	WM	34	NW SW		13.4
Total:						35.0

14. Certificate 86833 does not specify the irrigation season. The irrigation season, as established by the Rogue River Decree, is April 1 through October 31.
15. Certificate 86833 does not specify a duty limit per acre. However, the Rogue River Decree identifies that water may be used in a continuous flow throughout the irrigation season. The Department's Watermaster has concurred that water may be diverted at a continuous rate for the existing use considering beneficial use without waste.
16. The second right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 86834 in the name of ANN WISNOVSKY (perfected under Permit S-36586)

Use: IRRIGATION OF 24.7 ACRES

Priority Date: October 27, 1971

Rate: 0.31 CFS (IF AVAILABLE AT THE ORIGINAL POINT OF DIVERSION: FARMER'S DITCH LOCATED IN THE NE1/4 NE1/4, SECTION 14, T 39 S, R 3 W, W.M.; ORIGINAL COORDINATES: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174) or its equivalent in case of rotation, measured at the point of diversion.

Limit/Duty: The amount of water used for irrigation, together with the amount secured under any other right existing for the same lands, is limited to a diversion of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cfs, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, and shall be further limited to a diversion of not to exceed 4.50 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

Source: LITTLE APPLGATE RIVER, a tributary of the APPLGATE RIVER

Authorized Points of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances/GPS Coordinates
38 S	3 W	WM	33	SW SE	ADDITIONAL POD: 300 FEET NORTH AND 1520 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 33
39 S	3 W	WM	14	NE NE	FARMER'S DITCH: ORIGINAL COORDINATES: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174

Authorized Place of Use:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
38 S	3 W	WM	34	SW NW	3	14.4
38 S	3 W	WM	34	SE NW		3.8
38 S	3 W	WM	34	NE SW		0.3
38 S	3 W	WM	34	NW SW		6.2
Total:						24.7

17. A total of 111.15 acre-feet of water may be beneficially used annually under Certificate 86834.
18. Certificate 86834 does not specify the irrigation season. The irrigation season, as established by the Rogue River Decree, is April 1 through October 31.
19. The measured distances for the Farmer's Ditch point of diversion for Certificates 86833 and 86834 are different than the measured distances for the same point of diversion listed on multiple other certificates involved in other time-limited transfers on the Little Applegate River. However, the GPS coordinates are the same and upon review, the Department has determined that it is the same point of diversion.
20. The applicant has entered into a 25-year agreement with the BOR to provide stored water for irrigation of the places of use described in Findings of Fact Nos. 13 and 16. This agreement automatically renews for additional 25-year periods unless otherwise terminated by the parties. The applicant requests that the water rights described in Findings of Fact Nos. 13 and 16 revert to their authorized use and place of use upon termination of a stored water contract with the BOR or if the agreement between the applicant and the BOR is not renewed. The termination request may either be received from both the BOR and the applicant or from the applicant along with evidence that the stored water contract has been terminated or that the agreement with the BOR has not been renewed.

21. Transfer Application T-10193 proposes to change the character of use to instream use for conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, fish and wildlife habitat and any other ecological values on a time limited basis.
22. Transfer Application T-10193 proposes to change the place of use of the right to create an instream reach from the Farmer's Ditch point of diversion described in Findings of Fact Nos. 13 and 16 to the mouth of the Little Applegate River.
23. The applicant proposes the quantity of water to be transferred instream be protected as follows:

Certificate	Instream Period	Instream Rate (cfs)
86833	April 1 through October 31	0.70
86834	April 1 through October 31	0.31

24. There are several existing instream water rights established through time-limited instream transfers within the same reach as that proposed for the new instream water right. In addition, there is an existing instream water right (Certificate 75996) with a priority date of December 7, 1990, established through an instream water right application filed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).
25. During the proposed instream period, April 1 through October 31, the applicant proposes that this time-limited instream transfer be additive to other instream water rights, within the same reach, up to the amounts requested in the original instream water right application filed by ODFW under IS-70982 for Certificate 75996 (see Finding of Fact No. 34). Otherwise, the applicant proposes that the time-limited instream transfer should replace a portion of the existing instream water right (Certificate 75996) with an earlier priority date.

Instream Transfer Review Criteria (OAR 690-77-0075 and 690-380-4010)

26. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the right, and there is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the right is subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
27. A diversion structure and ditch sufficient to use the full amount of water allowed under the existing right were present within the five-year period prior to submittal of Transfer Application T-10193.
28. For Certificate 86834, at the full instream rate requested and given that the water right is limited to an annual volume of 111.15 AF, water may only be protected instream over a 180 day period rather than the full irrigation season, a 214 day period. To maximize the instream use, the Department has reduced the instream rate to protect water instream over the full irrigation season.

29. Based upon review of the transfer application and Finding of Fact No. 28, water may be protected instream as follows:

Instream Reach: From the Farmers Ditch point of diversion (as described in Findings of Fact Nos. 13 and 16) to the mouth of the Little Applegate River.

Certificate	Priority Date	Instream Period	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (AF)
86833	9/1/1857	April 1 through October 31	0.70	297.12
86834	10/1/1971	April 1 through October 31	0.26	111.15
Total Instream:			0.96	408.27

30. The proposed change, as modified, would not result in enlargement of the rights.
31. The proposed change, as modified, would not result in injury to other water rights.
32. The amount and timing of the proposed instream flow, as modified, is allowable within the limits and use of the original water rights.
33. The protection of flows within the proposed reach is appropriate, considering:
- a) The instream water right begins at the recorded point of diversion on the Little Applegate River;
 - b) The location of confluences with other streams downstream of the point of diversion;
 - c) 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.
34. There is an existing instream water right Certificate 75996, with a priority date of December 7, 1990, within the same reach as that proposed for the new instream water right under this transfer application. This instream water right was established by an application for instream water right (IS-70982) filed by the ODFW to provide instream flows for various life stages of Coho, fall chinook salmon, summer and winter steelhead, and cutthroat trout.

The quantities that may be protected instream under this right are less than the quantities requested in the instream water right application filed by the ODFW. In addition, the instream rates approved for Certificate 75996 are not always met.

Instream Rate in CFS	April	May*	June	July	Aug.	Sept.*	Oct.*
Rate Requested	85.0	85.0/50.0	50.0	33.0	33.0	33.0/50.0	50.0/85.0
Rate Approved	75.9	73.2/50.0	50.0	14.6	2.01	1.51	11.5

*The rate requested and/or approved for instream use is broken down by half month with the first rate listed being for the first half of the month and the second rate for the second half of the month.

35. There are several time-limited instream water rights with senior priority dates ranging from 1854 to 1916 within the same reach on the Little Applegate River established under the instream transfer process for fish and wildlife habitat. These time-limited instream water rights may be unwound under the same conditions as proposed in Finding of Fact No. 20.
36. Instream water rights established by instream transfer are generally additive to other instream water rights and/or replace a portion of existing instream water rights with an earlier priority date. The combination of instream water rights for the same reach may not exceed the quantity needed to provide increased public benefit (OAR 690-077-0015(11)).
37. The existing time-limited instream water rights are additive to each other during the full instream period, April through October.
38. The existing time-limited instream water rights are additive to Certificate 75996 during April, the first half of May, and July through October and replace a portion of Certificate 75996 during the second half of May and June.
39. ODFW has indicated that providing for additional instream flows and protecting water instream up to the amounts requested by ODFW in Instream Water Right Application IS-70982 (see Finding of Fact No. 34), will provide a beneficial purpose for various life stages of Coho and Fall Chinook salmon, summer and winter steelhead and cutthroat trout. Additionally, Coho are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.
40. Therefore, the Department has determined that the total monthly quantity of water to be protected instream under the existing and proposed instream rights within the same reach provide a beneficial purpose and may add to and replace other existing instream water rights as follows:
 - a) During the second half of May and the month of June, any water right established by this time-limited instream transfer may replace a portion of Certificate 75996 with an earlier priority date.
 - b) During April, the first half of May, and July through October, any instream water right established under this time-limited instream transfer may be additive to any other instream water right within the same reach up to the flows requested by the ODFW in instream water right application IS-70982 (see Finding of Fact No. 34).
 - c) For April, the first half of May, and July through October, once the cumulative total of the proposed and existing instream water rights reaches the instream rates requested by the ODFW instream water right application IS-70982, any additional quantities protected instream as a result of a time-limited instream transfer, considering respective priority dates, may replace a portion of Certificate 75996 with an earlier priority date.

41. The quantity of water protected instream under the existing instream water rights currently exceeds the estimated average natural flows in April, the first half of May, and July through October. By adding the instream use proposed under this time-limited instream transfer, estimated average natural flows are further exceeded in these months and half month. By rule, the quantity of water that may be protected instream cannot exceed the estimated average natural flows unless certain criteria are met. OAR 690-077-0015(4) and (5).
42. The Department has determined that the estimated average natural flows may be exceeded under OAR 690-077-0015(4) and (5) due to the following:
 - a) The quantity to be protected instream in July through October, together with other instream water rights within the same reach, will not exceed the amounts requested in the original instream water right application (IS-70982) filed by the ODFW (see Finding of Fact No. 34) and;
 - b) The water right proposed to be transferred to instream use on a time-limited basis is within an ODFW flow restoration priority watershed for July through October.
 - c) ODFW has indicated that exceeding the estimated average natural flows in April, the first half of May, and July through October, within the proposed reach, up to the amounts requested by ODFW in application IS-70982, are significant for the applied for public use, specifically for Coho and Fall Chinook salmon, summer and winter steelhead and cutthroat trout for migration, spawning, egg incubation, fry emergence and juvenile rearing.

Conclusions of Law

The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in Time-Limited Instream Transfer Application T-10193 are consistent with the requirements of ORS 540.505 to 540.580, ORS 537.348, OAR 690-380-5000, and OAR 690-077-0075.

Now, therefore, it is ORDERED:

1. The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in Time-Limited Instream Transfer Application T-10193 are approved and become effective when this order is signed, or when the permit under Application S-87908 is issued, whichever happens later.
2. The exercise of the rights evidenced by Certificate 86833 for Irrigation and Stock Use and Certificate 86834 for Irrigation at the former places of use shall be **SUSPENDED**, without loss of priority, for the term of the transfer authorized herein.
3. Water shall be protected instream for conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, fish and wildlife habitat and any other ecological values.

4. The instream water right shall provide for the protection of streamflows from the diversion authorized under Certificates 86833 and 86834, located at:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances/GPS Coordinates
39 S	3 W	WM	14	NE NE	FARMER'S DITCH: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174

to the mouth of the Little Applegate River (River Mile 0.0).

5. The quantity of water to be protected under the instream water rights are:

Certificate	Priority Date	Instream Period	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (AF)
86833	9/1/1857	April 1 through October 31	0.70	297.12
86834	10/1/1971	April 1 through October 31	0.26	111.15
Total Instream:			0.96	408.27

6. Water rights upstream of the original point of diversion shall not be subject to regulation for flows in excess of the quantity to which this instream water right is entitled at the original point of diversion.
7. 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 (Farmer's Ditch) located at:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances/GPS Coordinates
39 S	3 W	WM	14	NE NE	FARMER'S DITCH: 210 FEET SOUTH AND 970 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 14; ALSO LOCATED AS GPS COORDINATES: LATITUDE 42.18400, LONGITUDE -123.0174

8. During the term of this order and for the second half of May and the month of June the instream right established by this transfer shall replace a portion of instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.341 or 537.346 and be in addition to instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.348 or 537.470.
9. During the term of this order and for April, the first half of May, and the months of July, August, September, and October the instream right established by this transfer shall be in addition to instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.341, 537.346, 537.348 or 537.470, but the quantity protected instream shall not exceed the rate in cfs shown below:

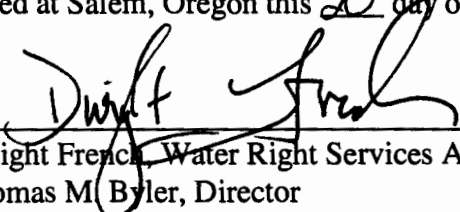
Instream Rate in CFS	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
1 st half of month	85.0	85.0	50.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	50.0
2 nd half of month	85.0	50.0	50.0	33.0	33.0	50.0	85.0

These months or partial months are shown to describe the maximum instream rate associated with the time-limited instream water right, in connection with other instream water rights for the same reach.

Once the amounts protected instream as a result of this time limited instream transfer, in combination with other time-limited instream transfers, exceeds the amounts listed above, any additional quantities protected instream as a result of a time-limited instream transfer shall replace a portion of instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.341 or 537.346.

10. The right to the use of the water is restricted to beneficial use at the place of use described, and is subject to all other conditions and limitations contained in Certificates 86833 and 86834 and any related decree.
11. The term of this Final Order shall continue until terminated. Upon expiration of this transfer, the use of water shall revert to its original use and place of use as described by Certificates 86833 and 86834. The use shall revert to the authorized use and place of use upon submission of a termination request from:
 - a) The Bureau of Reclamation and the applicant, or
 - b) The applicant along with evidence that the stored water contract from Applegate Reservoir has been terminated or that the agreement between the applicant and the Bureau of Reclamation has not been renewed.
12. This order may be terminated if a permit is not issued or is rescinded under Application S-87908.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 20th day of November, 2015.



Dwight French, Water Right Services Administrator, for
Thomas M. Byler, Director
Oregon Water Resources Department

Mailing Date: NOV 24 2015