

Oregon Water Resources Department
Water Rights Division

Water Rights Application
Number S-64529

Final Order
Extension of Time for Permit Number S-47234
Permit Holder: City of St. Helens

Permit Information

Application File S-64529/ Permit S-47234
Basin 1 – North Coast / Watermaster District 18
Date of Priority: November 8, 1982

Authorized Use of Water

Source of Water:	The Columbia River, a Tributary of the Pacific Ocean
Purpose or Use:	Municipal Use
Maximum Rate:	60.0 Cubic Feet per Second (cfs)

Appeal Rights

This is a final order in other than a contested case. This order is subject to judicial review under ORS 183.484. A request 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 file 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.

Application History

Permit S-47234 was issued by the Department on January 14, 1983. The permit called for completion of construction by October 1, 1984, and complete application of water to beneficial use by October 1, 1985. On April 23, 2003, City of St. Helens submitted an application to the Department for an extension of time for Permit S-47234. In accordance with OAR 690-315-0050(2), on March 29, 2011 the Department issued a Proposed Final Order proposing to extend the time to complete construction to October 1, 2051 and to extend the time to complete construction to October 1, 2051, and the time to fully apply water to beneficial use to October 1, 2051. The protest period closed May 13, 2011, in accordance with OAR 690-315-0060(1). No

protest was filed.

At time of issuance of the Proposed Final Order the Department concluded that, based on the factors demonstrated by the applicant, the permit may be extended subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS

1. **Development Limitations**

Diversion of any water beyond 8.9 cfs under Permit S-47234 shall only be authorized upon issuance of a final order approving a Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP) under OAR Chapter 690, Division 86. The required WMCP shall be submitted to the Department within 3 years of an approved extension of time application. Use of water under Permit S-47234 must be consistent with this and subsequent WMCP's approved under OAR Chapter 690, Division 86 that is on file with the Department.

The deadline established in this PFO for submittal of a WMCP shall not relieve a permit holder of any existing or future requirement for submittal of a WMCP at an earlier date as established through other orders of the Department. A WMCP submitted to meet the requirements of this order may also meet the WMCP submittal requirements of other Department orders.

2. **Conditions to Maintain the Persistence of Listed Fish**

A. **Minimum Fish Flow Needs**

Minimum fish flow needs on the Columbia River as recommended by ODFW are in Table 1, below; flows are to be measured on the Columbia River at Bonneville Dam, Oregon (USGS Gage Number 14128870, or its equivalent).

Table 1

ODFW'S RECOMMENDED MINIMUM FISH FLOW NEEDS ON THE LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER MEASURED AT USGS GAGE 14128870, COLUMBIA RIVER BELOW BONNEVILLE DAM, OREGON	
Month	1000 Cubic Feet per Second
April	183.1
May	328.1
June	471.0
July	325.4
August	183.8
September	116.9

B. Determining Water Use Reductions - Generally

The maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition is determined in proportion to the amount by which the flows shown in Table 1 are missed based on a seven day rolling average of mean daily flows measured on the Columbia River at Bonneville Dam (USGS Gage Number 14128870, or its equivalent). The percent of missed target flows is defined as

$$(1 - (Q_A / Q_T)) \times 100\%,$$

where Q_A is the actual flow measured at the designated gage based on the seven day rolling average, and Q_T is the target flow (from Table 1).

The percent missed target flows applied to the undeveloped portion of the permit (E), being 51.1 cfs, provides the maximum amount of undeveloped water that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition, and is defined as:

$$E - (E \times \% \text{ missed target flows}),$$

where E is the undeveloped portion of this extension, expressed in cfs.

The maximum amount of undeveloped water that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition may be adjusted by a Consumptive Use Percentage, when applicable, as per Item 2.C., below. The overall reduction to the amount of the undeveloped portion of the permit will not exceed 20%.

C. Consumptive Use Percentages

a. Initial Consumptive Use Percentages

The City of St. Helens has not identified any Consumptive Use Percentages based on the return of flows to the Columbia River through effluent discharge. Thus, at this time the City may not utilize Consumptive Use Percentages for the purpose of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition.

b. First Time Utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages

Utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages for the purpose of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition may begin after the issuance of the Final Order for this extension of time.

First time utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages is contingent upon the City (1) providing evidence in writing that ODFW has determined that withdrawal points and effluent discharges are within reasonable proximity to each other, such that fish habitat between the two points is not impacted significantly, and (2) submitting monthly Consumptive Use Percentages and receiving the Water Resources Director's concurrence with the proposed

Consumptive Use Percentages. Utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages is subject to an approval period described in 2.C.f., below.

Consumptive Use Percentages submitted to the Department for review must (1) be specified as a percentage (may be to the nearest 1/10 percent) for each month of the year and (2) include a description and justification of the methods utilized to determine the percentages. The proposed Consumptive Use Percentages should be submitted on the *Consumptive Use Percentages Update Form* provided with the Final Order for this extension of time.

c. Consumptive Use Percentages Updates

Continuing the utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages for the purpose of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition beyond an approval period (as described in 2.C.f., below) is contingent upon the City submitting updated Consumptive Use Percentages and receiving the Water Resources Director's concurrence with the Consumptive Use Percentages Updates. Utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages Updates is subject to an approval period described in 2.C.f., below.

The updates to the Consumptive Use Percentages must (1) be specified as a percentage (may be to the nearest 1/10 percent) for each month of the year and (2) include a description and justification of the methods utilized to determine the percentages. The updates should be submitted on the *Consumptive Use Percentages Update Form* provided with the Final Order for this extension of time.

d. Changes to Wastewater Technology and/or Wastewater Treatment Plant Practices

If there are changes to either wastewater technology or the practices at the City's wastewater treatment facility resulting in 25% or more reductions in average monthly return flows to the Columbia River, then the Consumptive Use Percentages in effect at that time may no longer be utilized for the purposes of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition. The 25% reduction is based on a 10-year rolling average of monthly wastewater return flows to the Columbia River as compared to the average monthly wastewater return flows from the 10 year period just prior to date of the first approval period described in 2.C.f., below.

If such changes to either wastewater technology or the practices at the City's wastewater treatment facility occur resulting in 25% reductions, further utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages is contingent upon the City submitting Consumptive Use Percentages Updates as per 2.C.c., above, and receiving the Water Resources Director's concurrence with the updated Consumptive Use Percentages.

e. Relocation of the Point(s) of Diversion(s) and/or Return Flows

If the point(s) of diversion(s) and/or return flows are relocated, Consumptive

Use Percentages in effect at that time may no longer be utilized for the purposes of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition.

After relocation of the point(s) of diversion(s) and/or return flows, further utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages is contingent upon the City (1) providing evidence in writing that ODFW has determined that any relocated withdrawal points and effluent discharge points are within reasonable proximity to each other, such that fish habitat between the two points is not impacted significantly, and (2) submitting Consumptive Use Percentages Updates as per 2.C.c., above, and receiving the Water Resources Director's concurrence with the updated Consumptive Use Percentages.

f. Approval Periods for Utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages

The utilization of Consumptive Use Percentages for the purpose of calculating the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition may continue for a 10 year approval period that begins 10 years from the Water Resources Director's most recent date of concurrence with Consumptive Use Percentages Updates as evidenced by the record, unless sections 2.C.d., or 2.C.e. (above) are applicable.

Consumptive Use Percentages (first time utilization or updates) which are submitted and receive the Director's concurrence will begin a new 10 year approval period. The approval period begins on the date of the Water Resources Director's concurrence with Consumptive Use Percentages Updates, as evidenced by the record. The City at its discretion may submit updates prior to the end of an approval period.

D. Examples

Example 1:

On July 15, the last seven mean daily flows were 344K, 351K, 332K, 315K, 326K, 341K and 348K cfs. The seven day rolling average is 336.7K cfs. The amount of the undeveloped portion of the permit that can be diverted would not be reduced because the 7 day average of mean daily flows is greater than the 325.4K cfs target flow for July 15.

Example 2:

Step 1: If on July 15, the average of the last seven mean daily flows was 280K cfs, and the target flow is 325.4K, then the target flow would be missed by 13.9%.

$$(1 - (280.0 / 325.4)) \times 100\% = 13.9\%$$

Step 2: Assuming the Consumptive Use Percentage is 78.7%¹ during the month of July and the utilization of this percentage is authorized, and the target flow is missed by 13.9% (from Step 1), then the amount of the undeveloped portion of the permit that could be diverted would be reduced by 10.9%.

$$((78.7\% \times 13.9\%) / 100) = 10.9 \%$$

(If adjustments are not to be made by a Consumptive Use Percentage, then the undeveloped portion of the permit would only be reduced by the % by which the target flow is missed – 13.9% in this example).

Step 3: The overall reduction of 10.9 % of the amount of the undeveloped portion of the permit does not exceed 20%.

Step 4: The undeveloped portion of this permit is 51.1 cfs. Therefore, in this example, the maximum amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition is 45.5 cfs.

$$51.1 - ((51.1 \times 10.9\%) / 100) = 45.5$$

Step 5: Given that the permitted quantity under this right is 60.0 cfs, and the undeveloped portion is 51.1 cfs, if the amount of water legally authorized for a diversion at a given point in time is 10.0 cfs, then only 1.1 cfs of undeveloped water would be used to satisfy the 10 cfs.

$$10.0 - (60.0 - 51.1) = 1.1$$

In this example, the 1.1 cfs of undeveloped water is less than the 45.5 cfs maximum undeveloped portion (from Step 4) that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition. Therefore, there would be no required reduction in water use of the undeveloped portion under the permit.

Step 6: If the amount of water legally authorized for a diversion at a given point in time is 55 cfs, then 46.1 cfs of undeveloped water would be used to satisfy the 55 cfs.

$$55.0 - (60.0 - 51.1) = 46.1$$

In this example, the 46.1 cfs of undeveloped water is greater than the 45.5 cfs maximum undeveloped portion (from Step 4) that can be diverted as result of this fish persistence condition. Therefore, the

¹ Currently, the City of St. Helens may not utilize Consumptive Use Percentages for the purpose of calculating the amount of the undeveloped portion of Permit S-47234 that can be diverted as a result of this fish persistence condition. The utilization of the Consumptive Use Percentage 78.7% is only for illustrative purposes in this example.

amount of undeveloped water diverted by the permit holder would need to be reduced by 0.6 cfs.

$$46.1 - 45.5 = 0.6$$

The applicant has demonstrated good cause for the permit extension pursuant to ORS 537.230, 539.010(5) and OAR 690-315-0080(3).

Order

The extension of time for Application S-64529, Permit S-47234, therefore, is approved subject to conditions contained herein. The deadline for completing construction is extended from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2051. The deadline for applying water to full beneficial use is extended from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2051.

DATED: May 27, 2011



Dwight French, Water Rights Services Division Administrator *for*
PHILLIP C. WARD, DIRECTOR

If you have any questions about statements contained in this document, please contact Ann L. Reece at (503) 986-0827.

If you have other questions about the Department or any of its programs, please contact our Water Resources Customer Service Group at (503) 986-0900
