

**Water Resources Department** 

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

July 22, 2021

**VIA E-MAIL** 

## **Applicant**

Deschutes Land Trust 210 NW Irving Avenue, Suite 102 Bend, Oregon 97703 ann@deschuteslandtrust.org

## Agent

Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC) 700 NW Hill Street, Suite 1 Bend, Oregon 97703 gen@deschutesriver.org

Reference: Water Right Transfer Application T-13615

Your water right transfer is in the first of three phases of processing. Enclosed is a draft of the Department's Preliminary Determination regarding Transfer Application T-13615. The document reflects the Department's conclusion that, based on the information currently available, the transfer will be approved. Your response and submittal of the items outlined below are required by August 20, 2021.

## Required items needing your immediate attention:

- 1. Please carefully review the Draft Preliminary Determination to verify that it accurately reflects the changes you intend to make and to become familiar with the proposed conditions.
- **2. Respond in writing** by August 20, 2021, with acknowledgement that you agree to the proposed action and conditions.
- **3.** If you find any errors, please let me know.
- **4. REQUIRED:** You must submit a **Report of Ownership** for the lands where the water right(s) are currently located (i.e., the FROM lands). This report:
  - a) Must be prepared by a title company;
  - **b)** Shall include a "prepared by" statement and the date the title company prepared the report printed on the cover sheet;
  - c) Must be:
    - i. Prepared within 3 months of the Draft Preliminary Determination showing current ownership; **OR**
    - ii. Prepared within 3 months of recording of a water right conveyance agreement; OR
    - **iii.** Have a prepared date showing ownership at the time a water right conveyance agreement was recorded.

If water right conveyance agreements are involved, it is helpful to provide copies of those agreements along with the Report of Ownership.

IMPORTANT: In order for the Department to clearly understand the date that the title company prepared the Report of Ownership, the title company must indicate/state the date that they prepared the report on the coversheet and/or first page of the report.

- d) Must include a list of owners at the time the report was generated; AND
- **e)** Must include a legal description of the property where the water right to be transferred is currently located (i.e., the FROM lands).
- 5. You must provide a notarized statement of consent signed by any landowner listed in the Report of Ownership who is <u>not</u> already included in the transfer application. The Department's statement of consent form (Consent By Deeded Landowner) is available at: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/WRDFormsPDF/consent">https://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/WRDFormsPDF/consent</a> to transfer form.pdf
- **6.** Notice of this transfer will need to be published in a newspaper with general circulation in the area where the water rights are currently located. You will be responsible for the charges.

## What happens next...

Once the Preliminary Determination is issued a publication period is required. Because of a change in character of use, the Department will publish notice of the transfer in a local newspaper having a general circulation in the area of the water right at least once per week for two consecutive weeks. You are responsible for sending a check to cover the cost of publication prior to the issuance of the Preliminary Determination and publication of notice.

As outlined in OAR 690-380-4020(3), publication costs include both the direct cost of the notice and indirect processing costs (not to exceed 20% of the direct costs) for processing.

Issuance of the Preliminary Determination will occur shortly after we receive:

- 1. Your written response to the conditions and proposed action in the Draft Preliminary Determination (e-mail is acceptable); and
- 2. The Report of Ownership, including affidavits of consent from any landowners shown in the ownership report who have not signed the transfer application. The title company must indicate/state the date that they prepared the ownership report on the coversheet and/or first page of the report.

If we do not receive the items listed above by August 20, 2021, a Preliminary Determination may be issued denying the application as incomplete.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 503-979-9872 or <a href="mailto:sarah.a.henderson@oregon.gov">sarah.a.henderson@oregon.gov</a> if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Sarah Henderson

Flow Restoration Coordinator

Sarah Henderson

cc: Transfer Application file T-13615
Jeremy Giffin, District 11 Watermaster (via e-mail)
Danette Faucera, ODFW (via e-mail)
Smita Mehta, DEQ (via e-mail)
Trevor Taylor, OPRD (via e-mail)