

# Groundwater Transfer Review Summary Form

Transfer/PA # T- 14335

GW Reviewer Steve Ahlquist Date Review Completed: 8/6/2025

## 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-14335

Applicant Name: City of Hermiston

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

Reviewer(s): Steve Ahlquist

Date of Review: 8/6/2025

Date Returned to WRSD: 8/7/2025

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 \_\_\_\_\_
- 

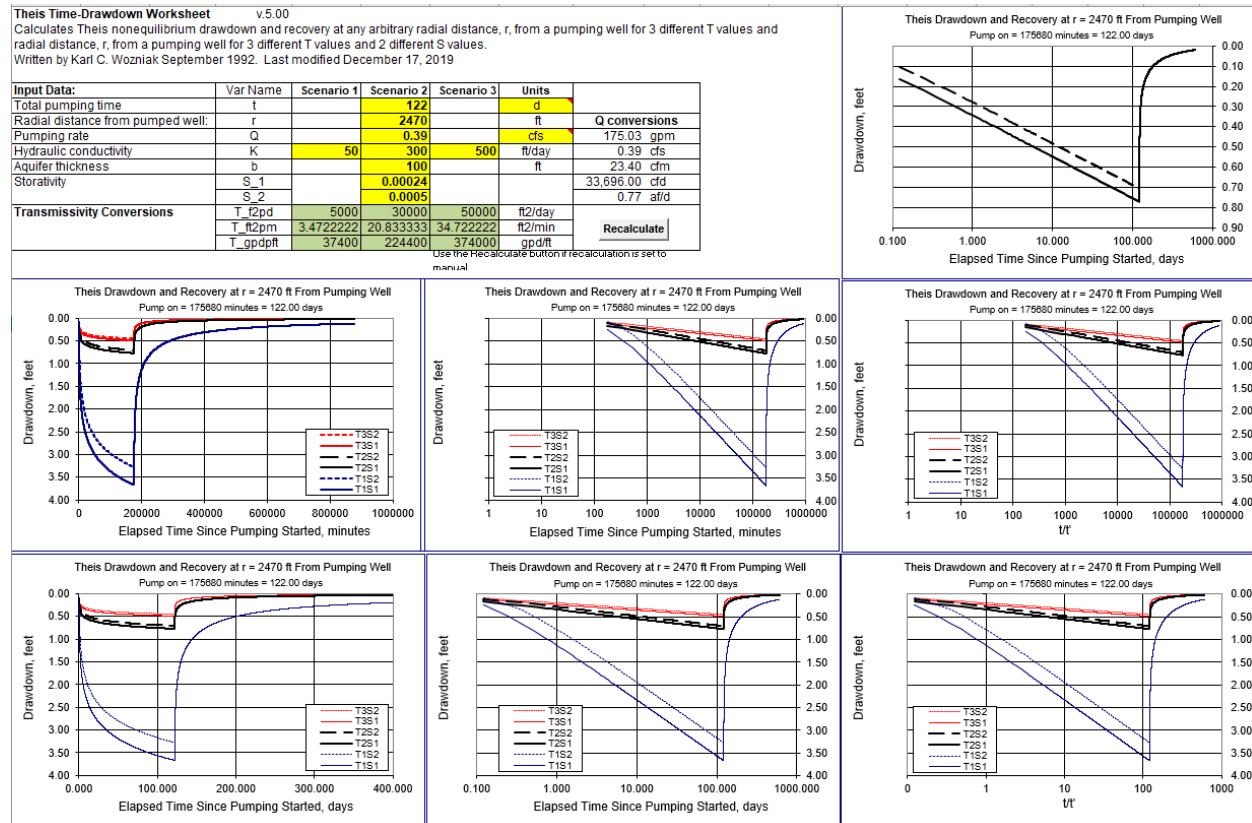
1. Basic description of the changes proposed in this transfer: The applicant proposes to change the POA, POU, and character of use for Certificate 87374 which currently authorizes irrigation of 31.4 acres from one authorized POA. The proposed transfer would change the POA from UMAT 2507 (Well 3) to UMAT 5450 (Well 6). The character of use will be changed from irrigation to municipal and the POU will be changed to the City of Hermiston's municipal water service area.
2. Will the proposed POA develop the same aquifer (source) as the existing authorized POA?  
☒ Yes    ☐ No    Comments: Yes. The authorized POA and the proposed POA both access water-bearing zones of the Columbia River Basalt Group aquifer system within subarea A of the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area.
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: The department manages the basalt aquifers of Stage Gulch subarea A as a single source.  
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: The proposed POA is approximately 3,630 feet closer to both UMAT 2515 and UMAT 2878 which are authorized POAs on other water rights. The reduced intervening distance will likely result in an increase in interference with these wells.
- 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: To assess potential injury at nearby wells due to the proposed use, drawdown from pumping at the proposed POA (UMAT 5450) was estimated using the Theis (1935) solution for drawdown in a confined aquifer (see attached Theis Drawdown Analysis). Model inputs for aquifer properties are from aquifer test data for the basalt aquifers in this area. Results of the Theis analysis indicate that pumping at the maximum authorized rate from the proposed POA (UMAT 5450) would result in less than 1 foot of additional interference at UMAT 2515 and UMAT 2878 and would not result in another groundwater right not receiving the water to which it is legally entitled.
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 proposed POA is accessing deep basalt aquifers and is not expected to have an efficient hydraulic connection with nearby surface water sources.
- 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: NA
8. What conditions or other changes in the application are necessary to address any potential issues identified above: NA
9. Any additional comments: NA

**T14335 City of Hermiston**



# **Theis Drawdown Analysis –Estimated interference at UMAT 2515 from pumping at proposed POA (UMAT 5450) for Certificate 87374 (0.39 cfs/94.2 acre-feet)**



# **Theis Drawdown Analysis –Estimated interference at UMAT 2515 from pumping at authorized POA (UMAT 2507) under Certificate 87374 (0.39 cfs/94.2 acre-feet)**

