# BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

## KLAMATH BASIN GENERAL STREAM ADJUDICATION

In the Matter of the Claim of the	)	PARTIAL ORDER OF	
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF	)	DETERMINATION	
AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE	)		
	)		
	)	Water Right Claim 571	

The GENERAL FINDINGS OF FACT of the FINAL ORDER OF DETERMINATION is incorporated as if set forth fully herein.

# A. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On April 29, 1997, the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE (USFS) timely submitted a Statement and Proof of Claim (Claim 571) to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) pursuant to ORS Chapter 539 in the Klamath Basin Adjudication claiming a federal reserved water right under the Organic Administration Act of 1897, 16 U.S.C. §§ 473-475, 477-482 and 551 (Organic Act).
- 2. In a July 1, 1999 letter, OWRD requested clarification of Claim 571, in part, as follows: "According to your claim map, there are two separate reaches of the stream which are claimed, not one continuous reach. If, indeed, there is more than one claimed stream reach, *please provide a separate claim form for each individual stream reach being claimed as provided for in OAR 690-028-0027.*"
- 3. On August 3, 1999, the USFS timely amended Claim 571 as to rate of discharge of water for the lower and upper thresholds of flow, and place of use. Additionally, in response to OWRD's request, the USFS divided Claim 571 by submitting an additional Statement and Proof of Claim that covered a portion of the original Claim 571. OWRD labeled this as Claim 726.
- 4. The August 3, 1999 amendment to the original claim reduced the lower threshold for natural flow from 287 cfs to 281 cfs. The amendment was a result of the exchange of correspondence between OWRD and the Claimant concerning the Claimant's need to incorporate information concerning instream flow requirements. OWRD intended to provide this information to the Claimant, but it was not available at the time of the claim filing deadline.

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- 5. On October 4, 1999, following investigation of the evidence submitted, the Adjudicator issued a Summary and Preliminary Evaluation of Claims (Preliminary Evaluation) stating Claim 571 was approved as amended on August 3, 1999.
- 6. On May 1, 2000, William J. Rust and Ethel J. Rust timely filed Contest 240 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 7. On May 1, 2000, Leonard Baio timely filed Contest 475 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 8. On May 2, 2000, Gary Strong timely filed Contest 710 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 9. On May 2, 2000, the Flynn Brothers (Con and Nora Flynn), and Con, Nora and John Flynn timely filed Contest 945 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 10. On May 2, 2000, Robert Bartell timely filed Contest 1180 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 11. On May 2, 2000, Margaret Jacobs timely filed Contest 1414 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 12. On May 2, 2000, Carolyn Obenchain timely filed Contest 1649 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 13. On May 4, 2000, Rodney Z. James timely filed Contest 1998 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 14. On May 5, 2000, Newman Enterprise (Douglas Newman) timely filed Contest 2450 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 15. On May 5, 2000, Francis Loving Trust, Hilda Francis Trustee timely filed Contest 2687 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 16. On May 5, 2000, J.R. Simplot as Trustee of the J.R. Simplot Self-Declaration of Revocable Trust timely filed Contest 2772 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 17. On May 8, 2000, The Nature Conservancy timely filed Contest 2804 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 18. On May 8, 2000, John Briggs timely filed Contest 4437 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.

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- 19. On May 8, 2000, Peter M. Bourdet timely filed Contest 4672 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 20. On May 8, 2000, Vincent Lee Briggs timely filed Contest 4905 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 21. On May 8, 2000, Thomas William Mallams timely filed Contest 5148 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 22. On May 8, 2000, Thomas H. Bentley timely filed Contest 5381 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 23. On May 8, 2000, Thomas E. Stephens timely filed Contest 5614 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 24. On May 8, 2000, WaterWatch of Oregon, Inc. timely filed Contest 2985 to the Claim and/or Preliminary Evaluation of Claim 571.
- 25. These matters were referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case hearing. The Office of Administrative Hearings designated these matters and other like claims of the USFS as Case 010.
- 26. On February 11, 2002, The Nature Conservancy's Contest 2804 was dismissed. *See* ORDER TO DISMISS CONTEST NOS. 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806 AND REFERRED TO THE ADJUDICATOR FOR FINAL DISPOSITION (Feb. 11, 2002).
- 27. On July 2, 2002, the following contestants withdrew with prejudice their respective contest: Leonard Baio, Gary Strong, Flynn Brothers, Robert Bartell, Margaret Jacobs, Carolyn Obenchain, Rodney Z. James, Newman Enterprise (Douglas Newman), Francis Loving Trust, Hilda Francis Trustee, John Briggs, Peter M. Bourdet, Vincent Lee Briggs, Thomas William Mallams, Thomas H. Bentley, Thomas E. Stephens, and David Cowan, successor in interest to William J. Rust and Ethel J. Rust. *See* NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF BAIO *ET AL'S* CONTESTS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE CLAIMS (July 2, 2002).
- 28. On November 11, 2002, J.R. Simplot as Trustee of the J.R. Simplot Self-Declaration of Revocable Trust withdrew with prejudice Contest 2772. *See* STIPULATED MOTION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF CONTESTS 2772 AND 2775. (Nov. 11, 2002).
- 29. On March 10, 2003, WaterWatch of Oregon, Inc. voluntarily withdrew Contest 2985, the remaining contest to Claim 571. *See* WATERWATCH'S VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL OF CONTESTS (March. 10, 2003).
- 30. On April 2, 2003, the Adjudicator withdrew Case 010 from the Office of Administrative Hearings.

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- 31. The place of use underlying Claim 571 is within or borders a federal reservation of land that is owned by the Claimant.
- 32. As explained in the GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF LAW CONCERNING CLAIMS BASED ON THE ORGANIC ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1897, the date of reservation is the priority date of a federal reserved water right. This claim has a reservation date of April 15, 1961, and is based on the "Proclamation Taking Title to Certain Lands. . ." April 15, 1961, Federal Register, 26 Fed. Reg. 3251-3254 (1961).
- 33. The rate, as amended by the USFS' on August 3, 1999, and the season of use claimed are no more than necessary to fulfill the primary purposes of the reservation.

### **B. DETERMINATION**

- 1. The Organic Administration Act of 1897 for a federal reserved water right is a valid basis for this claim, including the claimed purpose of use. The GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF LAW CONCERNING CLAIMS BASED ON THE ORGANIC ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1897 is incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 2. The instream flows recognized pursuant to this claim are not additive to any other instream flows based on other water rights, permits or claims within the same stream reach or a portion of the same stream reach.
- 3. The GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF LAW CONCERNING AMENDMENTS OF CLAIMS is incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 4. OWRD finds that the claim amendment described in Findings 3 and 4, above, does not constitute a new claim under ORS 539.210. This determination is based on the factors described in Findings 3 and 4, above. Because the amendment occurred prior to the beginning of open inspection, it is permissible and is incorporated into the Claimant's claim for consideration in this Findings of Fact and Partial Order of Determination.
- 5. Based on the file and record herein, IT IS ORDERED that Claim 571 is approved as set forth in the following Water Right Claim Description.

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[Beginning of Water Right Claim Description]

CLAIM NO. 571

#### CLAIM MAP REFERENCE: MYLAR FILED AS CLAIM # 377, PAGE 212, PAGE 213, PAGE 223, and PAGE 244

**CLAIMANT:** UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE 1220 SW 3<sup>RD</sup> ROOM 1734 PORTLAND, OR 97204

SOURCE OF WATER: SYCAN RIVER, tributary to the SPRAGUE RIVER

PURPOSE or USE: INSTREAM USE TO PROVIDE FOR FAVORABLE CONDITONS OF FLOW

**RATE:** NATURAL FLOW FROM A TRIGGER FLOW OF 281 CUBIC FEET PER SECOND (CFS) TO A CAP FLOW OF 3552 CFS; THE INSTREAM FLOW ALLOCATED PURSUANT TO THIS CLAIM IS NOT ADDITIVE TO ANY OTHER INSTREAM FLOWS WITHIN THE SAME STREAM REACH OR A PORTION OF THE SAME STREAM

PERIOD OF ALLOWED USE: JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

DATE OF PRIORITY: APRIL 15, 1961

#### THE PLACE OF USE IS LOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

SYCAN RIVER FROM NESW, SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 33 SOUTH, RANGE 13 EAST, W.M., TO NENE, SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, W.M

[End of Water Right Claim Description]

Dated at Salem, Oregon on March 7, 2013

Dwight French, Adjudicator Klamath Basin General Stream Adjudication

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