

Groundwater Transfer Review Summary Form

Transfer/PA # T- 14348

GW Reviewer Darrick E. Boschmann Date Review Completed: 11/27/2024

Summary of Same Source Review:

The proposed change in point of appropriation is not within the same aquifer as per OAR 690-380-2110(2).

Summary of Water Level Decline Condition Review:

Water levels at the original point(s) of appropriation have exceeded the allowed decline threshold defined by conditions in the originating water right.

Summary of Injury Review:

The proposed transfer will result in another, existing water right not receiving previously available water to which it is legally entitled or result in significant interference with a surface water source as per 690-380-0100(3).

Summary of GW-SW Transfer Similarity Review:

The proposed SW-GW transfer doesn't meet the definition of "similarly" as per OAR 690-380-2130.

This is only a summary. Documentation is attached and should be read thoroughly to understand the basis for determinations.



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Ground Water Review Form:

- Water Right Transfer
Permit Amendment
GR Modification
Other

Application: T-14348

Applicant Name: Rattlesnake Creek Land & Cattle

Proposed Changes: POA, APOA, SW-GW, RA, USE, POU, OTHER

Reviewer(s): Darrick E. Boschmann

Date of Review: 11/27/2024

Date Reviewed by GW Mgr. and Returned to WRSD:

The information provided in the application is insufficient to evaluate whether the proposed transfer may be approved because:

- The water well reports provided with the application do not correspond to the water rights affected by the transfer.
The application does not include water well reports or a description of the well construction details sufficient to establish the ground water body developed or proposed to be developed.
Other

1. Basic description of the changes proposed in this transfer: _____

This application is related to the following four certificates: Certificate 50685; Certificate 50686; Certificate 50981; Certificate 87453

Certificate 50685 authorizes groundwater pumping from one well (POD 1 = NLOG 57942) for primary irrigation of 12.5 acres and supplemental irrigation of 40.0 acres in the Malheur Lake basin. The following changes are proposed:

- 1. Add one APOA (HARN 51738).
- 2. Rearrange a portion of the POU.

Certificate 50686 authorizes groundwater pumping from one well (HARN 51738) for primary irrigation of 187.0 acres in the Malheur Lake basin. The following changes are proposed:

- 1. Add 3 APOA (NLOG 57942; HARN 52958; NLOG 57943).
- 2. Rearrange a portion of the POU.

Certificate 50981 authorizes groundwater pumping from one well (NLOG 57943) for supplemental irrigation of 50.0 acres in the Malheur Lake basin. The following changes are proposed:

- 1. Add one APOA (HARN 52958).
- 2. Rearrange a portion of the POU.

Certificate 87453 authorizes groundwater pumping from one well (HARN 52958) for supplemental irrigation of 50.0 acres in the Malheur Lake basin. The following changes are proposed:

- 1. Add one APOA (NLOG 57943).
- 2. Rearrange a portion of the POU.

The authorized well for certificate 50685 (NLOG 57942) has no drillers' log available. It cannot be determined if this well meets well construction standards.

The authorized well for certificate 87453 (HARN 52958) has no driller log available. It cannot be determined if this well meets well construction standards.

The authorized well for certificate 50981 (NLOG 57943) has no drillers' log available. It cannot be determined if this well meets well construction standards.

The application materials list well "S2" (NLOG 57942) as the authorized well under certificate 50686). Available records (water right permit document and well log) indicate the authorized well is HARN 51738. For the purposes of this review it is determined that HARN 51738 is the authorized well and assumed that NLOG 57942 ("S2") is the intended APOA.

"M1" = HARN 52958

"M2" = NLOG 57943

"S1" = HARN 51738

"S2" = NLOG 57942

2. Will the proposed POA develop the same aquifer (source) as the existing authorized POA?

Yes No Comments: _____

The authorized and proposed wells develop groundwater occurring in the Older basin fill hydrostratigraphic unit. Groundwater occurs in multiple hydrostratigraphic units, and groundwater within these units is hydraulically connected, making a single groundwater system composed of multiple hydrostratigraphic units (Gingerich and others, 2022).

In general, groundwater in the Harney Basin flows from several upland recharge areas to a common discharge area near Malheur and Harney Lakes, with some apparent discharge to the Malheur Basin through one area along the eastern margin. While the rocks and sediments making up the aquifer system in the Harney Basin do constitute a single groundwater flow system, sub-watersheds within the basin contribute recharge to different parts of the system depending on groundwater flow-paths from recharge to discharge areas. In general, within these sub-watersheds water within the aquifer system is sourced from a common recharge area and can therefore be considered a single source. The currently authorized wells and the proposed wells are all within the northern part of Harney Valley and are located along groundwater flow paths flowing generally southward toward Malheur Lake.

3. a) Is the existing authorized POA subject to a water level decline condition?

Yes No Comments: _____

b) If yes, for each POA identify the reference level, most recent spring-high water level, and whether an applicable permit decline condition has been exceeded: _____

4. a) Is there more than one source developed under the right (e.g., basalt and alluvium)?

Yes No Comments: _____

b) If yes, estimate the portion of the right supplied by each of the sources and describe any limitations that will need to be placed on the proposed change (rate, duty, etc.): _____

5. a) Will this proposed change, at its maximum allowed rate of use, likely result in an increase in interference with **another ground water right**?

Yes No Comments: _____

Most of the lands and authorized POA within the vicinity of the authorized and proposed wells are under the same ownership as the applicant. The proposed APOA NLOG 57942 under certificate 50686 will authorize pumping under this certificate within 1,000 feet of authorized POD 1 under certificate 67657, which is under different ownership. This has the potential to result in an incremental increase in interference with this well.

b) If yes, would this proposed change, at its maximum allowed rate of use, likely result in another groundwater right not receiving the water to which it is legally entitled?

Yes No If yes, explain: _____

Any increase in interference with existing wells will not meet the standard for substantial or undue interference given the thickness of the aquifer system in the Harney Basin.

6. a) Will this proposed change, at its maximum allowed rate of use, likely result in an increase in interference with **another surface water source**?

Yes No Comments: The nearest perennial reaches of any surface water sources are approximately two miles to the north and up gradient from the authorized and proposed wells.

b) If yes, at its maximum allowed rate of use, what is the expected change in degree of interference with any **surface water sources** resulting from the proposed change?

Stream: _____ Minimal Significant

Stream: _____ Minimal Significant

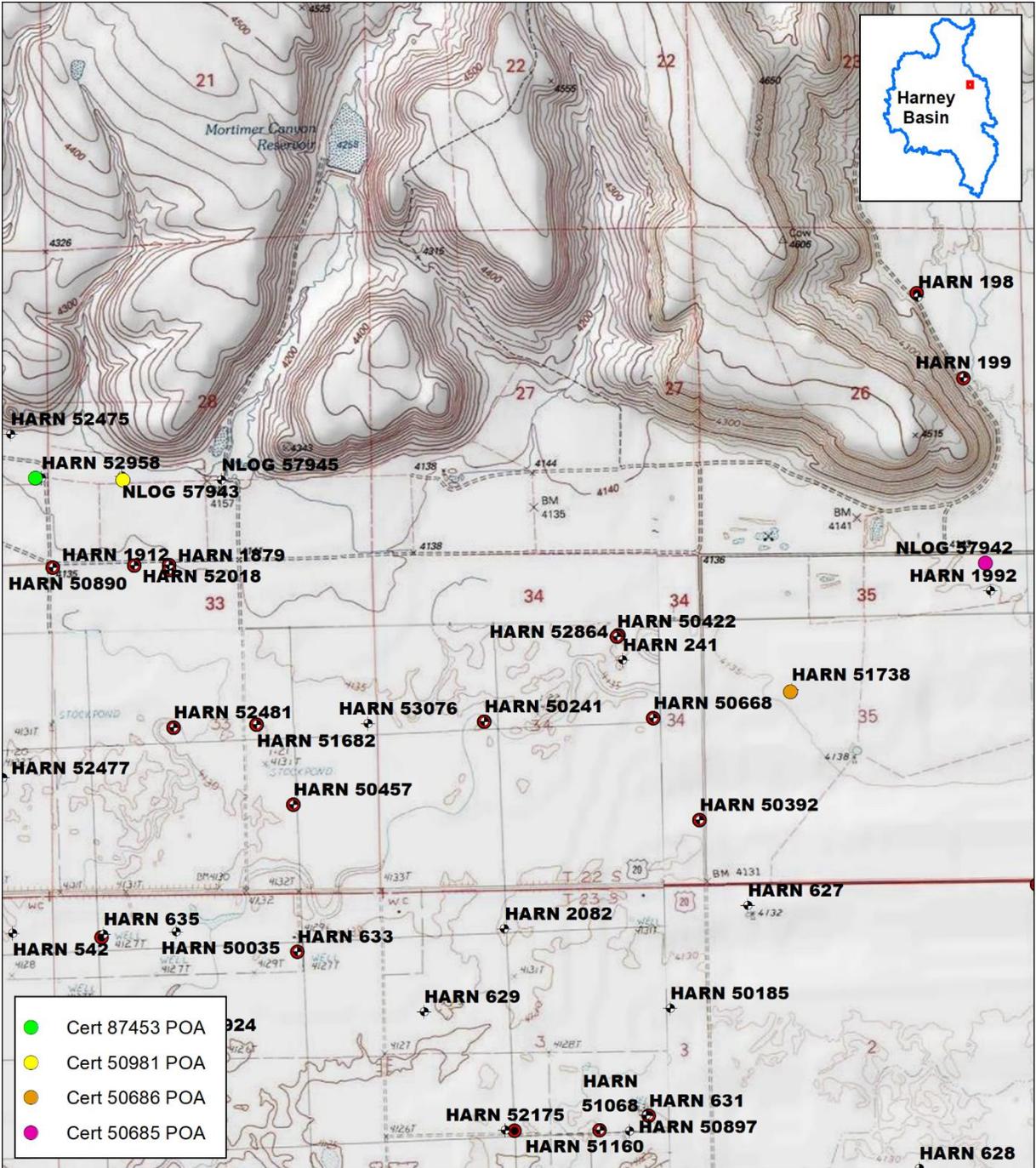
Provide context for minimal/significant impact: _____

7. For SW-GW transfers, will the proposed change in point of diversion affect the surface water source similarly (as per OAR 690-380-2130) to the authorized point of diversion specified in the water use subject to transfer?

Yes No Comments: _____

8. What conditions or other changes in the application are necessary to address any potential issues identified above: none.

9. Any additional comments: Several of the authorized and proposed wells have no drillers' log available. It cannot be determined if these wells meet well construction standards.



T-14348

Rattlesnake Creek Land & Cattle

- ⊕ GW site (Well)
- Groundwater POD

