



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

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July 16, 2023

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND E-MAIL

Applicant

GOLDEN RULE FARMS, INC.
PO BOX 225
CHRISTMAS VALLEY, OR 97641

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-13942

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-1394213942. 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 Burns Times Herald 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 corey.a.courchane@water.oregon.gov or (503) 979-3917, if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Corey Courchane
Allocation of Conserved Water
Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: Transfer Application T-1394213942
Donald Swindlehurst, District 10 Watermaster (*via e-mail*)
Elizabeth Howard, Agent for the applicant (*via e-mail*)
Lindsay Thane, Agent for the applicant (*via e-mail*)
Scott Montgomery, CWRE #51324 (*via e-mail*)
Commenters:

United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
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**BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Transfer Application)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-13942, Harney County)	PROPOSING APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL
)	POINTS OF APPROPRIATION, CHANGES IN
)	POINTS OF APPROPRIATION, AND
)	CHANGES IN PLACES OF USE

Authority

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

Applicant

GOLDEN RULE FARMS, INC.
PO BOX 225
CHRISTMAS VALLEY, OR 97641

Findings of Fact

1. On March 7, 2022, GOLDEN RULE FARMS, INC. filed an application for additional points of appropriation and to change the place of use under Certificate 95616, and to change the points of appropriation and the places of use under Certificates 88299, 93236, 95617, 95618, 95619, 95663, and 95664. The Department assigned the application number T-13942.
2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on March 29, 2022, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. Three comments were timely filed in response to the notice. The issues raised by the comments included:
 - a) Commercial development will further injure rural homes and livestock operations;
 - b) Changes in groundwater availability will adversely affect other water rights;

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 the newspaper notice or the Department's weekly notice as prescribed by OAR 690-380-4020, whichever is later, of this preliminary determination.

- c) "Groundwater level declines in the basin are the result of over-allocation and are a serious concern for all groundwater users."
3. Not all the issues raised by the commenters address the criteria for review of a water right transfer as per OAR 690-380-4010 and approval of a transfer application under OAR 690-380-5000. Some of the comments described in Finding of Fact (FOF) #2 raise public interest issues. Under Oregon Law, water right transfers are not subject to a public interest review. Rather, the statutory basis for approving a water right transfer application is relatively narrow and confined to the department finding or determining:
 - a) The water right proposed for transfer is a water use subject to transfer;
 - b) The portion of the water right proposed for transfer is not cancelled due to forfeiture for non-use pursuant to ORS 540.610;
 - c) The proposed transfer would not result in enlargement of the water right proposed for transfer; and
 - d) The proposed transfer would not result in injury to other water rights.
4. On March 23, and April 5, 2022, the Department contacted the applicant's agents by written correspondence to notify the applicant and the applicant's agents of deficiencies in the application. The measured distances provided in the application tables for proposed Well 4 (HARN 52517), were inconsistent with the measured distances provides on the application maps. Additionally, the locations in the application materials provided for proposed Well 1 (HARN 52720) and proposed Well 4 (HARN 52517), are inconsistent with well locations established by Department staff on October 22, 2019. The Department requested that revised tables and maps be submitted.
5. On May 11, 2022, the Department contacted the applicant's agents by written correspondence requesting that revisions to the application be submitted. The Department requested that the revisions be submitted by May 23, 2022.
6. On May 19, 2022, the Department received revisions to the application and maps, resolving the deficiencies.
7. On February 16, 2023, the Department mailed a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-13942 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of March 20, 2023, for the applicant to respond.
8. On March 24, 2023, the applicant requested to extend the date for completion of full beneficial use of the water to October 1, 2026. The applicant also 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.

9. The first right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 88299 in the name of CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
(perfected under Permit G-8593)

Use: IRRIGATION OF 27.4 ACRES

Priority Date: JUNE 4, 1979

Rate: 0.25 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, is limited to a diversion of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second, 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: WELL 2A in the MALHEUR LAKE BASIN

Authorized Point of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NW	800 FEET SOUTH AND 1300 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	20.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NW	7.4
Total					27.4

10. The Department received information from the applicant that better describes the location of the authorized point of diversion for Certificate 88299, identified as Well 2 under Certificate 95617, as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	WELL 2 – ADDITIONAL - 590 FEET SOUTH AND 1345 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9

9. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized point of appropriation from the existing point of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximate distance from original point of appropriation in miles (mi.)
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	1.8 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	1.7 mi.

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximate distance from original point of appropriation in miles (mi.)
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21	2.4 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.0 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.1 mi.

10. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW SW	17.7
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	6.1
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NE NE	1.0
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	2.6
Total					27.4

11. The second right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 93236 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-17183)

Use: IRRIGATION OF 28.7 ACRES

Priority Date: SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

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, is limited to a diversion of ONE-SIXTIETH of one cubic foot per second, and 3.0 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

Source: WELL 1 (HARN 1495) AND WELL 3 (HARN 51851) A WELL in the SOUTH FORK MALHEUR RIVER BASIN

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	WELL 1 (HARN 1495) - 1302 FEET SOUTH AND 1302 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	WELL 3 (HARN 51851) - 505 FEET NORTH AND 730 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SW SE	28.7

12. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized points of appropriation from the existing point of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximated distance from original points of appropriation in miles (mi.)	
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	WELL 1	WELL 3
						2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21	2.4 mi.	1.9 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.3 mi.	1.9 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.3 mi.	1.9 mi.

13. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	7.6
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	6.7
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NW	6.8
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NW	7.6
Total					28.7

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

Certificate: 95616 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-8592)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 16.0 ACRES
Priority Date: NOVEMBER 20, 1978
Rate: 0.20 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, is limited to a diversion

of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second (or its equivalent) and 3.0 acre-feet for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

Source: FOUR WELLS IN THE MALHEUR LAKE BASIN

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	WELL 1 – ADDITIONAL - 1302 FEET SOUTH AND 1302 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	WELL 2 – ADDITIONAL - 590 FEET SOUTH AND 1345 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SW	WELL 4 (AKA WELL 1A) – ORIGINAL - 2140 FEET NORTH AND 1125 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	WELL 3 – ADDITIONAL - 505 FEET NORTH AND 730 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NW	7.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	8.7
Total					16.0

15. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes additional points of appropriation as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20

Approximate distance from original points of appropriation in miles (mi.)				
Wells	WELL 1 (HARN 1495)	WELL 2 (HARN 1488)	WELL 3 (HARN 51851)	WELL 4 (AKA WELL 1A) (HARN 1494)
WELL 1 (HARN 52719)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 2 (HARN 52795)	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.5 mi.
WELL 3 (HARN 52796)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 4	2.4 mi.	2.4 mi.	1.9 mi.	2.0 mi.
WELL 5	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.4 mi.

16. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW SW	11.9
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	4.1
Total					16.0

17. The fourth right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 95617 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-8593)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 206.0 ACRES
Priority Date: JUNE 4, 1979
Rate: 1.88 CUBIC FEET 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, is limited to a diversion of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second (or its equivalent) and 3.0 acre-feet for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
Source: FOUR WELLS IN MALHEUR LAKE BASIN

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	WELL 1 – ADDITIONAL - 1302 FEET SOUTH AND 1302 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	WELL 2 – ORIGINAL - 590 FEET SOUTH AND 1345 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SW	WELL 4 – ADDITIONAL - 2140 FEET NORTH AND 1125 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	WELL 3 – ADDITIONAL - 505 FEET NORTH AND 730 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	4	NE SW		5.3
27 S	34 E	WM	4	NW SW		28.9
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SW SW		35.9
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SE SW		37.1
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SW SE		9.6
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NE NE	1	5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NW NE	2	5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SE NE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NE		7.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW		19.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NW		6.6
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE SE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SE		3.7
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SW SE		9.3

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE		18.0
Total						206.0

18. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized points of appropriation from the existing points of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20

Approximate distance from original points of appropriation in miles (mi.)				
Wells	WELL 1 (HARN 1495)	WELL 2 (HARN 1488)	WELL 3 (HARN 51851)	WELL 4 (HARN 1494)
WELL 1 (HARN 52719)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 2 (HARN 52795)	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.5 mi.
WELL 3 (HARN 52796)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 4	2.4 mi.	2.4 mi.	1.9 mi.	2.0 mi.
WELL 5	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.4 mi.

19. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SW SE	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NE NE	33.5
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NW NE	32.1
27 S	34 E	WM	19	SE NE	32.8
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NE	14.1
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	7.3
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	16.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	12.0
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NW	12.1
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NW	16.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SE	10.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW SE	19.1
Total					206.0

20. The fifth right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 95618 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-17034)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 230.0 ACRES
Priority Date: DECEMBER 18, 2008
Rate: 2.87 CUBIC FEET PER SECOND (CFS), FURTHER LIMITED TO 2.42 CFS FROM WELL 1 (HARN 1495) AND 2.87 CFS FROM WELL 2, WELL 3 (HARN 51851), AND WELL 4 IN ANY COMBINATION NOT TO EXCEED 2.87 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-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second and 3.0 acre-feet for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
Period of Use: MARCH 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31
Source: WELL 1 (HARN 1495), WELL 2, WELL 3 (HARN 51851), AND WELL 4 IN MALHEUR LAKE BASIN

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	WELL 1 (HARN 1495) – ORIGINAL - 1302 FEET SOUTH AND 1302 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	WELL 2 – ADDITIONAL - 590 FEET SOUTH AND 1345 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SW	WELL 4 – ADDITIONAL - 2140 FEET NORTH AND 1125 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	WELL 3 (HARN 51851) – ADDITIONAL - 505 FEET NORTH AND 730 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	22.1
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NE	30.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SW NE	31.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE NE	37.4
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE SE	29.8
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SE	31.4
27 S	34 E	WM	10	NW NW	4.0
27 S	34 E	WM	10	SW NW	35.6
27 S	34 E	WM	10	SE NW	8.4
Total					230.0

21. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized points of appropriation from the existing points of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20

Approximate distance from original points of appropriation in miles (mi.)				
Wells	WELL 1 (HARN 1495)	WELL 2 (HARN 1488)	WELL 3 (HARN 51851)	WELL 4 (HARN 1494)
WELL 1 (HARN 52719)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 2 (HARN 52795)	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.5 mi.
WELL 3 (HARN 52796)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 4	2.4 mi.	2.4 mi.	1.9 mi.	2.0 mi.
WELL 5	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.4 mi.

22. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	27.4
27 S	34 E	WM	17	NW SW	27.5
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE NE	31.6
27 S	34 E	WM	18	NE SE	32.0
27 S	34 E	WM	18	NW SE	33.7
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SW SE	33.6
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	7.9
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NE	8.8
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	7.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SE	8.4
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW SE	11.9
Total					230.0

23. The sixth right to be transferred is as follows:

- Certificate:** 95619 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-17264)
- Use:** PRIMARY IRRIGATION TO MAKE UP A DEFICIENCY IN RATE ON 206.0 ACRES
- Priority Date:** DECEMBER 20, 2012
- Rate:** 0.7 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, is limited to a diversion

of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second and 3.0 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

Period of Use: MARCH 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31

Source: WELL 1 (HARN 1495), WELL 2 (HARN 1488), WELL 3, AND WELL 4 IN SOUTH FORK MALHEUR RIVER BASIN

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NE	WELL 1 (HARN 1495) – ORIGINAL - 1302 FEET SOUTH AND 1302 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW	WELL 2 (HARN 1488) – ORIGINAL - 590 FEET SOUTH AND 1345 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SW	WELL 4 – ADDITIONAL - 2140 FEET NORTH AND 1125 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 9
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE	WELL 3 – ADDITIONAL - 505 FEET NORTH AND 730 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 9

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	4	NE SW		5.3
27 S	34 E	WM	4	NW SW		28.9
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SW SW		35.9
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SE SW		37.1
27 S	34 E	WM	4	SW SE		9.6
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NE NE	1	5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NW NE	2	5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SE NE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NE		7.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE NW		19.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW NW		6.6
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NE SE		5.0
27 S	34 E	WM	9	NW SE		3.7
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SW SE		9.3
27 S	34 E	WM	9	SE SE		18.0
Total						206.0

24. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized points of appropriation from the existing points of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20

Approximate distance from original points of appropriation in miles (mi.)				
Wells	WELL 1 (HARN 1495)	WELL 2 (HARN 1488)	WELL 3 (HARN 51851)	WELL 4 (HARN 1494)
WELL 1 (HARN 52719)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 2 (HARN 52795)	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.5 mi.
WELL 3 (HARN 52796)	2.3 mi.	2.1 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.7 mi.
WELL 4	2.4 mi.	2.4 mi.	1.9 mi.	2.0 mi.
WELL 5	2.1 mi.	1.8 mi.	1.9 mi.	1.4 mi.

25. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SW SE	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NE NE	33.5
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NW NE	32.1
27 S	34 E	WM	19	SE NE	32.8
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NE	14.1
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	7.3
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	16.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	12.0
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NW	12.1
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NW	16.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SE	10.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW SE	19.1
Total					206.0

26. The seventh right to be transferred is as follows:

- Certificate:** 95663 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-17183)
- Use:** IRRIGATION OF 51.3 ACRES
- Priority Date:** SEPTEMBER 27, 2012
- Rate:** 0.85 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, is limited to a diversion of ONE-SIXTIETH of one cubic foot per second and 3.0 acre-feet for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
- Period of Use:** APRIL 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31
- Source:** A WELL IN SOUTH FORK MALHEUR RIVER BASIN

Authorized Point of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE	1530 FEET SOUTH AND 1330 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 6

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NE NE	1	12.9
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NW NE	2	12.8
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE		12.8
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SE NE		12.8
					Total	51.3

27. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized points of appropriation from the existing point of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximate distance from original point of appropriation in miles (mi.)
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	2.2 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	2.1 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21	3.5 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.8 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.8 mi.

28. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NE	3.4	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	2.8	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	10.3	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	9.1	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NW	9.1	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NW	9.5	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SW	0.3	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SE	3.2	
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW SE	3.6	
					Total	51.3

29. The eighth right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 95664 in the name of GOLDEN RULE FARMS INC. (perfected under Permit G-10397)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 17.3 ACRES
Priority Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 1983
Rate: 0.22 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, is limited to a diversion of 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: ONE WELL IN MALHEUR LAKE BASIN

Authorized Point of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE	1530 FEET SOUTH AND 1330 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF SECTION 6

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NE NE	1	4.4
27 S	34 E	WM	6	NW NE	2	4.3
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SW NE		4.3
27 S	34 E	WM	6	SE NE		4.3
Total						17.3

30. Transfer Application T-13942 proposes to move the authorized point of appropriation from the existing point of appropriation to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximate distance from original point of appropriation in miles (mi.)
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 2 (HARN 52795) - 0 FEET SOUTH AND 150 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	2.2 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW NW	WELL 5 - 545 FEET NORTH AND 260 FEET EAST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 18	2.1 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	WELL 4 - 175 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 20 AND 21	3.5 mi.
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE NW	WELL 1 (HARN 52719) - 10 FEET SOUTH AND 930 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.8 mi.

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	Approximate distance from original point of appropriation in miles (mi.)
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	WELL 3 (HARN 52796) - 130 FEET SOUTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE 1/4 CORNER BETWEEN SECTIONS 17 AND 20	2.8 mi.

31. Transfer Application T-13942 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
27 S	34 E	WM	17	NW SW	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	17	SW SW	6.3
27 S	34 E	WM	18	SE SE	5.4
27 S	34 E	WM	19	NE NE	1.8
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SW NE	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	SE NE	0.1
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW NW	2.9
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NE SW	0.2
27 S	34 E	WM	20	NW SW	0.2
Total					17.3

Transfer Review Criteria [OAR 690-380-4000(14), 690-380-4010(2) and OAR 690-380-2110(2)]

- 32. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the rights. There is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the rights are subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
- 33. A pump, pipeline, and sprinkler system sufficient to use the full amount of water allowed under the existing rights were present within the five-year period prior to submittal of Transfer Application T-13942.
- 34. The water rights are subject to transfer as defined in ORS 540.505(4) and OAR 690-380-0100(14).
- 35. The proposed points of appropriation develop groundwater from the same aquifer as the authorized points of appropriation, as required by OAR 690-380-2110(2).
- 36. The proposed changes would not result in enlargement of the rights.
- 37. The proposed changes would not result in injury to other water rights.
- 38. All other application requirements are met.

Determination and Proposed Action

The changes in points of appropriation, additional points of appropriation, and changes in places of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13942 appear 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.

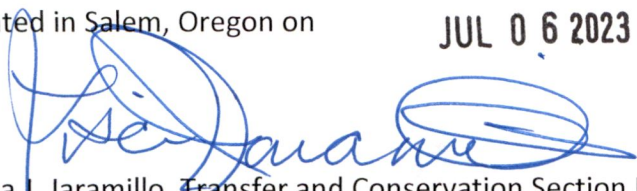
If Transfer Application T-13942 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The changes in points of appropriation, additional points of appropriation, and changes in places of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13942 are 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 Certificates 88299, 93236, 95616, 95617, 95618, 95619, 95663, and 95664, and any related decree.*
- 3. Water right Certificates 88299, 93236, 95616, 95617, 95618, 95619, 95663, and 95664 are cancelled. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of Certificate 95616 not affected by this transfer.*
- 4. Under Certificate 88299, the quantity of water diverted at the new points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 52719), Well 2 (HARN 52795), Well 3 (HARN 52796), Well 4, and Well 5), shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of appropriation (Well 2A).*
- 5. Under Certificate 93236, the quantity of water diverted at the new points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 52719), Well 2 (HARN 52795), Well 3 (HARN 52796), Well 4, and Well 5), shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 1495) and Well 3 (HARN 51851)).*
- 6. Under Certificate 95616, the quantity of water diverted at the new additional points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 52719), Well 2 (HARN 52795), Well 3 (HARN 52796), Well 4, and Well 5), together with that diverted at the original points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 1495), Well 2 (HARN 1488), Well 3 (HARN 51851), and Well 4 (AKA Well 1A)(HARN 1494), shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 1495), Well 2 (HARN 1488), Well 3 (HARN 51851), and Well 4 (AKA Well 1A)(HARN 1494).*
- 7. Under Certificates 95617, 95618, and 95619, the quantity of water diverted at the new points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 52719), Well 2 (HARN 52795), Well 3 (HARN 52796), Well 4, and Well 5), shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 1495), Well 2 (HARN 1488), Well 3 (HARN 51851), and Well 4 (HARN 1494).*

8. *Under Certificates 95663 and 95664, the quantity of water diverted at the new points of appropriation (Well 1 (HARN 52719), Well 2 (HARN 52795), Well 3 (HARN 52796), Well 4, and Well 5), shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of appropriation (Well (HARN 52819)).*
9. *Water shall be acquired from the same aquifer (water source) as the original points of appropriation.*
10. *The former places of use of the transferred rights shall no longer receive water under the rights.*
11. *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 meters or measuring devices in good working order.*
 - c. *The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meters or measuring devices; provided however, where the meters or measuring devices are located within a private structure, the Watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.*
12. *Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2026**. 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 changes and full beneficial use of the water.*
13. *After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, new certificates confirming the rights transferred will be issued.*

Dated in Salem, Oregon on

JUL 06 2023


Lisa J. Jaramillo, Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for
DOUGLAS E. WOODCOCK, ACTING DIRECTOR
Oregon Water Resources Department

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by Corey Courchane. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 503-979-3917 or corey.a.courchane@water.oregon.gov

Protests

Under the provisions of ORS 540.520(6) & (7) and OAR 690-380-4030, within 30 days after the last date of publication of the newspaper notice or the Department's weekly notice as prescribed by OAR 690-380-4020, whichever is later, any person may file, jointly or severally, a protest expressing opposition of approval of the transfer application and disagreement with this Preliminary Determination or a standing statement in support of this Preliminary Determination. If this Preliminary Determination determines that a change in point of diversion or appropriation would result in injury, the applicant may file a notification of intent to pursue approval of the transfer under OAR 690-380-5030 to 690-380-5050. Protests and standing statements must be received by the Water Resources Department within 30 days after the last date of publication of the newspaper notice or the Department's weekly notice as prescribed by OAR 690-380-4020, whichever is later.

Protests must be in writing and received in hard copy form with the appropriate statutory protest filing fee; protests cannot be filed by electronic mail. [OAR 690-002-0025(3) and 690-380-0100(9)]. The protest must include the following:

- The person's name, address, and telephone number;
- All reasonably ascertainable issues and all reasonably available arguments supporting the person's position by the close of the protest period. Failure to raise a reasonably ascertainable issue in a protest or failure to provide sufficient specificity to afford the Department an opportunity to respond to the issue may preclude consideration of the issue during the hearing;
- If you are the applicant, a protest fee of \$480 required by ORS 536.050; and
- If you are not the applicant, a protest fee of \$950 required by ORS 536.050 and proof of service of the protest upon the applicant.

Requests for Standing

Under the provisions of OAR 690-380-4030(5), the Department shall provide to persons who have filed standing statements as defined under OAR 690-380-0100(11) notice of any differences between the Department's Preliminary Determination and the Final Order, notice of a hearing on the application under OAR 137-003-0535, and an opportunity to request limited party status or party status in the hearing.

Requests for standing must be received in the Water Resources Department no later than 30 days after the last date of publication of the newspaper notice or the Department's weekly notice as prescribed by OAR 690-380-4020, whichever is later. Requests for standing must be in writing, and must include the following:

- The requester's name, mailing address and telephone number;
- If the requester is representing a group, association or other organization, the name, address and telephone number of the represented group;
- A statement that the requester supports the preliminary determination as issued.

After the protest period has ended, the Director will either issue a Final Order or schedule a contested case hearing. The contested case hearing will be scheduled only if a protest has been filed under OAR 690-380-4030. In accordance with OAR 690-380-4200, notice and conduct of the hearing shall:

- Be under the applicable provisions of ORS 183.310 to 183.550, pertaining to contested cases, and the hearing shall be held in the area where the rights are located unless all parties stipulate otherwise; and
- If a protest has asserted that a water right to be transferred has been forfeited through non-use, include the notice and procedures described in OAR 690-017-0500 to 690-017-0900.

If after hearing the Department issues a proposed Final Order finding that a change in point of diversion or appropriation will result in injury, the applicant may file a notification of intent to pursue approval of the transfer under OAR 690-380-5030 to 690-380-5050 within 15 days of receipt of the proposed order. Notwithstanding 690-002-0175, if the applicant files a notification of intent to pursue approval of the transfer under 690-380-5030 to 690-380-5050, the deadline for filing exceptions to the proposed order shall be 30 days after the Department provides notice to the parties that the transfer does not meet the requirements of 690-380-5030 to 690-380-5050.

If you do not request a hearing within 30 days after the close of the protest period, or if you withdraw a request for a hearing, notify the Department or the administrative law judge that you will not appear, or fail to appear at a scheduled hearing, the Director may issue a final order by default. If the Director issues a Final Order by default, the Department designates the relevant portions of its files on this matter, including all materials that you have submitted relating to this matter, as the record for purpose of proving a *prima facie* case upon default.

You may be represented by an attorney at the hearing. Legal aid organizations may be able to assist a party with limited financial resources. Generally, partnerships, corporations, associations, governmental subdivisions, or public or private organizations are represented by an attorney. However, consistent with OAR 690-002-0020 and OAR 690-137-0555, an agency representative may represent partnerships, corporations, associations, governmental subdivisions or public, or private organizations if the Department determines that appearance of a person by an authorized representative will not hinder the orderly and timely development of the record in this case.

Notice Regarding Servicemembers: Active duty servicemembers have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 1-800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 971-355-4127, or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>. The Oregon Military Department does not have a toll free number.

If you have questions about how to file a protest or if you have previously filed a protest and you want to know the status, please contact Will Davidson at 503-507-2749.

If you have questions about the Department or any of its programs, please contact our Water Resources Customer Service Group at 503-986-0900.

Address any correspondence to: Oregon Water Resources Department, Transfer and Conservation Section, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem OR 97301-1266.