

Water Resources Department

North Mall Office Building 725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301 Phone 503 986-0900 Fax 503 986-0904 www.oregon.gov/owrd

July 25, 2023

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND E-MAIL

Applicants

STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM C/O HERB STAHL 36345 DESPAIN GULCH RD. STANFIELD, OR 97875 HALE FARMS, LLC 73120 HWY 207 ECHO, OR 97826

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-12516

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-1251612516. 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 <u>corey.a.courchane@water.oregon.gov</u> or (503) 979-3917, if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Corey Courchane

Allocation of Conserved Water

Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: Transfer Application file T-1251612516

Gregory M. Silbernagel, District 5 Watermaster (via e-mail)

William I. Porfily, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail)

Dale VanSchoiack, Consultant for the applicant (via-email daleconsulting@gmail.com)

encs

BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-12516, Umatilla County	.)	PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A CHANGE IN
)	PLACE OF USE AND PARTIAL
)	CANCELLATION OF A WATER RIGHT
)	PERMIT

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.

Applicants

STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM C/O HERB STAHL 36345 DESPAIN GULCH RD. STANFIELD, OR 97875

HALE FARMS, LLC 73120 HWY 207 ECHO, OR 97826

Findings of Fact

- On October 31, 2016, STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM and HALE FARMS, LLC filed an application to change the place of use under Certificates 87111, 87773, 87795, and 91692. The Department assigned the application number T-12516.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on November 8, 2016, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On November 18, 2020, the agent for the applicant submitted a revised application to clarify the place of use and disposition of layered 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.

- 4. On May 19, 2023, the Department mailed a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-12516 to the applicants. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of June 20, 2023, for the applicants to respond. The applicants 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.
- 5. The portion of the first right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate:

87111 in the name of HALE FARMS LLC (perfected under Permit

S-37121)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 179.0 ACRES

Priority Dates:

OCTOBER 3, 1973 PLUS ONE MINUTE and DECEMBER 11, 1973 PLUS ONE

MINUTE

Rate:

1.94 CUBIC FEET PER SECOND (cfs), or its equivalent in case of rotation, measured at the point of diversion, and is further described and limited

The rate, duty and priority dates for 179.0 acres are:

Priority Date	Rate (CFS)	Duty (AF)
October 3, 1973 plus one minute	1.53	423.6
December 11, 1973 plus one minute	0.41	113.4
Total:	1.94	537.0

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, 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.

Season of Use: MARCH 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
5 N	30 E	WM	8	SW NW	2910 FEET NORTH AND 120 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 8

Authorized Place of Use:

	IRRIGATION								
Twp	Rng Mei		Sec Q-Q		Acres				
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NE SW	30.1				
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NW SW	31.0				
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SW SW	31.0				
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SE SW	30.1				
3 N	29 E	WM	14	NE SE	0.6				
3 N	30 E	WM	7	NE NE	3.9				

(_
	•
u	2
-	4
٠.	'n.
_	,
C	V
_	4
	1
н	_

	Acres	9.5	28.6	14.2	179.0
z	Q-Q	NW NE	SW NE	SE NE	Total:
IRRIGATION	Sec	7	7	7	
IRR	Mer	MM	MM	WM	
	Rng	30 E	30 E	30 E	
	Twp	3 N	3 N	3 N	
		_			1

6. Transfer Application T-12516 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

		2 2 2 2 2 2	NE NW NW NW SW NW SE NW NE SW NE NE SW NE SE NE SE NE NE NW	7 7 7	
30E \ 30E \ 30E \ 30E \	M M M M M		SW NW SE NW NE SW NW SW NE SE		
		7 8 8 10 110	NW SE NW NW SW NE SE NW		
30 E	WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW WW	10 16 17 17 17 20 20	NE SW NE NE NE SE SW SE SE SE NE NE NE NE NE SW SW		

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

Certificate:

87773 in the name of STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM,

C/O JOHN STAHL (perfected under Permit S-37121)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 54.3 ACRES

Priority Date:

OCTOBER 3, 1973 for 0.97 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (cfs) AND

DECEMBER 11, 1973, for 0.30 cfs

Rate:

1.27 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, and shall be further limited to a diversion of not

to exceed 4.5 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the

irrigation season of each year.

Source:

COLUMBIA RIVER, tributary to PACIFIC OCEAN

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
5 N	30 E	WM	8	SW NW	2910 FEET NORTH AND 120 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 8

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NW NE	1.5		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	SW NE	1.1		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	SE NE	0.2		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NE NW	0.8		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	SW NW	7.2		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	SE NW	8.0		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NE SW	7.7		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NW SW	24.8		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NE SE	0.1		
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NW SE	2.9		
· ·			19	Total:	54.3		

8. Transfer Application T-12516 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NE NE	24.1		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NW NE	30.2		
	*	75 A 76		Total:	54.3		

9. The third right to be transferred is as follows

Certificate: 87795 in the name of STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM, C/O JOHN STAHL

(perfected under Permit S-37121)

Use: IRRIGATION of 124.7 ACRES
Priority Date: DECEMBER 11, 1973

Rate: 2.92 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-FORTIETH 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 4.5 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of

each year.

Source: COLUMBIA RIVER, tributary to PACIFIC OCEAN

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
5 N	30 E	WM	0	SW NW	2910 FEET NORTH AND 120 FEET EAST
5 IV	30 E	VVIVI	0	300 1000	FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 8

Authorized Place of Use:

			IRRIGAT	ION		
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	GLot	Acres
4 N	30 E	WM	5	NW NE	2	1.2
4 N	30 E	WM	5	SW NE		5.1
4 N	30 E	WM	5	NE NW	2	6.1
4 N	30 E	WM	5	NW NW	2	0.9
4 N	30 E	WM	5	SW NW		11.8
4 N	30 E	WM	5	SE NW		13.3
4 N	30 E	WM	5	NE SW		2.5
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NE NE		2.5
4 N	30 E	WM	7	NW NE		11.7
4 N	30 E	WM	8	NE NE*		0.3
4 N	30 E	WM	10	SW NE		5.2
4 N	30 E	WM	10	SE NW		5.4
4 N	30 E	WM	10	NE SW	, A	5.3
4 N	30 E	WM	16	NE NE		1.7
4 N	30 E	WM	17	NE SE		2.8
4 N	30 E	WM	17	SW SE		12.5
4 N	30 E	WM	17	SE SE		34.8
4 N	30 E	WM	20	NE NE		1.1
4 N	30 E	WM	20	NW NE		0.5
*					Total:	124.7

Total: | 124.7

- 10. A scrivener's error was identified on Certificate 87795. The certificate incorrectly describes the irrigated acres of 0.3 acres in the NE¼ NE¾ of Section 8, T4N, R30E, WM. Based on the current transfer application map and Claim of Beneficial Use map from transfer T-9620, the Department is led to conclude that Certificate 87795 should be corrected to reflect the quarter-quarter description within Section 8 be changed to the NW¼ NW¾, Section 8, T4N, R30E, WM.
- 11. Transfer Application T-12516 proposes to change the place of use of the above described right to:

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NE NE	6.1		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SW NE	30.2		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SE NE	30.2		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NE SE	28.0		
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NW SE	30.2		
			7 9 4	Total:	124.7		

12. The portion of the fourth right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate:

91692 in the name of STANFIELD HUTTERIAN FARM,

C/O HERB STAHL (perfected under Permit S-37121)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 4.2 ACRES

Priority Dates:

OCTOBER 3, 1973 PLUS ONE MINUTE, DECEMBER 11, 1973 PLUS ONE

MINUTE

Rate:

0.045 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (CFS), BEING 0.036 CFS FOR OCTOBER 3,

1973 PLUS ONE MINUTE AND 0.009 CFS FOR DECEMBER 11, 1973 PLUS

ONE MINUTE

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, 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.

Period of Use:

MARCH 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31

Source:

COLUMBIA RIVER, TRIBUTARY TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
5 N	5 N 30 E		8	SW NW	2910 FEET NORTH AND 120 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 8

Authorized Place of Use:

		IRRIG	GATION		
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
4 N	30 E	WM	17	NE SE	1.2
4 N	30 E	WM	17	SW SE	1.0
4 N	30 E	WM	17	SE SE	1.8
4 N	30 E	WM	20	NE NE	0.2
			- 1	Total:	4.2

13. Transfer Application T-12516 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION							
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres		
4 N	30 E	WM	17	SE SE	4.2		

- 14. Portions of the authorized places of use as described in Findings of Fact #5, 7, 9, and 12, above, are appurtenant to lands described under Permits S-55114, S-55262, S-55263 and S-55173. These permits provide for pre-planned (only) annual use of water from the Columbia River, tributary to the Pacific Ocean, within certain constraints and permissions as outlined in the permits.
- 15. The proposed places of use as described in Finding of Facts #6, 8, 11, and 13, above, are appurtenant to lands described under Permits S-55114, S-55262, S-55263 and S-55173. These permits are for use of water from the Columbia River, tributary to the Pacific Ocean. Use of water under these permits is subject to the following annual use condition:
 - a. If water under Permits S-55114, S-55262, S-55263 and S-55173 is planned for use as supplemental irrigation, then pre-existing primary rights for the same place of use cannot be transferred to another place of use or character of use.

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

- 16. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the rights. There is no information in the records that would demonstrate that the rights are subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
- 17. Pumping structure, booster station, 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-12516.
- 18. The water rights are subject to transfer as defined in ORS 540.505(4) and OAR 690-380-0100(14).
- 19. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the rights.
- 20. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.

21. All other application requirements are met.

Partial Cancellation of a Water Right Permit

22. On February 9, 2023, the applicants submitted a voluntary cancellation affidavit for the portion of the primary water right permit S-54773 appurtenant to the lands of the transferred water right for Certificate 87111. This request is to cancel 179.0 acres of primary irrigation. The request, in part, is to cancel 31.0 acres within the NW¼ SW¼, Section 13, Township 3 North, Range 5 East, W.M.. However, this exceeds the 25.9 acres authorized on the permit at that location, thus only a total of 173.9 acres will be cancelled.

The portion of the water right permit to be cancelled is described as follows:

Permit:

S-54773 in the name of ECHO IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND HALE FARMS,

LLC

Use:

IRRIGATION of 173.9 ACRES

Period of Use: March 1 – April 14 and October 1 – October 31 & November 1 – February

Rate:

4.35 cfs

Priority Date:

JANUARY 30, 2008

Source:

COLUMBIA RIVER, tributary to the PACIFIC OCEAN

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances	
5 N	30 E	WM	8	SW NW	2910 FEET NORTH AND 120 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 8	

Place of Use to be Cancelled:

7, 124		IRRIGA	TION		
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NE SW	30.1
3 N	29 E	WM	13	NW SW	25.9
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SW SW	31.0
3 N	29 E	WM	13	SE SW	30.1
3 N	29 E	WM	14	NE SE	0.6
3 N	30 E	WM	7	NE NE	3.9
3 N	30 E	WM	7	NW NE	9.5
3 N	30 E	WM	7	SW NE	28.6
3 N	30 E	WM	7	SE NE	14.2
				Total	173.9

Determination and Proposed Action

The change in places of use proposed in Transfer Application T-12516 appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 540.505 to 540.580 and OAR 690-380-5000 and the abandoned portion of Permit S-54773 for primary irrigation will be cancelled. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the transfer application will be approved and the abandoned permit acres will be cancelled.

If Transfer Application T-12516 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The change in places of use proposed in Transfer Application T-12516 is approved. The portion of Permit S-54773 is cancelled.
- 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 87111, 87773, 87795, 91692, and any related decree.
- 3. Water right Certificates 87111, 87773, 87795, and 91692 are cancelled. New certificates will be issued describing those portions of Certificates 87111 and 91692 not affected by this transfer. Superseding Permit S-55457 will be issued to describe the portion of Permit S-54773 not cancelled.
- 4. The former places of use of the transferred rights shall no longer receive water under the rights.
- 5. 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 meter in good working order.
 - c. The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meter; provided however, where the meter is located within a private structure, the Watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
- 6. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2024**. 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.

7. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, new certificates confirming the rights transferred will be issued.

Dated in Salem, Oregon on

JUL 2 5 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.com

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 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 for 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: http://legalassistance.law.af.mil.

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 503-986-0801.

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.