



Water Resources Department 725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301 (503) 986-0900 Fax (503) 986-0904

March 10, 2015

VIA E-MAIL

JOHN A. SHORT WATER RIGHT SERVICES, LLC PO BOX 1830 BEND, OR 97709

SUBJECT: Instream Transfer Application T-11365 / Mitigation Credit Project MP-168

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-11365 and Mitigation Credit Project MP-168. 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 Frontier Advisor 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 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 503-986-0884 or Laura.K.Wilke@wrd.state.or.us if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Dilke

Flow Restoration Program Coordinator Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: T-11365 / MP-168 Jeremy T. Giffin, District 11 Watermaster (via e-mail) Richard Carlson, Diamond Summit HOA Jackie Yow Randy Yow

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

In the Matter of Instream Transfer Application T-11365, and Mitigation Credit Project MP-168, Deschutes and Klamath Counties PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A
CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE AND
CHARACTER OF USE, PRELIMINARY
AWARD OF MITIGATION CREDITS,
AND PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF
A WATER RIGHT

#### 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.

ORS 540.621 establishes the process for the owner of land to which a water right is appurtenant to certify under oath that the water right, or a portion thereof, has been abandoned and to voluntarily request that it be cancelled.

OAR 690-521-0100 to 690-521-0600 establishes the process in which anyone may submit a ground water mitigation project to the Department for the purpose of establishing mitigation credits in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area.

Pursuant to OAR 690-521-0400 (2), any mitigation credits awarded to a mitigation project are valid until used to fulfill a mitigation obligation of a ground water use in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area. Valid mitigation credits may be assigned by any person or recognized mitigation bank to any person or other mitigation bank. Mitigation credits are used when a person submits to the Department documentary evidence that valid credits have been obtained and assigned to satisfy a mitigation obligation.

Applicant JOHN A. SHORT WATER RIGHT SERVICES, LLC PO BOX 1830 BEND, OR 97709

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.

# **Findings of Fact**

- 1. On March 2, 2012, WATER RIGHT SERVICES, LLC filed an application to change the place of use and character of use under Certificate 87048 to instream use. The Department assigned the application number T-11365.
- 2. Prior to submitting the instream transfer application, the applicant provided notification of the proposed action to the City of La Pine, Deschutes County, Jefferson County, Klamath County, and the City of Bend. Additionally, the Department provided notice of the proposed action to these local governments upon receipt of Transfer Application T-11365.
- 3. Notice of the application for transfer was published on March 13, 2012, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 4. On March 13, 2014, the applicant requested to modify the proposed instream use to protect the maximum possible rates and instream volume from July 7 through October 31.
- 5. On March 5, 2014, the Department sent the applicant a deficiency letter identifying several application items that needed to be modified or provided. Information requested by the Department included a revised application map, evidence of use for 0.37 acre included in the transfer, and a description of the delivery system. Revised application materials necessary to complete the application were received on March 24 and 25, 2014.
- 6. The revised application map provided to the Department on March 24, 2014, identified fewer acres to be transferred to instream use. The original application had requested to transfer 15.0 acres of irrigation to instream use. The revised application map identified 14.63 acres of irrigation and excludes the 0.37 acre for which the Department had requested evidence that this portion of the right had been used in the five years prior to the transfer being submitted.
- 7. On August 22, 2014, the Department requested a new application map to clarify two elements of the map. A revised map was provided to the Department on August 25, 2014.
- 8. On September 10, 2014, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-11365 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of October 9, 2014, for the applicant to respond. Included in the cover letter for the draft Preliminary Determination the Department requested information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer and whether the applicant intended to pursue cancellation of the 0.37 acre excluded from the transfer application.
- 9. On September 11, 2014, the applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a Preliminary Determination.
- 10. On September 29, 2014, the applicant provided a portion of the the information requested by the Department to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.

- 11. On October 13, 2014, the Department requested additional information to clarify whether the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer application. Additional information was provided by the applicant on October 15 and 16, 2014.
- 12. An affidavit of partial cancellation was received on November 3, 2014. An additional affidavit of partial cancellation was still pending from another water right holder.
- 13. Upon additional review, the Department identified a few issues with the information provided by the applicant to demonstrate authorization to pursue the transfer and cancellation of 0.37 acre. A portion of the water right proposed for transfer and cancellation appears to be held by Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods Homeowners Association. On November 19, 2014, the Department requested notarized consent and an affidavit of partial cancellation signed by Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods Homeowners Association. A follow up letter was sent to the applicant on December 15, 2014.
- 14. Additional affidavits of partial cancellation and consent to the transfers were received from the applicant on January 14, 2015.
- 15. On February 10, 2015, the Department requested a new affidavit of consent and affidavit of partial cancellation for the portion of the right held by Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods Homeowners Association. The affidavit of partial cancellation and affidavit of consent provided for the Homeowners Association on January 14, 2015, was signed by the Diamond Peaks Homeowners Association.
- 16. On February 23, 2015, the applicant submitted a new affidavit of consent and affidavit of partial cancellation signed by the president for Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods Homeowners Association.
- 17. Certificate 87048 describes the authorized place of use by township, range, section, quarter quarter, and tax lots. The tax lots on which a portion of the right to be transferred have changed. Tax lot configurations for Lots 106 and 107 no longer match those associated with the certificate. The lot line between the two tax lots has been modified. The portion of the water right to be transferred is described in Finding of Fact No. 18 consistent with the water right of record.
- 18. The portion of the right to be transferred has been modified from the original transfer application and is as follows:

Certificate:	87048 in the name of LA PINE COOPERATIVE WATER ASSOCIATION (confirmed by Deschutes River (F) decree of record at Salem, in the Order Record of the Water Resources Director in Volume 16, at Page 185)
Use:	IRRIGATION of 14.63 ACRES
<b>Priority Date:</b>	
Rate:	April 1 to May 23 and August 20 to November 1: 0.183 Cubic Foot per
	Second (CFS)
	May 23 to August 19: 0.366 CFS
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-FORTIETH of one cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, FROM MAY 23 TO AUGUST 20, AND ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, FROM APRIL 1 TO MAY 23 AND FROM AUGUST 20 TO NOVEMBER 1, and shall be further limited to a diversion of not to exceed 4.0 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

Source: LITTLE DESCHUTES RIVER, tributary to the DESCHUTES RIVER Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q Measured Distances	
23 S	9 E	WМ	34	sw sw	550 FEET NORTH AND 1150 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 34

**Authorized Place of Use:** 

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Tax Lot	Acres
22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	100	6.81
22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	106	4.66
22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	107	3.16
					Total Acres	14.63

- 19. A total of 58.52 Acre-Feet (AF) of water may be beneficially used annually under the portion of existing Certificate 87048 proposed for transfer.
- 20. Transfer Application T-11365 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 other ecological values; recreation; pollution abatement; and to establish mitigation credits in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area.
- 21. Transfer Application T-11365 proposes to change the place of use of the portion of the water right described in Finding of Fact No. 18, to create an instream reach from the POD on the Little Deschutes River into the mainstem Deschutes River to Lake Billy Chinook.
- 22. Based upon the original application submitted to the Department on March 2, 2012, the applicant proposed the quantities water to be transferred instream be as protected follows:

Instream Period	Instream Rate (CFS)	Instream Volume (AF)
April 1 to May 23	0.19	
May 23 to August 20	0.38	60.0
August 20 to November 1	0.19	

23. The applicant has requested that any instream water right established as a result of this instream transfer be additive to existing instream water rights for the same reach established pursuant to ORS 537.348 (instream transfer process) and ORS 537.470 (allocation of conserved water process). The applicant has also requested that any instream water rights established as a result of this instream transfer replace a portion of any existing instream rights established pursuant to ORS 537.346 (minimum streamflow conversion) and ORS 537.341 (state agency instream application process), with a more senior priority date.

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

- 24. The portion of the right proposed to be transferred to instream use was leased instream within the last five years under Instream Lease IL-1059 during the period May 26, 2010, to October 31, 2014, and there is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the right is subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
- 25. 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-11365.
- 26. A portion of the water diverted at the POD returns to the Little Deschutes River below the POD and is available to downstream water right holders. To prevent injury to downstream water right holders and enlargement, the quantity of water that may be protected instream requires modification to account for both surface and subsurface return flows.

The hydrogeologic evaluation of where subsurface return flows occur is generally based on the following information: 1) the local shallow and regional ground water elevations, 2) the shallow and regional head gradient (i.e. ground water flow direction), 3) elevation of nearby streams, 4) elevation of closest gaining stream reaches, 5) distance from nearby streams and gaining stream reaches, and 6) local geologic information.

When evaluating for return flows, the Department generally considers the place of use as a whole and where the majority of return flows occur based upon the presence of surface return flows (overland flow) and the factors described above for any subsurface return flows.

A portion of the water diverted to the place of use returns to the Little Deschutes River through Long Prairie Slough. Remaining return flows take the form of subsurface return flows. Subsurface returns would also return to the river system in the area of the confluence of Long Prairie Slough and the Little Deschutes River, at approximately River Mile 28.6.

The instream flows at River Mile 28.6 have been reduced to the consumptive portion of the right to account for both surface and subsurface return flows.

- 27. The transfer application requests to protect water instream from the Little Deschutes River into the mainstem Deschutes River. An instream reach is generally from the point of diversion to the mouth of the source stream (Little Deschutes River) but may be protected further if measurable in the receiving stream (the Deschutes River) (OAR 690-077-0015 (8)). The quantity that may be protected instream from the Little Deschutes River is measurable into the Deschutes River and may be protected instream in the Deschutes River.
- 28. Also, the segment of the reach on the mainstem Deschutes River between the confluence with the Little Deschutes River and Bend is a losing reach and loses approximately 7% of its flows. The quantity of water that may be protected instream in the mainstem Deschutes River requires additional modification to prevent injury and enlargement.

29. Based on Findings of Fact No. 4, No. 6, and No. 26 through No. 28, the Department proposes to modify the quantities to be transferred and protected instream as follows:

**Instream Reach 1:** From POD (as described in Finding of Fact No. 18) to the confluence of the Little Deschutes River and Long Prairie Slough (approximately River Mile 28.6)

Priority Date Instream Rate (CFS)		Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
1897	0.366	59 /	July 7 through August 19
	0.183	58.4	August 20 through October 31

**Instream Reach 2:** From the confluence of the Little Deschutes River and Long Prairie Slough (approximately River Mile 28.6) to the mouth of the Little Deschutes River

Priority Date	Instream Rate (CFS)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream		
1897	0.113	26.3	July 7 through October 31		

**Instream Reach 3:** In the Deschutes River from the confluence with the Little Deschutes River to Lake Billy Chinook

Priority Date	Instream Rate (CFS)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
1897	0.11	24.5	July 7 through October 31

- 30. The proposed change, as modified, would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 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 described in Finding of Fact No. 29 is allowable within the limits and use of the original water right.
- 33. The protection of flows as described in Finding of Fact No. 29 within the proposed reach 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 known areas of natural loss of streamflow to the river bed downstream from the point of diversion and channel losses have been accounted for within Reach No. 3; and
  - Return flows resulting from the exercise of the existing water right would re-enter the river downstream of the point of diversion and within the reach of the instream water right. Return flows have been accounted for at River Mile 28.6 on the Little Deschutes River.
- 34. Within the proposed instream reaches on the Little Deschutes River, there is an existing instream water right, Certificate 73226, established under ORS 537.341 (state agency application process), for the purpose of fish migration, spawning, egg incubation, fry

emergence and juvenile rearing. There are also existing instream water rights established under ORS 537.348 (instream transfer process) and ORS 537.470 (allocation of conserved water process) for the purpose of conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, fish and wildlife habitat and any other ecological values; pollution abatement; and recreation.

- 35. The Little Deschutes River is on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) 303d list of water quality limited streams for a variety of water quality concerns and a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study is underway.
- 36. Within the proposed instream reach on the mainstem Deschutes River, there are several existing instream water rights. There is one instream water right, Certificate 59777, established under ORS 537.346 (minimum streamflow conversion) for the purpose of supporting aquatic life and minimizing pollution, from the confluence of the Little Deschutes River to the confluence with Spring River. There is another instream water right, Certificate 59778, also established under ORS 537.346 for the purpose of supporting aquatic life and minimizing pollution, from the confluence with Spring River to the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) North Canal Dam. There is also a pending instream water right application, IS-70695, filed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) pursuant to ORS 537.341 (state agency application process), with the Department to establish an instream water right from the COID North Canal Dam to Lake Billy Chinook. The remaining instream water rights were established under ORS 537.348 (instream transfer process) and ORS 537.470 (allocation of conserved water process) and are generally located between the Central Oregon Canal and Lake Billy Chinook.

This portion of the Deschutes River is a designated State Scenic Waterway. The State Scenic Waterway designation provides for protection of flows necessary to maintain the free flowing character of the Deschutes River for fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation, which is a matter of statutory policy. In addition to flows for the designated Scenic Waterway, which are not always met during requested period for instream protection, this segment of the Deschutes River is also on DEQ's 303d list of water quality limited streams and a TMDL study is underway.

- 37. The existing instream water rights, established under ORS 537.346 (minimum streamflow conversion) and ORS 537.341 (state agency application process), within the proposed reach on the Little Deschutes River are sufficient to protect the monthly quantities of water necessary for various fishlife stages, supporting aquatic life, and minimizing pollution, but are not always met. By replacing a portion of these instream water rights, any instream water right created as a result of this transfer will provide protection of stream flows identified as necessary for various fishlife stages, supporting aquatic life, and minimizing pollution under an earlier priority date.
- 38. By adding to other instream water rights, established pursuant to ORS 537.348 (instream transfer process and instream lease) and ORS 537.470 (allocation of conserved water process), located within the proposed reach, any new instream water right established by this transfer would provide protection for additional flows identified as necessary for

conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, fish and wildlife habitat and other ecological values, pollution abatement and recreation.

- 39. During the period July 7 through October 31, any instream water right established by this transfer application may replace a portion of instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.341 or ORS 537.346 and be in addition to instream water rights established pursuant to ORS 537.348 or ORS 537.470, unless otherwise specified in an order approving a new instream water right under these statutes.
- 40. The total monthly quantities of water to be protected under the existing and proposed instream rights in the reach will provide for a beneficial purpose and do not exceed the estimated average natural flow.

# Partial Cancellation of a Water Right

- 41. ORS 537.621 establishes the process for the owner of land to which a water right is appurtenant to certify under oath that the water right, or a portion thereof, has been abandoned and to voluntarily request that it be cancelled.
- 42. On November 3, 2014, January 14, 2015, and February 23, 2015, the applicant submitted affidavits to voluntarily cancel a portion of Certificate 87048 signed by the holders of the water right established by conveyance agreement from the original land owners. The portion of Certificate 87048 to be cancelled is as follows:

Certificate:	87048 in the name of LA PINE COOPERATIVE WATER ASSOCIATION (confirmed by Deschutes River (F) decree of record at Salem, in the Order
	Record of the Water Resources Director in Volume 16, at Page 185)
Use:	IRRIGATION of 0.37 ACRE
<b>Priority Date:</b>	1897
Rate:	April 1 to May 23 and August 20 to November 1: 0.009 CFS
	May 23 to August 19: 0.005 CFS
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-FORTIETH of one cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, FROM MAY 23 TO AUGUST 20, AND ONE-EIGHTIETH
	of one cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated, FROM
	APRIL 1 TO MAY 23 AND FROM AUGUST 20 TO NOVEMBER 1, and
	shall be further limited to a diversion of not to exceed 4.0 acre-feet per acre
	for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
Source:	LITTLE DESCHUTES RIVER, tributary to the DESCHUTES RIVER

Authorized	Point of	Diversion:
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Тwp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
23 S	9 E	WM	34	sw sw	550 FEET NORTH AND 1150 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 34

F	Authorized Flace of Use:											
	Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Tax Lot	Acres					
	22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	100	0.09					
Γ	22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	106	0.14					

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Tax Lot	Acres
22 S	10 E	WM	27	SW SE	107	0.14
					<b>Total Acre</b>	0.37

## Preliminary Award of Deschutes Basin Mitigation Credits

- 43. Water Right Services, LLC (the applicant) has requested this instream transfer application be used to establish mitigation credits in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area.
- 44. The Department assigned this mitigation credit project number MP-168.
- 45. The Department provided notice of the mitigation credit project pursuant to OAR 690-521-0300 (6) on November 19, 2013. No comments were received in response to this notice.
- 46. The Department consulted with representatives from ODFW, DEQ, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon Department of State Lands, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and the Department's Watermaster pursuant to OAR 690-521-0300 (7) and OAR 690-505-0630 (2) on November 19, 2013. No comments were received in response to this notice.
- 47. On August 25, 2014, the applicant requested that mitigation credits be awarded only in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact.
- 48. On October 8, 2014, the applicant amended how any mitigation credits generated from this project are requested to be assigned. Mitigation credits were requested to be assigned as follows:
  - a) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - b) 4.3 mitigation credits to Richard R. Carlson and Sally R. Carlson for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact;
  - c) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Peaks at Leisure Woods I & II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - d) Any and all remaining mitigation credits to Randy N. Yow (50%) and Jackie E. Yow (50%) for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact.
- 49. As part of the public notice of the mitigation project, the Department identified that the project may result in 27.0 mitigation credits. This preliminary determination was based upon the original proposal to transfer 15.0 acres of irrigation use to instream use with a priority date of 1897. Since the public notice, the transfer application has been amended to transfer 14.63 acres of irrigation use to instream use. The Watermaster had identified that any mitigation credits established by this project with the 1897 priority date will likely be 100% available. Irrigation of 14.63 acres has an average consumptive use of 26.3 acre-feet. However, this volume may only be protected instream to the mouth of the Little Deschutes River (the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact).

- 50. The applicant has also requested that mitigation credits be available for use in the Upper Deschutes Zone of Impact. Up to 24.5 AF may be protected instream in the mainstem Deschutes River, as identified in Finding of Fact No. 29. The reach of the instream use described in Finding of Fact No. 29 extends through the lower portion of the Upper Deschutes Zone of Impact.
- 51. Therefore, a maximum of 26.3 mitigation credits (1.0 mitigation credit = 1.0 AF of mitigation water) may be awarded to this mitigation credit project. The mitigation credits may be used to mitigate for ground water permit applications and existing conditioned ground water permits and certificates, providing mitigation pursuant to the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules, OAR Chapter 690, Division 505, within the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact. The number of mitigation credits that may be used in the Upper Deschutes Zone of Impact may not exceed 24.5 credits.
- 52. Based upon the number of mitigation credits that may be awarded to this mitigation project, the Department finds that mitigation credits may be assigned as follows, consistent with Findings of Fact No. 48 through 51:
  - a) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - b) 4.3 mitigation credits to Richard R. Carlson and Sally R. Carlson for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact;
  - c) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Peaks at Leisure Woods I & II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - d) 4.2 mitigation credits to Randy N. Yow for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact.
  - e) 4.2 mitigation credits to Jackie E. Yow for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact.
- 53. The number of mitigation credits to be used in the Upper Deschutes Zone of Impact is limited to 12.7 mitigation credits based upon the applicant's request.
- 54. A total of 58.4 AF (within Reach No. 1) is proposed to be transferred to instream use and up to 26.3 AF of that, as identified above, may be used for mitigation purposes. The amount of water transferred instream and not used for mitigation purposes will benefit instream flow.
- 55. The Department shall award final mitigation credits upon completion of the approved project by the applicant and verification by the Department that the project is complete. The issuance of a certificate for the proposed instream water right shall result in completion of the project and verification that the project is complete.
- 56. Mitigation credits awarded to this mitigation credit project will be valid beginning the first calendar year that water will be protected instream under any new instream water right created as a result of this instream transfer application.

## **Determination and Proposed Action**

The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in application T-11365 appear to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 540.505 to 540.580, ORS 537.348, OAR 690-380-5000, and OAR 690-077-0075 and the abandoned right should be cancelled. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the application will be approved and the abandoned right will be cancelled.

This mitigation project appears to result in mitigation credits pursuant to ORS 537.746 and OAR 690-521-0300 and 690-521-0400.

If Transfer Application T-11365 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The changes in character of use and place of use to instream use proposed in application T-11365 are approved. The portion of the right that has been abandoned is cancelled.
- 2. Water right certificate 87048 is cancelled. A new certificate confirming the instream water right shall be issued. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of the right not affected by this transfer and partial cancellation.
- 3. The instream water right shall provide for the protection of streamflows from the authorized point of diversion on the Little Deschutes to Lake Billy Chinook on the mainstem Deschutes River. The quantities to be protected under the instream water right are:

Instream Reach 1: From POD (as described in Finding of Fact No. 18) to the confluence of the Little Deschutes River and Long Prairie Slough (approximately River Mile 28.6)

Priority Date	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
1897	0.366	58.4	July 7 through August 19
	0.183		August 20 through October 31

Instream Reach 2: From the confluence of the Little Deschutes River and Long Prairie Slough (approximately River Mile 28.6) to the mouth of the Little Deschutes River

Priority Date	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
1897	0.113	26.3	July 7 through October 31

Instream Reach 3: In the Deschutes River from the confluence with the Little Deschutes River to Lake Billy Chinook

Priority Date	Instream Rate (cfs)	Instream Volume (AF)	Period Protected Instream
1897	0.11	24.5	July 7 through October 31

- 4. Water rights upstream of the original point of diversion shall not be subject to regulation for flows in excess of the quantities to which this instream water right is entitled at the original point of diversion.
- 5. 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. 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 reach.

- 6. 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.
- 7. 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 87048 and any related decree.
- 8. The former place of use of the transferred water shall no longer receive water as part of this right.
- 9. Preliminary Award of Mitigation Credits: Final Award of Mitigation Credits may be made upon completion of the project and verification by the Department that the project has been completed as proposed. Issuance of a new instream water right certificate, as described herein, results in completion of the project and verification by the Department that the project is complete. Therefore, mitigation credits, in the amount of 26.3 credits, as described herein, are awarded to this mitigation project. Mitigation credits awarded may be used to satisfy a mitigation obligation of a ground water permit applicant and/or ground water permit/certificate holder in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact. Of the 26.3 mitigation credits awarded to this project, up to 12.7 credits may also be used in the Upper Deschutes Zone of Impact. Any mitigation credits awarded will begin being valid the first year that water is protected instream under a new instream water right resulting from this mitigation project.
- 10. Mitigation Credits awarded to this project are assigned as follows:
  - a) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Summit at Leisure Woods II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - b) 4.3 mitigation credits to Richard R. Carlson and Sally R. Carlson for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact;
  - c) 6.8 mitigation credits to The Diamond Peaks at Leisure Woods I & II Homeowners Association for use in the Little Deschutes Zone of Impact only;
  - d) 4.2 mitigation credits to Randy N. Yow for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact.
  - e) 4.2 mitigation credits to Jackie E. Yow for use in the Little Deschutes and/or Upper Deschutes Zones of Impact.
- 11. Mitigation credits are valid until used to satisfy a mitigation obligation of a ground water permit applicant and/or ground water permit/certificate holder within the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area pursuant to the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules.

Mitigation credits are used when a person submits to the Department documentary evidence that valid credits have been obtained and assigned to satisfy a mitigation obligation.

12. The instream certificate created as a result of the approval of this transfer shall be identified as a mitigation credit project for a ground water permit applicant and/or ground water permit/certificate holder. Within each instream certificate, the number of mitigation credits, the zone of impact in which the mitigation credits were generated and may be used, and the volume of water dedicated instream solely for instream benefits shall also be specified.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this <u>10</u> day of March, 2015.

Dwight French, Water Right Services Division Administrator, for Director, Oragon Water Resources Department

This draft Preliminary Determination was prepared by a Reimbursement Authority contractor. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach Laura Wilke at 503-986-0884 or Laura.K.Wilke@wrd.state.or.us.

Protests should be addressed to the attention of Water Rights Division, Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite A, Salem, OR 97301-1266.