

**BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Transfer Application)
T-14259, Gilliam County)
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PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
PROPOSING APPROVAL OF AN
ADDITIONAL POINT OF DIVERSION,
CHANGES IN POINTS OF DIVERSION AND
CHANGES IN PLACE OF USE

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.

Applicant

SKYE AND PENNY KREBS
73654 HWY 74
IONE, OR 97843

Findings of Fact

1. On June 2, 2023, Skye and Penny Krebs filed an application for an additional point of diversion, to change points of diversion and to change the place of use under Certificates 67246, 88208, 91444, and 95946. The Department assigned the application number T-14259.
2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on June 13, 2023, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
3. On May 2, 2024, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-14259 to the applicants. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of June 1, 2024, 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 applicants are authorized to pursue the transfer.

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 16, 2024, the applicant's agent requested a new completion date of October 1, 2027, due to the complexities of the project. Pursuant to OAR 690-380-5140(3), the Department has modified the completion date of Transfer Application T-14259 to October 1, 2027.

5. The portion of the first right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate: 67246 in the name of JOHN RUEDY IRRIGATION DITCH COMPANY
(confirmed by WILLOW CREEK, GILLIAM MORROW COUNTIES (F), 1910 Decree)

Use: IRRIGATION OF 17.31 ACRES

Priority Date: NOVEMBER 1896 AND DECEMBER 28, 1908

Rate: 0.29 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Source: WILLOW CREEK, a tributary of COLUMBIA

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
2 N	22 E	WM	1	SE NE	WILFRED CECIL DITCH AND JOHN RUEDY COMPANY DITCH NO. 2

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
2 N	22 E	WM	1	NE NW	10.09
2 N	22 E	WM	1	NW NW	7.22
TOTAL					17.31

6. The application provided additional information describing the authorized point of diversion as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
2 N	22 E	WM	1	SE NE	POD - 440 FEET NORTH AND 490 FEET WEST FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 1

7. Transfer Application T-14259 proposes to move the authorized point of diversion approximately 1.0 mile downstream to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SW SW	POD 1 - 430 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 36

8. Transfer Application T-14259 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
2 N	22 E	WM	1	NE NW	3.80
2 N	22 E	WM	1	NW NW	6.51
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SW SW	5.10
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SE SW	1.90
TOTAL					17.31

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

Certificate: 88208 in the name of SKYE H. AND PENNY KREBS (confirmed by WILLOW CREEK, GILLIAM AND MORROW, 1910 Decree)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 20.6 ACRES
Priority Date: 1903
Rate: 0.34 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (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-SIXTIETH of one cubic foot per second, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.
Period of Use: MARCH 1 TO SEPTEMBER 1
Source: WILLOW CREEK, tributary to COLUMBIA RIVER

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	22 E	WM	23	SW NW	POD - 1720 FEET SOUTH AND 650 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 23

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	22 E	WM	23	NW NW	13.5
3 N	22 E	WM	23	SW NW	7.1
TOTAL					20.6

10. Transfer Application T-14259 proposes an additional point of diversion approximately 6,500 feet upstream located:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	22 E	WM	26	NE SW	POD 2 - 770 FEET SOUTH AND 1130 FEET WEST FROM THE C1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 26

11. Transfer Application T-14259 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION						
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres	POD
3 N	22 E	WM	23	SW NW	2.6	POD
3 N	22 E	WM	26	SW SE	18.0	POD 2
TOTAL					20.6	

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

Certificate: 91444 in the name of O E. FARNSWORTH (confirmed by Willow Creek, Gilliam and Morrow, 1910 Decree)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 14.0 ACRES
Priority Date: 1901
Rate: 0.23 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND
Source: WILLOW CREEK, tributary to the COLUMBIA RIVER

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	22 E	WM	26	SW NW	7.0
3 N	22 E	WM	26	SE NW	7.0
TOTAL					14.0

13. Certificate 91444 does not describe the location of the authorized point of diversion however, the applicant has provided information indicating that the authorized point of diversion is located as follows:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Lot	TaxLot
2 N	23 E	WM	6	NW SW	6	700

14. Transfer Application T-14259 proposes to move the authorized point of diversion approximately 680 feet upstream to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	22 E	WM	26	NE SW	POD 2 - 770 FEET SOUTH AND 1130 FEET WEST FROM THE C1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 26

15. Transfer Application T-14259 also proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	22 E	WM	26	SW SE	8.80
3 N	22 E	WM	35	NW NE	5.20
TOTAL					14.0

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

Certificate: 95946 in the name of SKYE AND PENNY KREBS (perfected under Permit E-239)
Use: IRRIGATION OF 5.3 ACRES
Priority Date: MARCH 13, 1915
Rate: 0.07 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND
Source: WILLOW CREEK, a tributary of COLUMBIA RIVER

Authorized Point of Diversion:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SW SW	POD 1 - 430 FEET NORTH AND 130 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER OF SECTION 36

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SW SW	5.3

17. Transfer Application T-14259 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	22 E	WM	36	SW SW	5.3

18. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 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 currently equipped with an appropriate fish screen.

Transfer Review Criteria [OAR 690-380-0100(14), 690-380-4010(2) and 690-380-2110(2), and 690-380-2200]

19. 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.
20. A water delivery system sufficient to use the full amount of water allowed under the existing rights was present within the five-year period prior to submittal of Transfer Application T-14259.
21. The water rights are subject to transfer as defined in ORS 540.505(4) and OAR 690-380-0100(14).
22. The proposed points of diversion divert water from the same source of surface water as the authorized points of diversion, as required by OAR 690-380-2110(2).
23. The proposed changes, as conditioned, would not result in enlargement of the rights.
24. The proposed changes, as conditioned, would not result in injury to other existing water rights.
25. All other application requirements are met.

Determination and Proposed Action

The additional point of diversion, change in points of diversion and change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-14259 appear to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 540.505 to 540.580 and OAR 690-380-5000. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the transfer application will be approved.

If Transfer Application T-14259 is approved, the final order will include the following:

1. *The additional point of diversion, changes in points of diversion and changes in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-14259 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 67246, 88208, 91444, and 95946 and any related decree.*
3. *Approval of this transfer application does not constitute nor grant legal access onto or through another person's property for purposes of accessing the new points of diversion or the new places of use.*
4. *Water right Certificates 67246, 88208, 91444, and 95946 are cancelled. New certificates will be issued describing those portions of the rights not affected by this transfer.*
5. *Under Certificate 67246, the quantity of water diverted at the new point of diversion (POD 1) shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of diversion (POD).*
6. *Under Certificate 88208, the quantity of water diverted at the new point of diversion (POD 2) shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of diversion (POD).*
7. *Under Certificate 91444, the quantity of water diverted at the new point of diversion (POD 2) shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available at the original point of diversion (POD).*
8. *Water shall be acquired from the same source of surface water as the original points of diversion.*
9. *The former place of use of the transferred rights shall no longer receive water under the rights.*
10. *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 diversion (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.*
11. *The water user shall operate and maintain an approved fish screen at the new point of diversion. If Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (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.*

12. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2027**. 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, a new certificate confirming the rights transferred will be issued.

Dated in Salem, Oregon on **OCT 18 2024**



Lisa J. Jaramillo, Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for
IVAN GALL, DIRECTOR
Oregon Water Resources Department

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by Dante Luongo. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 971-304-5006 or Dante.J.Luongo@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. 50 U.S.C. App. §§501-597b. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 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>.



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

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Fax 503 986-0904
www.oregon.gov/owrd

October 18, 2024

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND E-MAIL

SKYE AND PENNY KREBS
73654 HWY 74
IONE, OR 97843

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-14259

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-14259. 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 East Oregonian 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 don't hesitate to contact me at 971 304-5006 or Dante.J.Luongo@water.oregon.gov, if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Dante Luongo
Transfer Specialist
Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: Transfer Application file T-14259
Kenneth C. Thiemann, District 21 Watermaster (*via e-mail*)
Dale VanSchoiack, Agent for the applicant (*via e-mail*)

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