

Groundwater Transfer Review Summary Form

Transfer/PA # T- 14253

GW Reviewer Jen Woody Date Review Completed: 12/5/2023

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 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.



Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem, Oregon 97301-1271
(503) 986-0900
www.wrd.state.or.us

Ground Water Review Form:

- ☒ **Water Right Transfer**
☐ **Permit Amendment**
☐ **GR Modification**
☐ **Other**

Application: T-14253

Applicant Name: J3 Contracting, LLC

Proposed Changes: ☒ POA ☐ APOA ☐ SW→GW ☐ RA
☐ USE ☐ POU ☐ OTHER

Reviewer(s): Jen Woody

Date of Review: 12/5/2023

Date Reviewed by GW Mgr. and Returned to WRSD: JTI 6/4/25

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: T14253 proposes to change POA 2/Well #2/UMAT 5170 on Certificate 41013 to a newly drilled well: UMAT 59044.
 2. Will the proposed POA develop the same aquifer (source) as the existing authorized POA?
☒ Yes ☐ No Comments: The existing authorized POA (UMAT 5170) accesses at least two water-bearing materials: one located from 0-437 feet bls (below land surface) within the Quaternary to Late Tertiary consolidated coarse and fine sediments and one located 437-505 feet bls in the Lower Monumental Member of the Saddle Mountains Formation of the Columbia River Basalt Group. The proposed POA, UMAT 59044, accesses only the sedimentary unit.
 3. a) Is there more than one source developed under the right (e.g., basalt and alluvium)?
☒ Yes ☐ No UMAT 5170 is 525 feet deep and has a 40 foot seal; the well's open interval intersects multiple geologic materials as described in Section 2. The replacement well, UMAT 59044 is 346 feet deep and accesses water bearing zones only within the sedimentary unit. The original POA and the proposed replacement have similar water level elevations, indicating that the bottom of the sedimentary package and the weathered top of basalt are hydraulically connected. It is unclear whether this connection is natural or a result of the well construction at UMAT 5170. The water level at UMAT 59044, which is cased and sealed into basalt, is 200 feet deeper than the subject wells, indicating it accesses a different aquifer. Nearby shallower sedimentary wells, such as UMAT 4205, exhibit water levels that are 40 to 60 feet higher than UMAT 5170 and UMAT 59044 (see Figure 4).

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.): UMAT 5170 reports a yield of 350 gpm; UMAT 59044 reports 300 gpm. Several factors affect well yield: the degree to which the well was developed, the height of the open interval, the size of the pump and diameter of the well. Absent information regarding yield per depth to determine what percentage of the rate is transferrable to UMAT 59044, this review approximates 300 gpm is transferrable to the new well, while the additional 50 gpm reported at UMAT 5170 is approximated as yield from the basalt between 440 and 500 feet blsd. The portion of the water right produced from basalt could be transferrable to a properly constructed basalt well determined by the Department to access the same aquifer.

4. 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: The proposed POA, UMAT 59044, is located approximately 20 feet from the authorized POA, UMAT 5170. No change in well to well interference is expected.

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: n/a

5. 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: Because both the current and proposed POAs access the sedimentary unit and the distance to surface water is unchanged, the current level of surface water interference is not expected to change.

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: n/a

6. 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: n/a

7. What conditions or other changes in the application are necessary to address any potential issues identified above: As described in Section 3b, only a portion of the subject water right is transferrable to UMAT 59044.

8. Any additional comments: none

References

Newcomb, R.C., 1965, Geology and Groundwater Resources of the Walla Walla River Basin Washington-Oregon, State of Washington Water Supply Bulletin No. 21.

Oregon Water Resources Department Groundwater Information System,
https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/gw_info/gw_info_report/Default.aspx , accessed 12/5/2023.

Figure 1. Well location map

T-14253 J3 Contracting
6N/36E-Section 18

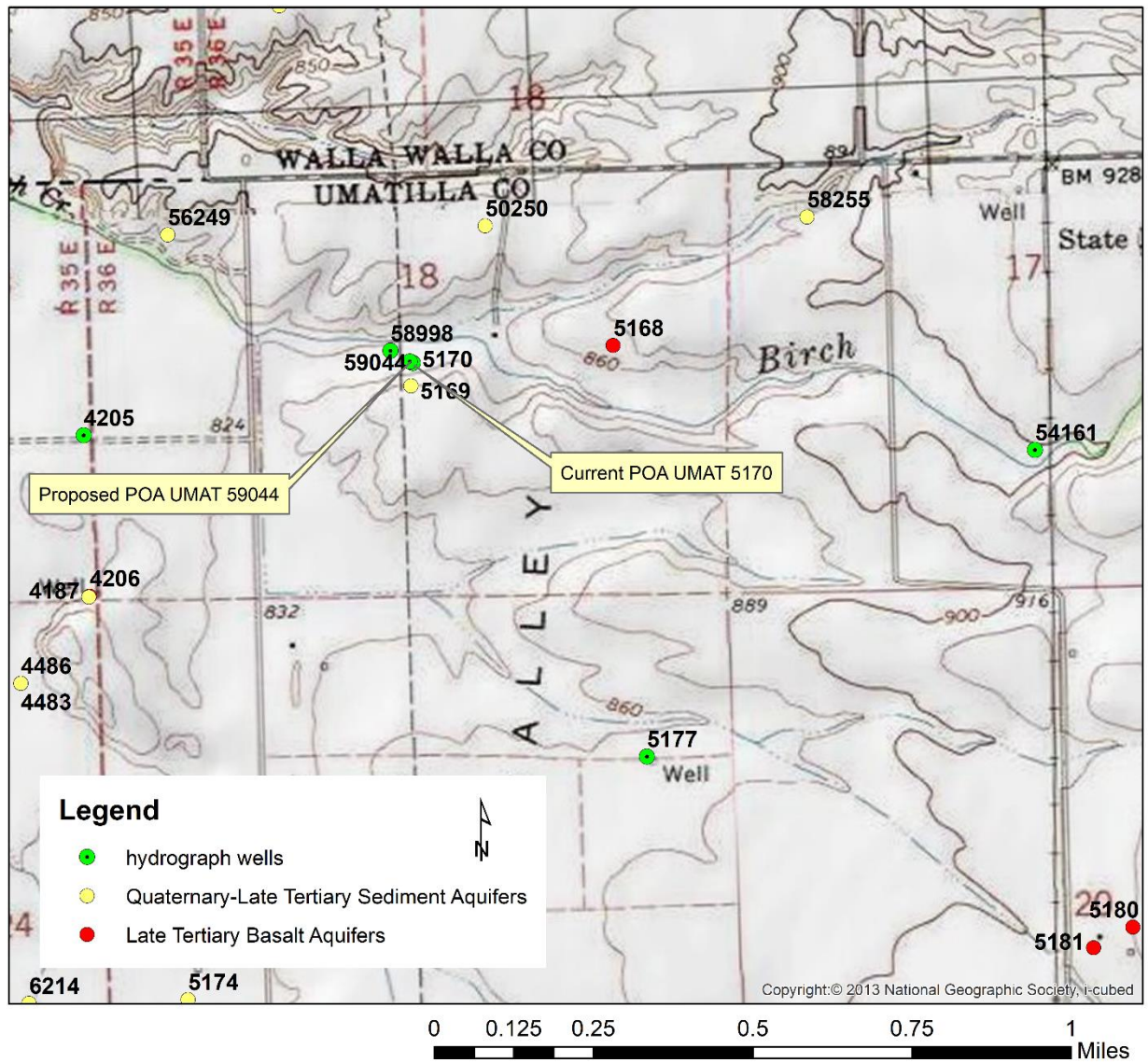


Figure 2. Hydrograph. The current POA, UMAT 5170, and the proposed POA, UMAT 59044, have similar water level elevations near 750 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Nearby basalt wells (UMAT 5177, 54161 and 58998) have current water levels near 600 feet amsl, while nearby shallow sedimentary wells such as UMAT 4205 have water levels near 815 feet amsl..

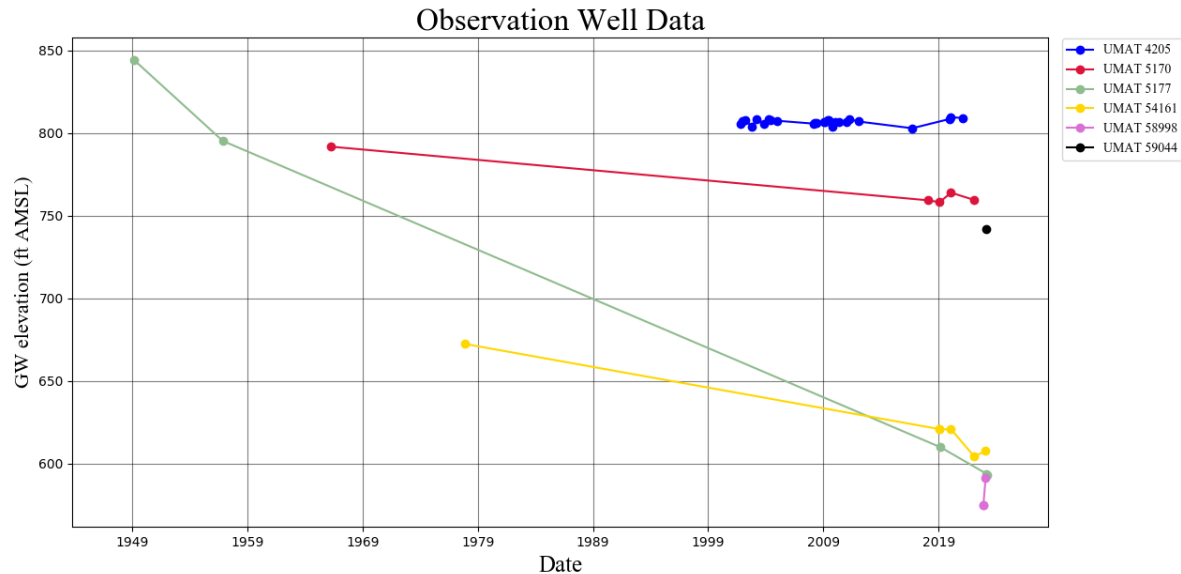


Figure 3. Cross-sectional diagram of the current and proposed POA, in addition to a nearby exempt well (UMAT 58998). As discussed in Section 3, the current POA's open interval (UMAT 5170) intersects both sedimentary and basalt materials, with reported water-bearing zones in both units. The new well (UMAT 59044) only intersects sedimentary materials.

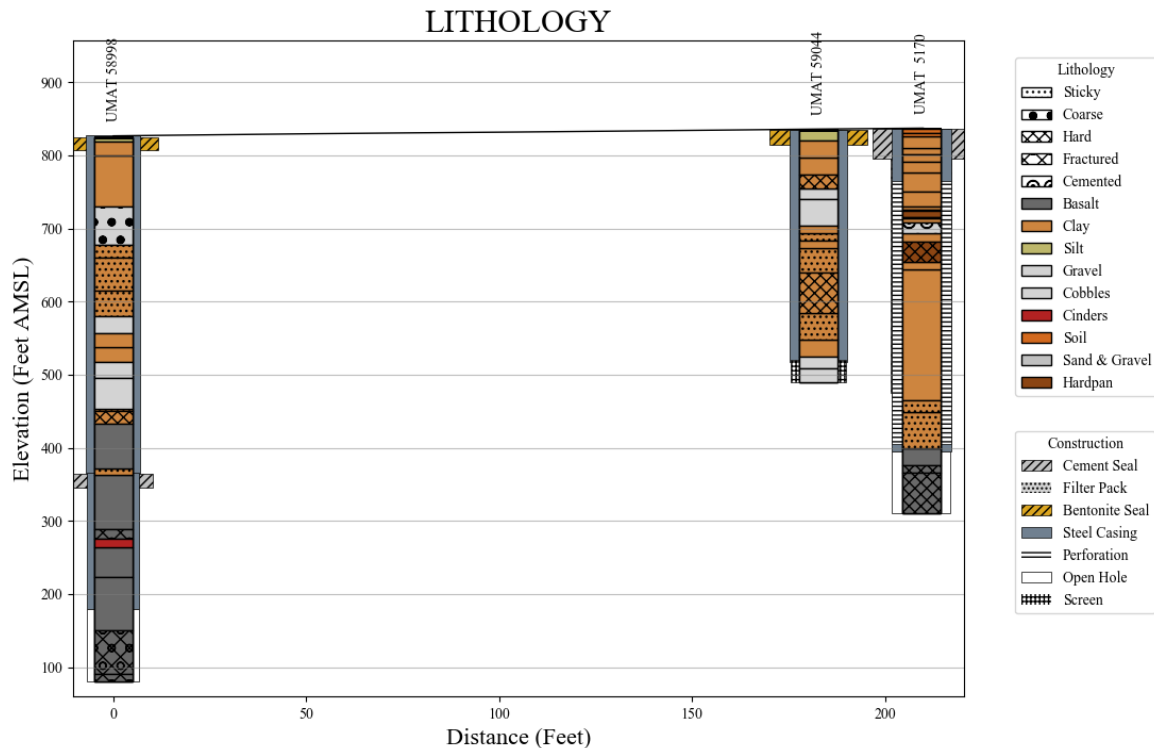


Figure 4. Cross sectional diagram over a larger area showing wells and water levels measured in February 2023. The authorized well (UMAT 5170) and the proposed replacement well (UMAT 59044) are completed to different depths but exhibit similar water level elevations.

