

January 15, 2014

Water Resources Department

North Mall Office Building 725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301 Phone (503) 986-0900 Fax (503) 986-0904 www.wrd.state.or.us

VIA E-MAIL

PINE MEADOW RANCH ATTN: CRIS CONVERSE PO BOX 969 SISTERS, OR 97759 captainconverse@gmail.com

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-11686

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-11686. This document is an intermediate step in the approval process; water may not be used legally as proposed in the transfer application until a Final Order has been issued by the Department. Please read this entire letter carefully to determine your responsibility for additional action.

A public notice is being published in the Department's weekly publication and in the *Bend Bulletin* newspaper, simultaneously with issuance of the Preliminary Determination. The notice initiates a period in which any person may file either a protest opposing the decision proposed by the Department in the Preliminary Determination or a standing statement supporting the Department's decision. The protest period will end 30 days after the last date of newspaper publication.

If no protest is filed, the Department will issue a Final Order consistent with the Preliminary Determination. You should receive a copy of the Final Order about 30 days after the close of the protest period.

If a protest is filed, the application may be referred to a contested case provides an opportunity for the proponents and opponents of the decision proposed in the Preliminary Determination to present information and arguments supporting their position in a quasi-judicial proceeding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 503-986-0881 or Teri.K.Hranac@wrd.state.or.us if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Teri Hranac

Supply and Conservation Specialist Transfer and Conservation Section

Enclosure

cc:

T-11686

Jeremy T. Giffin, District 11 Watermaster (via e-mail)

Zachary Tillman, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail at zach@deshcutesriver.org)

Danielle MacBain, (via e-mail at dmacbain@gwiws.com)

BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-11686, Deschutes County)	PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A
)	CHANGE IN POINT OF DIVERSION

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.

Applicant

PINE MEADOW RANCH ATTN: CRIS CONVERSE PO BOX 969 SISTERS, OR 97759

Findings of Fact

- 1. On November 18, 2013, Pine Meadow Ranch filed an application to change the point of diversion under Certificates 293, 44043, and 74141. The Department assigned the application number T-11686.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on November 26, 2013, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On December 16, 2013, the applicant amended the application to reflect a portion of Certificate 75141 as the only certificate involved in this transfer application.
- 4. On December 19, 2013, the applicant's agent requested the Department amend the application to identify by coordinates the location of the proposed point of diversion.
- 5. On January 2, 2014, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-11686 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of January 16, 2014, for the applicant to respond. The applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a Preliminary Determination. The necessary information was provided to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.

Pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, any person may file a protest or standing statement within 30 days after the last date of publication of notice of this preliminary determination.

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

Certificate: 75141 in the name of ROSS B. HAMMOND (confirmed by Squaw

[Whychus] Creek Decree, 1914)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 22.0 ACRES

Priority Date: 1906

Rate:

0.44 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Source:

SQUAW CREEK, tributary to the DESCHUTES RIVER

Authorized Point of Diversion: (Not listed)

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	
15 S	10 E	WM	8	NE SE	14.5	
15 S	10 E	WM	8	SE SE	7.5	

7. Certificate 75141 does not describe the location of the authorized point of diversion, however information is available from the Whychus Creek Decree, the Watermaster, and the transfer map submitted indicating that the point of diversion is located as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Coordinates
15 S	10 E	WM	17	NE SE	LATITUDE: 44.268085 LONGITUDE: 121.558340

8. Transfer Application T-11686 proposes to move the authorized point of diversion approximately 1.25 miles downstream to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Coordinates
15 S	10 E	WM	9	SW SW	LATITUDE: 44.280227
					LONGITUDE 121.553322

9. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has determined that a fish screen is necessary at the new point of diversion to prevent fish from entering the diversion and that the diversion is not currently equipped with an appropriate fish screen.

Transfer Review Criteria [OAR 690-380-4010(2)]

- 10. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the right. There is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the right is subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
- 11. 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-11686.
- 12. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 13. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.

Determination and Proposed Action

The change in point of diversion proposed in Transfer Application T-11686 appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 540.505 to 540.580 and OAR 690-380-5000. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the transfer application will be approved.

If Transfer Application T-11686 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The change in point of diversion proposed in Transfer Application T-11686 is approved.
- 2. 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 75141 and any related decree.
- 3. Water right certificate 75141 is cancelled. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of the right not affected by this transfer.
- 4. The quantity of water diverted at the new point of diversion, shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of diversion.
- 5. 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.
 - b. The water user shall maintain the meter or measuring device in good working order.
 - c. The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meter or measuring device; provided however, where the meter or measuring device is located within a private structure, the Watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
- 6. Prior to diverting water, the water user shall install an approved fish screen at the new point of diversion and shall provide to the OWRD a written statement from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) that the installed screen meets the state's criteria, or that ODFW has determined a screen is not necessary.
- 7. The water user shall operate and maintain the fish screen at the new point of diversion consistent with ODFW's operational and maintenance standards. If ODFW determines the screen is not functioning properly, and is unsuccessful in working with the water user to meet ODFW standards, ODFW may request that OWRD regulate the use of water until OWRD receives notification from ODFW that the fish screen is functioning properly.
- 8. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before October 1, 2014. A Claim of Beneficial Use prepared by a Certified Water Right Examiner shall be submitted by the applicant to the Department within one year after the deadline for completion of the change and full beneficial use of the water.

9. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, a new certificate confirming the right transferred will be issued.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 15 day of January, 2014.

Dwight French, Water Right Services Administrator, for

PHILLIP C. WARD, DIRECTOR

Protests should be addressed to the attention of Transfer and Conservation Section, Water Resources Department, 725 Sumer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, OR 97301-1266.