



Water Resources Department North Mall Office Building 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301-1271 503-986-0900 FAX 503-986-0904

January <u>30</u>, 2015

VIA E-MAIL

V BOX LAND AND LIVESTOCK PO BOX 156 JUNTURA, OR 97911-0156

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-11819

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-11819. 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 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 Department's notice.

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 proceeding. 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 Tracy.L.Fox@wrd.state.or.us or 503 986-0827 if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Mg. Tracy Fox Transfer Specialist Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: T-11819 JR Johnson, District 10 Watermaster (via e-mail) Mike Bentz, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail) Robert Bagett, CWRE #9 (via e-mail)

enclosures

# BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

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In the Matter of Transfer Application T-11819, Malheur County PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

- PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A
- CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE

## Authority

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 537.705 and 540.505 to 540.580 establish the process in which a water right holder may submit a request to transfer the point of appropriation, 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.

#### Applicant

V BOX LAND AND LIVESTOCK PO BOX 156 JUNTURA, OR 97911-0156

## **Findings of Fact**

- 1. On May 22, 2014, V BOX LAND AND LIVESTOCK filed an application to change the place of use under Certificate 28451. The Department assigned the application number T-11819.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on June 3, 2014, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On October 10, 2014, the Department contacted the applicant, by telephone and by written correspondence to notify the applicant of the deficiencies in the application. The main deficiencies being Evidence of Use Form was missing; the location of the authorized well on the application and transfer map did not match the location of the authorized well on the certificate and the remaining right acres did not agree with the transfer application map. The Department requested that the deficiencies be resolved by November 10, 2014.
- 4. On October 27, 2014, the Certified Water Right Examiner (CWRE) submitted amended application pages and an amended transfer application map resolving most of the deficiencies. On November 3, 2014, the applicant submitted an Evidence of Use form resolving the remaining deficiency.
- 5. On November 12, 2014, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-11819 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of December 12, 2014, for the applicant to respond. The applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a

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.

Preliminary Determination and provided the necessary information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.

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

<b>Certificate:</b>	28451 in the name of BUDD ROGERS (perfected under Permit G-324)
Use:	IRRIGATION of 38.7 ACRES
<b>Priority Date:</b>	APRIL 20, 1956
Rate:	0.48 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, shall be limited to
	ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second per acre, or its equivalent
	for each acre irrigated, and shall be further limited to a diversion of not to
	exceed 3.0 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation
	season of each year.
Source:	ROGERS NO. 1 WELL within the GRANITE CREEK BASIN

# Authorized Point of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Measured Distances	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	SE NW	6	WELL 1 – 5.0 CHAINS NORTH AND 37.0 CHAINS EAST FROM THE W1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 7	

# **Authorized Place of Use:**

		IRR	IGATI	ON		
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
24 S	39 E	WM	6	NE SW	7	3.6
24 S	39 E	WM	6	SE SW	12	22.1
24 S	39 E	WM	6	SW SE		6.4
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NW NE		1.4
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NE NW	1	1.9
24 S	39 E	WM	7	SE NW	6	3.1
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NE SW	7	0.2
h					Total:	38.7

7. Transfer Application T-11819 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres	
24 S	39 E	WM	6	SW SW	11	4.3	
24 S	39 E	WM	6	SE SW	12	1.7	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NW NE		0.6	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NE NW	1	2.0	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	NW NW	2	11.3	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	SW NW	5	15.0	
24 S	39 E	WM	7	SE NW	6	3.8	
					Total:	38.7	

## Transfer Review Criteria (OAR 690-380-4010)

- 8. 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.
- 9. A pump, pipeline, and sprinkler system 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-11819.
- 10. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 11. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.
- 12. All other application requirements are met.

## **Determination and Proposed Action**

The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-11819 appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 537.705 and 540.505 to 540.580 and OAR 690-380-5000. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the application will be approved.

If Transfer Application T-11819 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-11819 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 28451 and any related decree.
- 3. Water right Certificate 28451 is cancelled. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of the right not affected by this transfer.
- 4. 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 point of appropriation (new and existing).
  - 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.
- 5. The former place of use of the transferred right shall no longer receive water under the right.

- 6. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2016**. 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.
- 7. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, a new certificate confirming the right transferred will be issued.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 29 day of January, 2015.

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

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by Tracy Fox. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 503-986-0827 or Tracy.L.Fox@wrd.state.or.us.

Protests should be addressed to the Water Rights Services Division, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer Street, Suite A, Salem, OR 97301-1266.