

**Oregon Water Resources Department  
Water Right Services Division**

**Application for Extension of Time**

In the Matter of the Application for an Extension of Time )  
for Permit G-15282, Water Right Application G-15695 ) PROPOSED FINAL ORDER  
in the name of Tree Frog Nursery, Attn: Frank Lord )

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**Permit Information**

**Application File G-15695 Permit G-15282**

Basin: 2 – Willamette / Watermaster District 16

Date of Priority: February 1, 2002

**Authorized Use of Water**

Source of Water: Two Wells within the Silver Creek Basin

Purpose of Use: Nursery use on 33.9 Acres

Maximum Rate: 0.22 Cubic Feet per Second (cfs)

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**This Extension of Time request is being processed in accordance with Oregon  
Administrative Rule Chapter 690, Division 315**

***Please read this Proposed Final Order in its entirety.***

This Proposed Final Order applies only to Permit G-15282, water right Application G-15695.  
A copy of Permit G-15282 is enclosed as Attachment 1.

## Summary of Proposed Final Order for Extension of Time

### The Department proposes to:

- -Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2007 to October 1, 2012.

### ACRONYM QUICK REFERENCE

Department – Oregon Department of Water Resources  
PFO – Proposed Final Order

#### Units of Measure

cfs – cubic feet per second  
gpm – gallons per minute

### AUTHORITY

Generally, see ORS 537.630 and OAR Chapter 690 Division 315.

ORS 537.630(1) provide in pertinent part that the Oregon Water Resources Department (Department) may, for good cause shown, order an extension of time within which: irrigation or other works shall be completed; the well or other means of developing and securing ground water shall be completed; or the right perfected. In determining the extension, the Department shall give due weight to the considerations described under ORS 539.010(5) and to whether other governmental requirements relating to the project have significantly delayed completion of construction or perfection of the right.

ORS 539.010(5) provides in pertinent part that the Water Resources Director, for good cause shown, may extend the time within which the full amount of the water appropriated shall be applied to a beneficial use. This statute instructs the Director to consider: the cost of the appropriation and application of the water to a beneficial purpose; the good faith of the appropriator; the market for water or power to be supplied; the present demands therefore; and the income or use that may be required to provide fair and reasonable returns upon the investment.

OAR 690-315-0040 provides in pertinent part that the Water Resources Department shall make findings to determine if an extension of time may be approved to complete construction and/or apply water to full beneficial use.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

#### Background

1. Permit G-15282 was granted by the Department on December 6, 2002. The permit authorizes the use of up to 0.22 cfs, being 0.11 cfs from each well, of water from two

wells for nursery use on 33.9 acres. The permit specified complete application of water was to be made on or before October 1, 2007.

2. On July 1, 2008, the Department approved Permit Amendment T-10605 (Special Order Volume 75, Page 310) authorizing an additional point of appropriation and a change in place of use under Permit G-15282 from two wells to three wells.
3. One prior permit extension has been granted for Permit G-15282. The most recent extension request resulted in the completion dates for construction and full application of water being extended from October 1, 2007 to October 1, 2011.
4. The permit holder submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" to the Department on January 18, 2012 requesting the time to apply water to full beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-15282 be extended from October 1, 2011 to October 1, 2012.
5. Notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit G-15282 was published in the Department's Public Notice dated January 24, 2012. No public comments were received regarding the extension application.

**Review Criteria [OAR 690-315-0040]**

*The time limits to complete construction and/or apply water to full beneficial use may be extended if the Department finds that the permit holder has met the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040. This determination shall consider the applicable requirements of ORS 537.230<sup>1</sup>, 537.248<sup>2</sup>, 537.630<sup>3</sup> and/or 539.010(5)<sup>4</sup>.*

**Complete Extension of Time Application [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a)]**

6. On January 18, 2012, the Department received a completed Application for Extension of Time and the fee specified in ORS 536.050 from the permit holder.

**Start of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and 690-315-0040(5)]**

7. Senate Bill 300 (1999 legislation) eliminated the requirement that holders of new surface water and ground water permits start construction on water projects within one year after the Department issues the permit. Senate Bill 300 applies to any application for a permit filed after October 23, 1999.

**Duration of Extension [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c)]**

*Under OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c), in order to approve an extension of time for water use permits the Department must find that the time requested is reasonable and the applicant can complete the project within the time requested.*

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<sup>1</sup> ORS 537.230 applies to surface water permits only.

<sup>2</sup> ORS 537.248 applies to reservoir permits only.

<sup>3</sup> ORS 537.630 applies to ground water permits only.

<sup>4</sup> ORS 539.010(5) applies to surface water and ground water permits.

8. As of January 18, 2012, the remaining work to be completed consists of completing construction of the additional point of appropriation approved by Permit Amendment R-10605 and applying water to full beneficial use.
9. Given the amount of development left to occur, the Department has determined that the permit holder's request to have until October 1, 2012, to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-15282 is both reasonable and necessary.

**Good Cause [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d)]**

*The Department's determination of good cause shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(2).*

**Reasonable Diligence of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(a)]**

*The Department's determination of reasonable diligence shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(3)(a-d). In accordance with OAR 690-315-0040(3), the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the following factors when determining whether the applicant has demonstrated reasonable diligence in previous performance under the permit:*

**Amount of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(a)]**

10. Work was accomplished within the time allowed in the permit or previous extension as follows:
  - a. Construction of two wells was completed prior to October 1, 2007.
  - b. Work was completed (specified in the Application for an Extension of Time) during the original development time frame under Permit G-15282.
  - c. During the most recent extension period, being from October 1, 2007, to October 1, 2011, the following was accomplished:
    - Electrical power was established to the site; and
    - Mainline pipes were installed:

**Beneficial Use of Water [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(b)]**

11. The following beneficial use of water was made during the permit or previous extension time limits:
  - a. Since the issuance of Permit G-15282 on December 6, 2002, a maximum rate of 0.22 cfs of water has been appropriated from the well for nursery use on 32.8 acres.
  - b. Delay of full beneficial use of water under Permit G-15282 was due, in part, to the financial impact of the economic recession slowed the permittee's ability to complete the purchase of a new pump and meter for Well #3. The permit holder needs more time in which to obtain the finances to purchase a new pump and

meter for the additional point of appropriation allowed under the permit and permit amendment.

Compliance with Conditions [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(c)]

12. The water right permit holder's conformance with the permit or previous extension conditions.
  - a. The Department has considered the permit holder's compliance with conditions, and did not identify any concerns.

Financial Investments [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(d)]

13. Financial investments made toward developing the beneficial water use.
  - a. As of January 18, 2012, the permit holder has invested approximately \$110600, which is approximately 80 percent of the total projected cost for complete development of this project. The permit holder anticipates an additional \$27000 investment is needed for the completion of this project.

Cost to Appropriate and Apply Water to a Beneficial Purpose [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(b)]

14. As of January 18, 2012, the permit holder has invested approximately \$110600 which is approximately 80 percent of the total projected cost for complete development of this project. The permit holder anticipates an additional \$27000 investment is needed for the completion of this project.

Good Faith of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(c)]

15. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit G-15282.

The Market and Present Demands for Water [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(d-e)]

*The Department's determinations of market and present demand for water or power to be supplied shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-f). In accordance with OAR 690-315-0040(4), the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the following factors when determining the market and the present demand for water or power to be supplied:*

16. The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows; special water use designations established since permit issuance, including but not limited to state scenic waterways, federal wild and scenic rivers, serious water management problem areas or water quality limited sources established under 33 U.S.C. 1313(d); or the habitat needs of sensitive, threatened or endangered species, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-c)].
  - a. The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows was determined at the time of issuance of Permit G-15282; furthermore, water availability for other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows after the permit was issued is determined at such time that such

application for a new water right is submitted. The points of appropriation for Permit G-15282, located within the Silver Creek Basin, are not located within a limited or critical ground water area. Silver Creek is not located within or above any state or federal scenic waterway, however it is located within an area ranked "highest" for stream flow restoration needs as determined by the Department in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and is located within a Sensitive, Threatened or Endangered Fish Species Area as identified by the Department in consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Silver Creek is not listed by the Department of Environmental Quality as a water quality limited stream.

17. Economic investment in the project to date [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(d)].
  - a. As of January 18, 2012, the permit holder has invested approximately \$110600.
18. Other economic interests dependent on completion of the project [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(e)].
  - a. None have been identified.
19. Other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demand for water and power [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(f)].
  - a. None have been identified.

**Fair Return Upon Investment [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(f)]**

20. Use and income from the permitted water development results in reasonable returns upon the investment made to date.

**Other Governmental Requirements [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(g)]**

21. Delay in the development of this project was not caused by any other governmental requirements.

**Unforeseen Events [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(h)]**

22. Unforeseen events extended the length of time needed to fully develop and perfect Permit G-15282, in that the economic recession slowed the permit holders ability to complete development of the project in a timely manner.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The applicant is entitled to apply for an extension of time to complete construction and/or completely apply water to the full beneficial use pursuant to ORS 537.630(1).
2. The applicant has submitted a complete extension application form and the fee specified in ORS 536.050, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a).

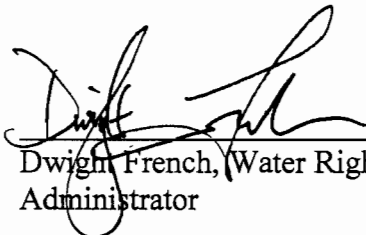
3. The applicant complied with begin actual construction timeline requirements pursuant to ORS 537.630 as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and OAR 690-315-0040(5).
4. Completion of construction and full application of water to beneficial use can be accomplished by October 1, 2012<sup>5</sup>, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c).
5. The Department has considered the reasonable diligence and good faith of the appropriator, the cost to appropriate and apply water to a beneficial purpose, the market and present demands for water to be supplied, the financial investment made and fair and reasonable return upon the investment, the requirements of other governmental agencies, and unforeseen events over which the permit holder had no control, whether denial of the extension will result in undue hardship to the applicant and whether there are no other reasonable alternatives for meeting water use needs, any other factors relevant to a determination of good cause, and has determined that the applicant has shown that good cause exists for an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use pursuant to OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d).

### **Proposed Order**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Department proposes to issue an order to:

Extend the time to apply water to beneficial use under Permit G-15282 from October 1, 2011 to October 1, 2012.

DATED: June 12, 2012

  
Dwight French, Water Right Services  
Administrator

*If you have any questions,  
please check the information  
box on the last page for the  
appropriate names and  
phone numbers.*

### **Proposed Final Order Hearing Rights**

1. Under the provisions of OAR 690-315-0100(1) and 690-315-0060, the applicant or any other person adversely affected or aggrieved by the proposed final order may submit a written protest to the proposed final order. The written protest must be received by the

<sup>5</sup>Pursuant to ORS 537.630(4), upon the completion of beneficial use of water allowed under the permit, the permittee shall hire a certified water rights examiner to survey the appropriation. Within one year after the complete application of water to a beneficial use (or by the date allowed for the complete application of water to a beneficial use), the permittee shall submit a map of the survey and a new or revised claim of beneficial use as deemed appropriate by the Department.

