

Oregon Water Resources Department

**Final Order
Limited License Application LL-1924**



Appeal Rights

This is a final order in other than contested case. This order is subject to judicial review under ORS 183.484. Any petition for judicial review must be filed within the 60-day time period specified by ORS 183.484(2). Pursuant to ORS 536.075 and OAR 137-004-0080 you may either petition for judicial review or petition the Director for reconsideration of this order. A petition for reconsideration may be granted or denied by the Director, and if no action is taken within 60 days following the date the petition was filed, the petition shall be deemed denied.

Requested Water Use

Applicant: WESLEY WISE

Date Submitted: APRIL 7, 2022

Amount: 200 GALLONS PER MINUTE (0.446 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (CFS))
UP TO 96,000 GALLONS PER DAY

Source: A SUMP, A TRIBUTARY OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Use: MINING

Period of Use: YEAR-ROUND USE; FROM LIMITED LICENSE ISSUE DATE THROUGH
APRIL 30, 2027

County: MORROW COUNTY

Sump Location: 5.00N-26.00E-26 SE NW

Authorities

The Department may approve a limited license pursuant to its authority under ORS 537.143, 537.144 and OAR 690-340-0030.

ORS 537.143(2) authorizes the Director to revoke the right to use water under a limited license if it causes injury to any water right or a minimum perennial streamflow.

A limited license will not be issued for more than five consecutive years for the same use, as directed by ORS 537.143(8).

Findings of Fact

1. The forms, fees, and map have been submitted, as required by OAR 690-340-0030(1).
2. On April 12, 2022, the Department provided public notice of the application, as required by OAR 690-340-0030(2).
3. The Department has not received public comment related to the possible issuance of the limited license.

4. This limited license request is limited to an area within a single drainage basin, as required by OAR 690-340-0030(3).
5. The Department has determined that the proposed source has not been withdrawn from further appropriation per ORS 538.
6. As part of its review to determine groundwater availability, the Department has determined that groundwater is not over appropriated, and is available for the requested use. The proposed use will, if properly conditioned, avoid injury to existing groundwater rights or to the groundwater resource. The Department has stipulated conditions pertaining to substantial interference with a water right, and meeting applicable standards in the Ordinance Basalt Critical Groundwater Area. A copy of this review is in the file.
7. The Department may not issue a limited license for the same use for more than five consecutive years. (ORS 537.143)(8).
8. Pursuant to OAR 690-340-0030(4) and (5), conditions have been added with regard to notice and water-use measurement.
9. Morrow County has indicated that the proposed use is compatible with the applicable acknowledged comprehensive land-use plan. A copy of the land use compatibility statement is in the file.

Conclusions of Law

The proposed water use will not impair or be detrimental to the public interest pursuant to OAR 690-340-0030(2), as limited in the order below.

Order

Therefore, pursuant to ORS 537.143, ORS 537.144, and OAR 690-340-0030, Application LL-1924 is approved as conditioned below.

1. The authorized use of water under this limited license is as follows:

Amount: 200 GPM (0.446 CFS) UP TO 96,000 GALLONS PER DAY

Source: A SUMP, A TRIBUTARY OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Use: MINING

Duration: YEAR-ROUND USE; FROM LIMITED LICENSE ISSUE DATE THROUGH
APRIL 30, 2027

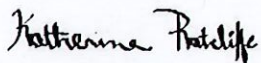
Sump Location: 5.00N-26.00E-26 SE NW

2. The licensee shall give notice to the Watermaster in the district where use is to occur not less than 15 days or more than 60 days in advance of using the water under the limited license. The notice shall include the location of the diversion, the quantity of water to be diverted, and the intended use and place of use. In the case of this application, this order serves as the notice described above.
3. The licensee shall maintain a record of all water use, including the total number of hours of pumping, the total quantity pumped, and the categories of beneficial use to which the water is applied. During the period of the limited license, the record of use shall be submitted to the Department upon request.

4. If substantial interference with a water right occurs due to withdrawal of water from any well listed on this limited license, then use of water from the well(s) shall be discontinued or reduced and/or the schedule of withdrawal shall be regulated until or unless the Department approves or implements an alternative administrative action to mitigate the interference.
5. Groundwater production shall only be allowed from the sand and gravel alluvial groundwater reservoir.
6. The Director may revoke the right to use water for any reason described in ORS 537.143(2), and OAR 690-340-0030(6). Such revocation may be prompted by field regulatory activities or by any other information.
7. Use of water under a limited license shall not have priority over any water right exercised according to a permit or certificate, and shall be subordinate to all other authorized uses that rely upon the same source.
8. By law, the land use associated with this water use must be in compliance with statewide land-use goals and any local acknowledged land-use plan.
9. A copy of this limited license shall be kept at the place of use, and be made available for inspection by the Watermaster or other state authority.

NOTE: This water-use authorization is temporary. Applicants are advised that issuance of this final order does not guarantee that any permit for the authorized use will be issued in the future; any investments should be made with that in mind.

Issued **AUG 17 2023**



Katherine Ratcliffe, Water Rights Section Manager, *for*
Douglas E. Woodcock, Acting Director
Oregon Water Resources Department

cc: Gregory M. Silbernagel, District 5 Watermaster
Eastern Region, ODFW
Umatilla, DEQ
Surface Water Section
File

If you need further assistance, please contact the Water Rights Section at the address, phone number, or fax number below. When contacting the Department, be sure to reference your limited license number for fastest service.

Remember, this limited license does not provide a secure source of water. Water use can be revoked at any time. Such revocation may be prompted by field regulatory activities or many other reasons.

Water Rights Section
Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem OR 97301-1271
Phone: (503) 979-9895 Fax: (503) 986-0901

AUG 17 2023