

EMERGENCY DROUGHT APPLICATION: GROUNDWATER REVIEW

TO: Water Rights Section Date 7/10/2023
 FROM: Groundwater Section Joe Kemper
 Reviewer's Name

SUBJECT: Application G- 19375

DROUGHT MITIGATION; GROUNDWATER

This review is based on authorities laid out in OAR 690-019 Drought Mitigation rules. This is an expedited review to evaluate an emergency request for groundwater use for one season under a Governor’s drought declaration. Notwithstanding groundwater availability, stability of the groundwater resource, and surface water and Scenic Waterway considerations, the Department may issue a drought permit for short-term emergency use provided that there is no injury and that the use is within the public interest as per OAR 690-019-0040(3). **This review is based upon available information and agency policies in place at the time of evaluation.**

A. GENERAL INFORMATION: Applicant’s Name: 1310 Gregory LLC, Brandon Taffe County: Jackson

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) 0.05 cfs from 1 well(s) in the Rogue Basin,
Middle Rogue subbasin

A2. Proposed use Suppl. Irrigation (6 acres) Seasonality: 7/1/2023 to 10/31/2023

A3. Well and aquifer data (**attach and number logs for existing wells; mark proposed wells as such under logid**):

Well	Logid	Applicant’s Well #	Proposed Aquifer*	Proposed Rate(cfs)	Location (T/R-S QQ-Q)	Location, metes and bounds, e.g. 2250’ N, 1200’ E fr NW cor S 36
1	JACK 64974	1	Bedrock	0.05	36S/1W-30 SW-NE	1470’ S & 2430’ W fr NE Cor S 30
2						

* Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock

Well	Well Elev ft msl	First Water ft bls	SWL ft bls	SWL Date	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)	Draw Down (ft)	Test Type
1	1288	120	15	8/28/2021	205	0-26	+1-39	2-205	145-205	250	-	Air

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** _____

B. GROUNDWATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS:

B1. Is there information that this drought groundwater use will **injure senior spring or surface water rights** during the duration of the drought declaration? (Yes) (No) If yes, explain: The applicant’s well accesses an aquifer hosted in the secondary fractures and joints of the sedimentary Payne Cliffs Formation. The target aquifer is hydraulically connected to Whetstone Creek and the Rogue River. The proposed use would likely result in some degree of depletion of water flowing in or towards these streams. However, there is either insufficient information available to determine that the proposed use will injure surface water rights, or the likelihood of injury is deemed acceptable considering the need for water because of the drought emergency and the short-term nature of the proposed emergency use as per OAR 690-019.

B2. Is there information that this drought groundwater use will **injure senior groundwater rights** during the duration of the drought declaration? (Yes) (No) If yes, explain: The adjacent tax lots are likely supplied by exempt-use wells, which may be impacted by well-to-well interference from the applicant’s well. However, considering the low requested rate and volume of water, the proposed groundwater use will not likely result in interference to adjacent groundwater users that would meet the definition of injury.

B3. Groundwater (is) (is not) available within the **capacity of the resource**. Comments: Water level records from adjacent wells indicate that aquifer levels are predominately stable and do not show signs of over-appropriation or excessive decline.

B4. There (is) (is not) a preponderance of evidence that the proposed short-term emergency groundwater use will measurably reduce the surface water flows necessary to maintain the free-flowing character of a scenic waterway. Comments: The OWRD Water Availability Reporting System (WARS) has determined that groundwater use has already measurably reduced the surface flows necessary for the Rogue Scenic Waterway from the Applegate River to Lobster Creek as per ORS 390.835. The groundwater use proposed here would further reduce surface water flow to this Scenic Waterway.

B5. **Proposed Permit Conditions:** *If a permit is issued, include:*

Condition 7B (Interference Condition): Drought permits are junior to existing water rights and are subject to regulation

Condition 7P (Well Tag): If there is no existing OWRD Well ID Tag on the well, one shall be attached.

Large Water Use Reporting Condition: totalizing flowmeter and reporting required. Include condition that “the readings must be reported to the Department by December 31, 2023.”

Special Condition – Static Water Level Measurement Access: The permittee shall allow Department staff, upon reasonable notice, to access the permitted well(s) during the period of use to take static water level measurements to monitor the impact of use on the resource. To ensure accurate measurements, the permittee may be required to stop use of the well for up to 24 hours before a water level measurement.

B6. **References Used:**

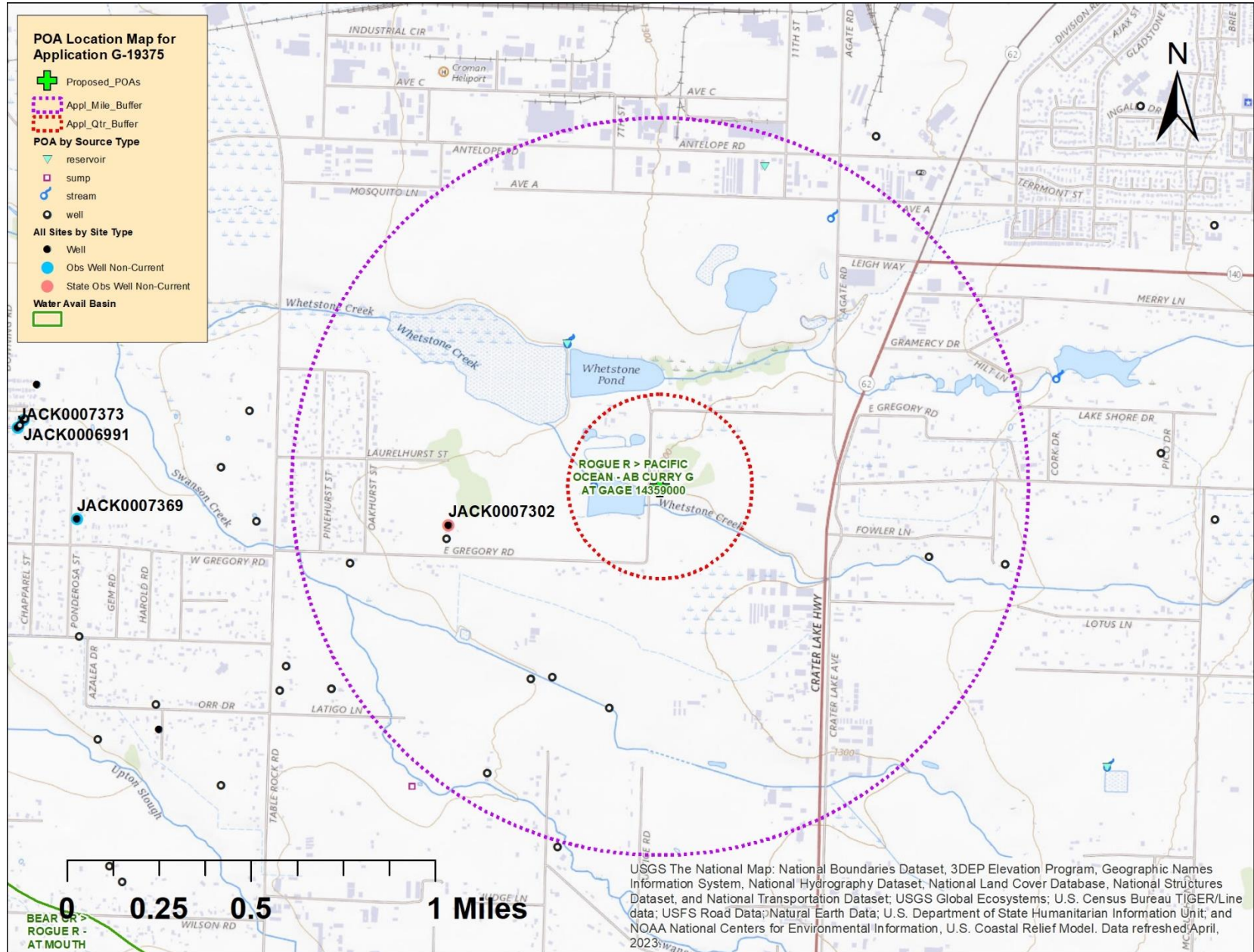
Barlow, P.M., and Leake, S.A., 2012, Streamflow depletion by wells—Understanding and managing the effects of groundwater pumping on streamflow: U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1376, 84 p.

OWRD Groundwater Information System (GWIS) Database – Accessed 7/10/2023.

OWRD Water Availability Reporting System (WARS) – Accessed 7/10/2023.

Wiley, T.J., McClaghry, J.D., and D'Allura, J., 2011, Geologic database and generalized geologic map of Bear Creek Valley, Jackson County, Oregon: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, Open-File Report O-2011-11, scale 1:24,000

Well Location Map



Water-Level Measurements in Nearby Wells

