

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Water Right and Diversion Transfer Comment Form

(ODFW provides this review to WRD so that WRD can make findings according to statutory requirements.)

Reference Transfer #: T-14412, Williams Ditch Company

Date of review:03/08/2024

A. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) does not believe this proposed transfer will injure any instream water rights.

B. Fish screen requirements pursuant to ORS 540.525 or 540.532:

Screen Now

Finding of Fact: The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has determined that a fish screen is necessary at the new point of diversion to prevent fish from entering the diversion and that the diversion is not currently equipped with an appropriate fish screen. This diversion may be eligible for screening cost-share funds.

Condition: Prior to diverting water, the water user shall install an approved fish screen at the new point of diversion and shall provide to the OWRD a written statement from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) that the installed screen meets the state's criteria, or that ODFW has determined a screen is not necessary.

The water user shall operate and maintain the fish screen at the new point of diversion consistent with ODFW's operational and maintenance standards. If ODFW determines the screen is not functioning properly, and is unsuccessful in working with the water user to meet ODFW standards, ODFW may request that OWRD regulate the use of water until OWRD receives notification from ODFW that the fish screen is functioning properly.

Jorden Smith (541)805-1990

East Region Hydropower and Water Rights Coordinator

Signature

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Additional Fish Screening and Passage Information for the Applicant

(To be completed by ODFW for WRD to provide to the applicant.)

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The applicant should be aware that fish screening and passage may be required for certain changes in point of diversion

Fish screening is required as a condition of this transfer. The fish screen must meet ODFW's design, construction, operational and maintenance standards.

Pursuant to ORS 498.306, cost-share funds may be available to assist in the installation of fish screening.

The applicant should contact the ODFW staff member below to obtain additional information on the design, construction, operational, and maintenance standards for the fish screen and to obtain information about ODFW's cost-sharing program for screening.

Prior to installation, the water user must obtain written approval from ODFW that the required screen meets ODFW's criteria.

ODFW staff name: Nathaniel Ashley

Address: PO BOX 515; W HWY 26 PATTERSON RD

City/State/Zip: John Day, OR 97845

Phone: (541)575-0561

This transfer may trigger requirements for fish passage under ORS 509.585 because a new point of diversion will be constructed, an existing point of diversion's capacity will be increased, or an existing point of diversion will be abandoned. The applicant should contact the ODFW staff member below for a determination of whether native migratory fish are or were present at the applicable location, which will determine whether fish passage must be addressed.

ODFW staff name: Ethan Brandt

Address: 107 TWENTIETH ST

City/State/Zip: La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: (541)962-1829