BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application T-14896, Douglas County	)))))	FINAL ORDER APPROVING AN EMERGENCY USE DROUGHT TEMPORARY CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE AND CHANGE IN POINT OF DIVERSION

Authority

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 536.750 establishes the process in which a water right holder may submit a request to temporarily transfer the use, place of use or point of diversion of water in the event of a declaration of drought, without complying with the notice and waiting requirements under ORS 540.520. Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 690, Division 019 implements the statutes and provides the Department's procedures and criteria for evaluating drought transfer applications.

Applicant

JAMES W. AND JANE P. RATZLAFF TRUST
4391 STILLWATER ROAD
ROSEBURG, OR 97470

Findings of Fact

1. On July 6, 2026, James W. and Jane P. Ratzlaff Trust, filed an application to temporarily change the place of use and change the point of diversion under Certificate 88952 for the remainder of the 2026 irrigation season or the term of the Governor's declared drought, whichever is shorter. The Department assigned the application number T-14896.

2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on July 14, 2026, pursuant to OAR 690-019-0055(5).

3. The portion of the right to be temporarily transferred is as follows:

   Certificate: 88952 in the name of JAMES W AND JANE P RATZLAFF (perfected under Permit S-12340)

This is a final 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 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.

Use: IRRIGATION of 8.5 ACRES
Priority Date: AUGUST 31, 1936
Rate: 0.106 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND
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 cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, and shall be further limited to a diversion of not to exceed 2.5 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
Source: NORTH UMPQUA RIVER, tributary to UMPQUA RIVER

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Measured Distances
26 S	5 W	WM	25	NE NW	3	100 FEET SOUTH AND 3130 FEET WEST FROM SE CORNER, SECTION 24

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
26 S	5 W	WM	25	NW NE		6.0
26 S	5 W	WM	25	NE NW	3	2.5
					Total	8.5

4. Temporary Transfer Application T-14896 proposes to temporarily change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
26 S	5 W	WM	25	SW NW	2	8.5

5. A change in point of diversion is necessary to convey the water to the proposed temporary place of use. Temporary Transfer Application T-14896 proposes to move the authorized point of diversion approximately 0.3 mile downstream to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Measured Distances
26 S	5 W	WM	25	NW NW	1	POD 3 - 1040 FEET SOUTH AND 4580 FEET WEST FROM SE CORNER, SECTION 24

Temporary Drought Transfer Review Criteria

6. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the right. There is no evidence available that would demonstrate that the right is subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.

7. A water delivery system sufficient to use the full amount of water allowed under the existing right is present.

8. The Governor issued an executive order on June 9, 2026, declaring a state of drought emergency in Douglas County due to drought and extreme weather conditions, which is still in effect and the water right proposed for transfer is on lands included in the area covered by the drought order.

9. The proposed changes would not result in enlargement of the rights.

10. The proposed changes would not result in injury to other water rights. This finding is made through an abbreviated review recognizing that the transfer may be revoked under OAR 690-019-055(3) if injury to existing water rights is shown and cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the Director and injured parties.

Conclusions of Law

The temporary change in place of use and point of diversion proposed in Temporary Drought Transfer Application T-14896 are consistent with the requirements of ORS 536.750 and OAR 690-019-0055.

Now, therefore, it is ORDERED:

1. The temporary change in place of use and point of diversion proposed in Temporary Drought Transfer Application T-14896 are approved.

2. The former places of use **shall not** be irrigated as part of these water rights during the remainder of the 2026 irrigation season or until the end of the Governor's declared drought, whichever occurs first.

3. The approval of this temporary drought transfer may be revoked or modified if the Department finds the changes cause injury to any existing water right.

4. The quantity of water diverted at the proposed temporary point of diversion shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of diversion.

5. The proposed change in place of use and point of diversion shall revert to the authorized place of use and point of diversion at the end of the 2026 irrigation season or the end of the Governor's declared drought, whichever occurs first.

6. The use of water at the temporary places of use authorized by this transfer shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Certificate 88952.

7. Water use measurement conditions:

    a. Before water use may begin under this order, the water user shall install a totalizing flow meter, or, with prior approval of the Director, another suitable measuring device, at each new point of diversion/appropriation with the exception that water rights issued to the Bureau of Reclamation or an irrigation district (or similar entity) are not subject to this condition.

b. The water user shall maintain the meters or measuring devices in good working order.

c. The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meters or measuring devices; provided however, where the meters or measuring devices are located within a private structure, the Watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.

8. The use of the remaining water right described by Certificate 88952 shall continue to be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Certificate 88952.

Dated in Salem, Oregon on JUL 17 2026

Lisa J. Jaramillo, Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for
IVAN GALL, DIRECTOR
Oregon Water Resources Department

Mailing Date: JUL 18 2026