# BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application	)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-13111, Baker County	)	PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A
•	)	CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE

## Authority

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 540.505 to 540.580 establish 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 Rules (OAR) Chapter 690, Division 380 implement the statutes and provides the Department's procedures and criteria for evaluating transfer applications.

# **Applicant**

SEXTON LAND LLC 47307 ANTHONY LAKES HWY HAINES, OR 97833

## **Findings of Fact**

Source:

- 1. On January 23, 2019, SEXTON LAND LLC filed an application to change the place of use under Certificate 83738. The Department assigned the application number T-13111.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on January 29, 2019, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On March 19, 2019, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-13111 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of April 19, 2019, for the applicant to respond. The applicant requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a Preliminary Determination and provided the necessary information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.
- 4. The portion of the right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 83738 in the name of SEXTON LAND LLC (confirmed by North Powder

River Decree)

Use: IRRIGATION of 16.4 ACRES

Priority Date: 1873 for 8.2 ACRES AND 1895 for 8.2 ACRES

**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 0.3 cubic foot per second from March 1 - July 1 and 0.2 cubic feet per second July 1 - October 1, 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.

NORTH POWDER RIVER, a tributary of POWDER RIVER

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.

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#### **Authorized Point of Diversion:**

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	
6 S	38 E	WM <sup>.</sup>	5	NW NE	HUTCHINSON HILLSIDE / GARDNER MILLRACE DITCH - 2760 FEET SOUTH AND 2380 FEET WEST FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 32, T6S, R38E, WM	

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

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	Priority
7 S	39 E	WM	7	NW SW	8.2	1895
7 S	39 E	WM	7	SW SW	8.2	1873

5. Certificate 83738 contained a scrivener's error in the description of the location of the point of diversion. Certificate 83738 describes the authorized point of diversion as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	
6 S	38 E	WM	5	NW NE	HUTCHINSON HILLSIDE / GARDNER MILLRACE DITCH - 2760 FEET SOUTH AND 2380 FEET WEST FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 32, T6S, R38E, WM	

Based on the metes and bounds from Certificate 83738 and the final proof map, the actual location should be:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	
7 S	38 E	WM	5	NW NE	HUTCHINSON HILLSIDE / GARDNER MILLRACE DITCH - 2760 FEET SOUTH AND 2380 FEET WEST FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 32, T6S, R38E, WM	

6. Transfer Application T-13111 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	Priority
7 S	39 E	WM	7	NW SW	8.2	1873
7 S	39 E	WM	7	SW SW	8.2	1895

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

- 7. 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.
- 8. 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-13111.
- 9. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 10. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.
- 11. All other application requirements are met.

# **Determination and Proposed Action**

The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13111 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-13111 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13111 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 83738 and any related decree.
- 3. Water right Certificate 83738 is cancelled. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of the right not affected by this transfer.
- 4. The former place of use of the transferred right shall no longer receive water under the right.
- 5. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2021**. 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.
- 6. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, a new certificate confirming the right transferred will be issued.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this DEC 2 0 2019

Lisa J. Jaram Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for

Thomas M. Byler, Director

Oregon Water Resources Department

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by Arla Davis. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 503-986-0806 or <a href="mailto:arla.l.davis@oregon.gov">arla.l.davis@oregon.gov</a>

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

Notice Regarding Service Members: Active duty service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. 50 U.S.C. App. §§501-597b. You may contact the Oregon State Bar or the Oregon Military Department for more information. The toll-free telephone number for the Oregon State Bar is: 1 (800) 452-8260. The toll-free telephone number of the Oregon Military Department is: 1 (800) 452-7500. The Internet address for the United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Legal Services Locator website is: <a href="http://legalassistance.law.af.mil">http://legalassistance.law.af.mil</a>



**Water Resources Department** 

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

December <u>20</u>, 2019

SEXTON LAND LLC 47307 ANTHONY LAKES HWY HAINES, OR 97833

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-13111

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-13111. 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 503-986-0806 or <u>arla.l.davis@oregon.gov</u> if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Arla L Davis

cc:

T-13111

Rick M. Lusk, District 8 Watermaster (via e-mail) Paul Garvin, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail)