



TO: Corey Courchane & OWRD Water Rights Transfer Review Team
FROM: Rebecca Schwartz, Umatilla Habitat Fisheries Biologist II
DATE: 4/3/2023
RE: *Application for Permanent Water Right Transfer Revisions*

To Whom It May Concern:

This cover letter is to identify revisions made to Transfer Application T-14055 that address items 1-4 in document **14055-defic-ltr**. Additionally, below the revisions is a brief project summary for context during the continued application review process.

Revisions made to Transfer Application T-14055:

1. Attached letter of endorsement from ODFW District Fish Biologist Umatilla/Walla Walla Basins Taylor McCroskey.
2. Attached revised complete application including description of the water delivery system for each water right Certificate.
3. Attached well logs for the authorized Certificates.
4. Revised Table 3 that indicates changes made to POA 3 authorized under each Certificate.
5. Revised application map that correctly identifies all acres authorized under Certificate 90235.
6. Revised application map that correctly identifies all acres authorized under Certificate 91881.

Project Summary:

The Umatilla Basin Habitat Program of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) is submitting an Application for a Permanent Water Right Transfer (a check from CTUIR in the amount of \$1,530 was sent in separately for the application fee). The successful completion of this transfer and relocation of the groundwater point of appropriation (POA) is an instrumental component of a complex floodplain restoration enhancement project.

The POA and restoration project area are located on Birch Creek, approximately 2 miles upstream of its confluence with the Umatilla River, near the town of Reith, Oregon (Township 2 North, Range 32 East, Sections 19 and 30, Umatilla County, Oregon). The POA is currently located on an existing floodplain within the restoration construction area. Floodplain restoration cannot begin until the POA is relocated. The transfer of the current POA is critical in order to maintain ongoing irrigation use.

POA2 for water rights 91881, 95278, and 90235 will be transferred from an existing well, which will be abandoned and decommissioned, to a new POA (POA3) upstream roughly 400 meters on Birch Creek. It is important to note as well that Well Label #L 90292 associated with the water right is not in the WRIS portal.

Thank you very much for your time and assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any additional questions or requests related to Transfer Application T-14055.

Sincerely,
Rebecca H. Schwartz

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