# BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Instream Transfer	)	FINAL ORDER APPROVING A
Application T-10356, Deschutes County	)	CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE AND
	)	CHARACTER OF USE

## Authority

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. 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

DESCHUTES RIVER CONSERVANCY (DRC) 700 NW HILL STREET BEND OR 97701

## **Findings of Fact**

### Background

- 1. On April 2, 2007, the DRC filed an application to change the place of use and character of use under Certificate 74145 to instream use. The Department assigned the application number T-10356.
- 2. The portion of the right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 74145 in the name of Swalley Irrigation District

Use: IRRIGATION of 8.14 ACRES Priority Date: September 1, 1899

Source: DESCHUTES RIVER, tributary to COLUMBIA RIVER

This is an order in other than a 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.

Authorized Points of Diversion (POD):

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Survey Coordinates
17 S	12 E	WM	29	SE NE	POD #3: SWALLEY MAIN CANAL: 985 FEET NORTH AND 617 FEET WEST FROM THE EAST ¼ CORNER OF SECTION 29
15 S	12 E	WM	14	NW SE	POD #15: ADDITIONAL DISTRICT DIVERSION: 2170 FEET NORTH AND 1350 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 14

### **Authorized Place of Use:**

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	Additional Information: Tax Lo Number Listed on Application	
17 S	12 E	WM	20	NW NE	2.14	100	
17 S	12 E	WM	16	SW SE	2.00	2600	
17 S	12 E	WM	17	SW SE	1.00	7900	
17 S	12 E	WM	17	SW SE	1.00	8000	
17 S	12 E	WM	17	SW SE	2.00	8200	

<sup>†</sup> May be a different tax lot number than what is described on the water right certificate.

3. The rate and duty associated with Certificate 74145 is dependent on whether the right is served by the main canal or a direct diversion right. There are a total of 4,561.105 acres listed on the certificate, of which 4,442.795 may be served by the canal, and 118.31 acres that are restricted to being served by direct diversions. The rights served by the canal are entitled to the following rates:

1115 Tates.	
Season 1:	Season 1 Rate:
April 1 - 30 & Oct. 1 – 31	1 cfs to 83.0 acres
Season 2:	Season 2 Rate:
May 1 – 14 & Sept. 15 – 30	1 cfs to 62.0 acres
Season 3:	Season 3 Rate:
May 15 - Sept. 14	1 cfs to 33.45 acres

The above rates include a 43% transmission loss allowed by the Court to compensate for seepage from the canal. This transmission loss is not allowed on direct diversion rates. The total rate of use described on the certificate is limited to 125.0 cfs measured at the points of diversion from the source.

The duty per acre associated with lands served by the canal shall not exceed 9.58 acre feet for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season as measured at the points of diversion from the source. For lands served by direct diversions, the duty per acre is limited to 5.46 acre feet.

Certificate 74145 has been modified (reduced) by allocation of conserved water projects CW-13 (Special Order Volume 61, Page 630), CW-40 (Special Order Volume 70, Page 143), CW-41 (Special Order Volume 71, Page 202), CW-43, which includes canceling 0.03 acres served by the main canal, (Special Order Volume 73, Page 212), CW-47 (project

approved, but not yet finalized, Special Order Volume 71, Page 221), CW-48 (Special Order Volume 73, Page 307), and transfers T-8519 (Special Order Volume 55, Page 1010) which transferred 21.0 acres of direct diversion right to instream right (Certificate 76687), T-8154 (a place of use transfer, Special Order Volume 53, Page 1445), which did not prove up on 1.0 acre of canal diversion, which will be removed from the water right, and T-9308 (a place of use transfer approved by Special Order Volume 65, Page 472) also modified Certificate 74145 and includes 2.0 acres of inchoate canal diversion. The table below shows the initial rate and duty for Certificate 74145 and the reductions in rate and duty made by each of the described modifications. The rate and duty for the 2.0 acres associated with T-9308 are included in the initial rate and duty shown in the table below.

Consequently, the starting point for the rate and duty before this transfer associated with Certificate 74145 is approximately:

	Initial Rate / Duty (includes T-9308)	CW-13 Rate / Duty	T-8519 Rate / Duty	T-8154 Rate / Duty	CW-40 Rate / Duty	CW-41 Rate / Duty	CW-47 Rate/ Duty (Project not finalized)
Season 1 Rate (cfs)	54.340	(0.310)	(0.144)	(0.012)	(1.480)	(4.400)	(4.67)
Season 2 Rate (cfs)	72.746	(0.420)	(0.193)	(0.016)	(1.480)	(4.400)	(6.67)
Season 3 Rate (cfs)	125.000	(0.770)	(0.358)	(0.028)	(1.480)	(4.400)	(9.00)
Duty (AF)	4,3207.95	(417.00)	(114.66)	(9.02)	(627.10)	(1,864.37)	(3,157.62)

	Cancellation Associated with CW-43 Rate/ Duty	CW-43 Rate/ Duty	CW-48 Rate/ Duty	Approximate Before T-10356 Rate/Duty*
Season 1 Rate (cfs)	(0.000)	(0.209)	(0.76)	42.355
Season 2 Rate (cfs)	(0.000)	(0.294)	(1.03)	58.243
Season 3 Rate (cfs)	(0.001)	(0.532)	(1.63)	106.801
Duty (AF)	(0.23)	(172.57)	(551.00)	36,294.38

<sup>\*</sup>This includes the inchoate rate and duty associated with T-9308, and any other transfers completed pursuant to ORS 540.580. Additionally, the rate and duty may have been further modified by other orders of the Department.

The table below then shows the rate and duty associated with the 8.14 acres proposed to be transferred. This was determined by subtracting the existing direct diversion rates from the approximate starting rate and duty for this water right, identified in the table above, and then by determining the maximum rate that could be applied simultaneously to all canal diversion acres. This is the amount that Certificate 74145 will be reduced by as a result of this transfer.

	Approximate Before T-10356 Rate/Duty	Direct Diversion Rate/Duty	Total Canal Diversion Rate/Duty	Canal Rate 1/X cfs/ac and Duty (if exercised simultaneously)	Rate/Duty Associated with 8.14 Canal Acres, including loss
Season 1	42.355	(0.812)	41.543		0.08
Rate (cfs)				1/106.944 cfs/ac	
Season 2	58.243	(1.088)	57.155		
Rate (cfs)				1/77.732 cfs/ac	0.10
Season 3	106.801	(2.016)	104.785		
Rate (cfs)				1/42.399 cfs/ac	0.19
Duty (AF)	36,294.38	(645.97)	35,648.41	7.65 AF/ac	62.28

The transferable portion of the water right, however, is the full rate and duty that can be applied to each acre (see first table contained in Finding of Fact #3) less the canal transmission losses, being:

	Transferable Rate/Duty Per Canal Acre	Transferable Rate/Duty Associated with 8.14 Canal Acres
Season 1 Rate	1cfs to 83.0 ac less 43%	0.06 cfs
Season 2 Rate	1cfs to 62.0 ac less 43%	0.07 cfs
Season 3 Rate	1cfs to 33.45 ac less 43%	0.14 cfs
Duty	9.58 AF/ac less 43% (or 5.46 AF/ac)	44.44 AF

4. The applicant is not the owner of the lands to which the water right described in Finding of Fact #2 is appurtenant. However, water right conveyance agreements have been completed and interest in the water right has been conveyed from each landowner, described in the table below, to the DRC. The portion of this right to be transferred was appurtenant to lands owned by the identified landowners at the time interest in the water right was conveyed through a Ouit Claim, a water right conveyance agreement.

Grantor (landowner)	Water Right Interest Holder	Т	R	s	Q-Q	Tax Lot at time of Conveyance
Ted Wise & Martin F. Lofquist	DRC	17 S	12 E	20	NW NE	100
A-1 Excavation, Inc.	DRC	17 S	12 E	16	SW SE	2600
Garth Jackson, President of Palmer Homes	Swalley Irrigation District	17 S	12 E	17	SW SE	7900
Garth Jackson, President of Palmer Homes	Swalley Irrigation District	17 S	12 E	17	SW SE	8000
Garth Jackson, President of Palmer Homes	Swalley Irrigation District	17 S	12 E	17	SW SE	8200

- 5. On August 2, 2007, the applicant provided documentation to the Department demonstrating that on April 3, 2007, Swalley Irrigation District had conveyed ownership interest in the water right, which was appurtenant to tax lots 7900, 8000, and 8200, to the DRC.
- 6. Application T-10356 proposes to change the character of use to instream use for conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, fish and wildlife habitat and other ecological values; recreation; and pollution abatement.

- 7. Application T-10356 proposes to change the place of use of the right to create an instream reach from Swalley Main Canal POD #3 (described in Finding of Fact #2) at approximately RM 165 to the mouth of the Deschutes River at RM 0.0.
- 8. The applicant originally proposed the quantities water to be transferred instream to be protected in two reaches as follows:

	Reach 1: POD #3 (RM 165) to RM 120	Reach 2: RM 120 to RM 0.0
Season 1 Rate (cfs): April 1 - 30 & Oct. 1 - 31	0.056 CFS	0.035 CFS
Season 2 Rate (cfs): May 1 – 14 & Sept. 15 - 30	0.075 CFS	0.035 CFS
Season 3 Rate (cfs): May 15 - Sept. 14	0.13 CFS	0.035 CFS
Duty (AF)	42.24 AF	14.65 AF

- 9. There are several existing instream water rights located within the same instream reaches proposed by the applicant. There are two existing instream water rights established through the state agency application process below Lake Billy Chinook and one pending application within the same reach above Lake Billy Chinook. The state agency established instream water rights are junior in priority date to the water right proposed for transfer. The remaining instream water rights were established through the instream transfer and allocation of conserved water processes.
- 10. The applicant has requested to replace a portion of instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.341 (minimum perennial streamflow) or 537.346 (state agency application) with a more senior priority date and be in addition to instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.348 (instream transfer) or 537.470 (allocation of conserved water).
- 11. Notice of the application for transfer was published on April 10, 2007, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 12. On June 20, 2007, the Department mailed a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-10356, with modifications to the rate protectable instream, to the applicant and Swalley Irrigation District. The cover letter that accompanied the draft Preliminary Determination set forth a deadline of July 31, 2007, for the applicant to respond. On July 12, 2007, the applicant provided additional information to the Department and requested that the Department reevaluate its injury determination so that the requested rate could be protected instream. On July 31, 2007, the Department e-mailed a revised draft Preliminary Determination to the applicant and Swalley Irrigation District, proposing to allow the full diversion rate to be transferred to instream use, without the 43 percent transmission loss. The cover letter that accompanied the revised draft Preliminary Determination set forth a deadline of August 31, 2007, for the applicant to respond. On August 2, 2007, the applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a

- Preliminary Determination and on August 6 and 8, 2007, the applicant provided the necessary information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.
- 13. On August 8, 2007, the Department issued a Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer T-10356 and mailed 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 14, 2007, and in The Bulletin newspaper on August 14, 21, and 28, 2007, pursuant to ORS 540.520 and OAR 690-380-4020. No protests were filed in response to the notice.
- 14. On September 21, 2007, a red-lined Draft Final Order was e-mailed to the applicant and Swalley Irrigation District. This red-line draft order highlighted changes to the Proposed Final Order due to the approval of Allocation of Conserved Water application CW-43 and CW-48 that were approved after the Preliminary Determination of T-10356 was issued. On September 21, 2007, the applicant and Swalley Irrigation District gave their consent to the red-lined changes.

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

- 15. 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.
- 16. 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 application T-10356.
- 17. At the full rate and duty that may be transferred to instream use (see Finding of Fact #3), water may be protected instream for a period of 208 days. The instream period requested by the applicant, April 1 through October 31, (see Finding of Fact #9) is 214 days.

18. Based upon Findings of Fact #3 and #17, on August 2, 2007, the applicant agreed to modify the quantities to be transferred and protected instream as follows:

	Reach 1: POD #3 (RM 165) to RM 120	Reach 2: RM 120 to RM 0.0
Season 1 Rate (cfs):	0.06 CFS	0.03 CFS
April 1 - 30 & Oct. 1 – 25		
Season 2 Rate (cfs):	0.07 CFS	0.03 CFS
May 1 – 14 & Sept. 15 - 30		
Season 3 Rate (cfs):	0.14 CFS	0.03 CFS
May 15 - Sept. 14		
Duty (AF)	44.44 AF	14.65 AF

19. There is an instream lease, L-559, presently in effect for a portion of the water right proposed for transfer to instream use. The portion of the right presently leased instream is associated with the portion conveyed by Ted Wise & Martin F. Lofquist, as described in Finding of Fact #4. The lease was approved by the Department on July 12, 2004, as

T-10356.RA-rdr

evidenced by Special order Volume 60, Page 443 (and correcting order, Special Order Volume 60, Page 883). This lease is scheduled to terminate on October 31, 2008, and includes a condition allowing for early termination of the lease order. The applicant has requested that Instream lease L-559 be terminated upon issuance of the final order approving T-10356.

- 20. The proposed change, as modified, would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 21. The proposed change, as modified, would not result in injury to other water rights.
- 22. The amount of the proposed instream flow and the timing of the proposed instream flow are allowable within the limits and use of the original water right as described in Finding of Fact #3.
- 23. The protection of flows within the proposed reaches is appropriate, considering:
  - a) The instream water right begins at the recorded point of diversion;
  - 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 within the proposed reach and have been accounted for in Reach #2 (see Finding of Fact #18).
- 24. Within the proposed reach, the Deschutes River is a designated State Scenic Waterway. The protection of flows necessary to maintain the free flowing character of the Deschutes River for fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation is a matter of statutory policy. Within the reaches proposed by the applicant, there are several existing state agency applied instream water rights, which include the use of water for fish habitat, recreation, and aesthetics. There is also a pending instream water right application filed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for anadromous and resident fish rearing. In addition to flows for the designated Scenic Waterway and the existing and pending instream water right application, which are at times not met during requested period for instream protection, this segment of the Deschutes River is also on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) 303d list of water quality limited streams for temperature and pH above Lake Billy Chinook and for nutrients, sedimentation and temperature below Lake Billy Chinook at the lower end of the river.
- 25. By replacing a portion of state agency established instream water rights, Certificates 73188 and 73237, on the river below Lake Billy Chinook, the instream right will provide protection for streamflows identified as necessary for supporting aquatic life and recreation under an earlier priority date. By adding to other instream water rights located within the same reach proposed by this instream transfer application, the instream right will provide protection for

- additional streamflows necessary for fish and wildlife habitat enhancement, pollution abatement, and recreation.
- 26. The total monthly quantities of water to be protected under the proposed instream water right, in addition to other existing instream water rights established under ORS 537.348 and 537.470 in the proposed reach will provide for a beneficial purpose and do not exceed the estimated average natural flow.

27. After the approval of transfer T-10356, the Certificate 74145 will approximately allow use of the following quantities of water:

Season	Before T-10356 Direct Diversion Rate/Duty	Before T-10356 Canai Diversion Rate/Duty	Total Before T-10356 Maximum Rate/Duty	Reduction Due to T-10356 (from Canal Diversion)	After T-10356 Direct Diversion Rate/Duty	After T-10356 Canal Diversion Rate/Duty	After T-10356 Maximum Rate/Duty
Season 1 Rate: April 1 - 30 & Oct. 1 - 31 (cfs)	0.812	41.543	42.355	0.08	0.812	41.463	42.275
Season 2 Rate: May 1 – 14 & Sept. 15 – 30 (cfs)	1.088	57.155	58.243	0.10	1.088	57.055	58.143
Season 3 Rate: May 15 - Sept. 14 (cfs)	2.016	104.785	106.801	0.19	2.016	104.595	106.611
Duty (AF)	645.97	35,648.41	36,294.38	62.28	645.97	35,586.13	36,232.10

28. As described in Findings of Fact #3 and 27, the portion of the water right affected by this transfer includes the transmission loss and is the amount that may be diverted at the POD. It is the amount that may be diverted at the POD, as described above, if all other acres were taking the full amount of their water right, by which the water right will be reduced upon completion of the transfer.

#### **Conclusions of Law**

The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in application T-10356 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. This order does not become effective until an order canceling Instream Lease L-559, is signed. If for any reason an order canceling Instream Lease L-559 does not become effective, then this order does not become effective.
- 2. The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in application T-10356 are approved.
- 3. Water Right Certificate 74145 is modified. A new certificate confirming the instream water right shall be issued. The Department shall issue a new water right certificate to supersede

Certificate 74145 on a determination that it is necessary to produce a certificate to confirm that portion of the right not involved in this transfer. Approval of this transfer shall reduce the amount of water lawfully available under the remaining portion of Certificate 74145 by the quantities associated with the irrigation of 8.14 acres as measured at the canal diversion, and described in Findings of Fact # 27 and 28, being:

	Rate/Duty Associated with 8.14 Canal Acres, including loss	
Season 1 Rate	0.08 cfs	
Season 2 Rate	0.10 cfs	
Season 3 Rate	0.19 cfs	
Duty	62.28 AF	

- 4. The instream water right shall provide for the protection of streamflows from POD #3 (Swalley Main Canal) to the mouth of the Deschutes River. The instream right consists of two reaches: Reach #1 extending from the point of diversion (RM 165) to Lake Billy Chinook (RM 120), and Reach #2 extending from Lake Billy Chinook (RM 120) to the mouth (RM 0). The instream water right shall provide for the protection of streamflows for conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, fish and wildlife habitat and other ecological values; pollution abatement; and recreation in the Deschutes River.
- 5. The quantities of water to be protected under the instream water right are:

	Reach 1: POD #3 (RM 165) to RM 120	Reach 2: RM 120 to RM 0.0
Season 1 Rate (cfs): April 1 - 30 & Oct. 1 - 25	0.06	0.03
Season 2 Rate (cfs): May 1 – 14 & Sept. 15 - 30	0.07	0.03
Season 3 Rate (cfs): May 15 - Sept. 14	0.14	0.03
Duty (AF)	44.44	14.65

- 6. Stream channel losses and gains calculated based on available data and the use of senior appropriators will determine the amount of water to which this right is entitled downstream from the original point of diversion within the specified stream reaches.
- 7. 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, unless otherwise specified by an order approving a new instream water right under these statutes.
- 8. 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 Certificate 74145 and any related decree.

Page 9 of 10

9. The former place of use of the transferred water shall no longer receive water as part of this right.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 28th day of September 2007.

Phillip C. Ward, Director

Mailing date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ OCT 0 2 2007