

Memorandum

Oregon Water Resources Department Water Rights Service Division

To: LL-2023

From: Mary Bjork

Date: 5/21/2026

Regarding: LL-2023 Additional Information (pond)

On May 20, 2026, Jason Howard, agent on behalf of the applicant, provided the following information in response to Department request.

ODFW - The mine pond location is shown on the attached figure adjacent three smaller settling ponds that are not part of the LL-2023 application. Created in 2017, it is in a shallow mine pit with water levels above the shallow groundwater table with no outflow, and used as a temporary bulge in the system. There is no natural spring, surface water or groundwater interception source. The storage volume is less than the 15.2 AF quantity the Watermaster/OWRD specified for a seven-day bulge (see below). No reservoir storage right is being pursued.

Also, the mine pit is not fish habitat, and in an area subject to eventual backfilling/regrading post-mining under DOGAMI reclamation requirements - prior to mining activities the mine pit area was used for growing of field crops. Perennial streams Crooked River is located over one mile to the southwest of the mine pit and McKay Creek is located over one mile to the southeast.

The nearest surface water to the mine pit is an unnamed ephemeral-intermittent ditch alongside agricultural lands located approximately 500-ft north. The unnamed drainage to the north is not mapped by ODFW as known or historical native fish habitat distribution (https://nrimp.dfw.state.or.us/FHD_FPB_Viewer/index.html) or DSL as essential salmonid habitat (<https://maps.dsl.state.or.us/esh/>).

DEQ - The mine pit and pipelines from the well to the pond and from the pond to a filling station are existing. Mine Pond Location figure attached.

Watermaster - The mine pit is about 8-ft deep and estimated to hold up to 3.4 million gallons of water (or about 10.4 AF).