

EMERGENCY DROUGHT APPLICATION: GROUNDWATER REVIEW

TO: Water Rights Section Date 21 April 2014
 FROM: Groundwater Section Gerald H. Grondin
 SUBJECT: Application G- 17842
Reviewer's Name

This review is based on authorities laid out in OAR 690-019 Drought Mitigation rules. This is an expedited review to evaluate an emergency request for groundwater use for one season under a Governor's drought declaration. Notwithstanding groundwater availability, stability of the groundwater resource, and surface water and Scenic Waterway considerations, the Department may issue a drought permit for short-term emergency use provided that there is no injury and that the use is within the public interest as per OAR 690-019-0040(3).

A. GENERAL INFORMATION: Applicant's Name: Dennis Hitt County: Klamath

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) (898 gpm) 2.00 cfs from 2 well(s) in the Klamath Basin,
Lost River subbasin Quad Map: Langell Valley

A2. Proposed use Irrigation 200 acres Seasonality: 1 May to 31 October (184 days)

A3. Well and aquifer data (attach and number logs for existing wells; mark proposed wells as such under logid):

Well	Logid	Applicant's Well #	Proposed Aquifer*	Proposed Rate(cfs)	Location (T/R-S QQ-Q)	Location, metes and bounds, e.g. 2250' N, 1200' E fr NW cor S 36
1	KLAM 10642	1	Basalt	2.00	41S/14E-sec 18 BDC	2500'S, 2070'E fr NW cor S 18
2	KLAM 15130	2	Basalt	2.00	41S/14E-sec 08 CCA	1030'N, 670'E fr SW cor S 08

- Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock, Volcanics

Fill out the following from the application for each well not yet drilled or no log available; otherwise, attached well reports

Well	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)
1	724	0-19	+1-19	None	None	1000
2	210	?	?	?	?	1400

Is there information that this drought groundwater use will injure senior spring or surface water rights during the duration of the drought declaration? (Yes) (No) If yes, explain: _____

The proposed POA well 1 is about 0.9 miles south of Kilgore Springs (certificates 2280, 29726, and 29727), which is the southern end of a series of north-south fault related springs within south Langell Valley having their own certificates. The proposed POA well 2 is about 0.5 miles southeast of Kilgore Springs. There have been ongoing groundwater-spring interference issues in south Langell Valley since 2000.

Note: the applicant for this groundwater drought emergency permit is Dennis Hitt, the owner and water right holder of Kilgore Springs. Thus, the applicant will be interfering with his own surface water right. The applicant has indicated that he will not make a call for water in 2014 related to Kilgore Springs as long as he has access to groundwater in 2014 (per Scott White e-mail dated 4 April 2014). Issuing this permit will make his 2014 desired amount of groundwater available to him to cover the loss of irrigation from Kilgore Springs.

Is there information that this drought groundwater use will injure senior groundwater rights during the duration of the drought declaration? (Yes) (No) If yes, explain. _____

A seasonal groundwater level decline comparable to 2010 is anticipated (about 13 feet in 2010). Senior water right wells in south Langell Valley should be able to accommodate the seasonal decline and pump groundwater.

Groundwater (is) (is not) available within the capacity of the resource.

The decadal trend indicates the groundwater level in south Langell Valley is in gradual decline since 1980. Part of the decline may be climate driven.

Is any proposed POA adjacent or within a delineated area in the Klamath Basin where the 2001 to 2011 long-term groundwater decline was 20 feet or more? (Yes) (No) See attached map.

There (is) (is not) a preponderance of evidence that the proposed short-term emergency groundwater use will measurably reduce the surface water flows necessary to maintain the free-flowing character of a scenic waterway.

Groundwater interference with the Klamath scenic water way under existing permits has exceeded the 1 cfs limit. Short term emergency groundwater uses will be an addition. The timing and degree (amount) of additional impact from the proposed short-term emergency groundwater use is beyond the scope of this review.

Proposed Permit Conditions: _____

If a permit is issued, include: _____

Condition 7B (interference condition). Note that drought permits are very junior rights and highly vulnerable to regulation.

Condition 7P (well tag)

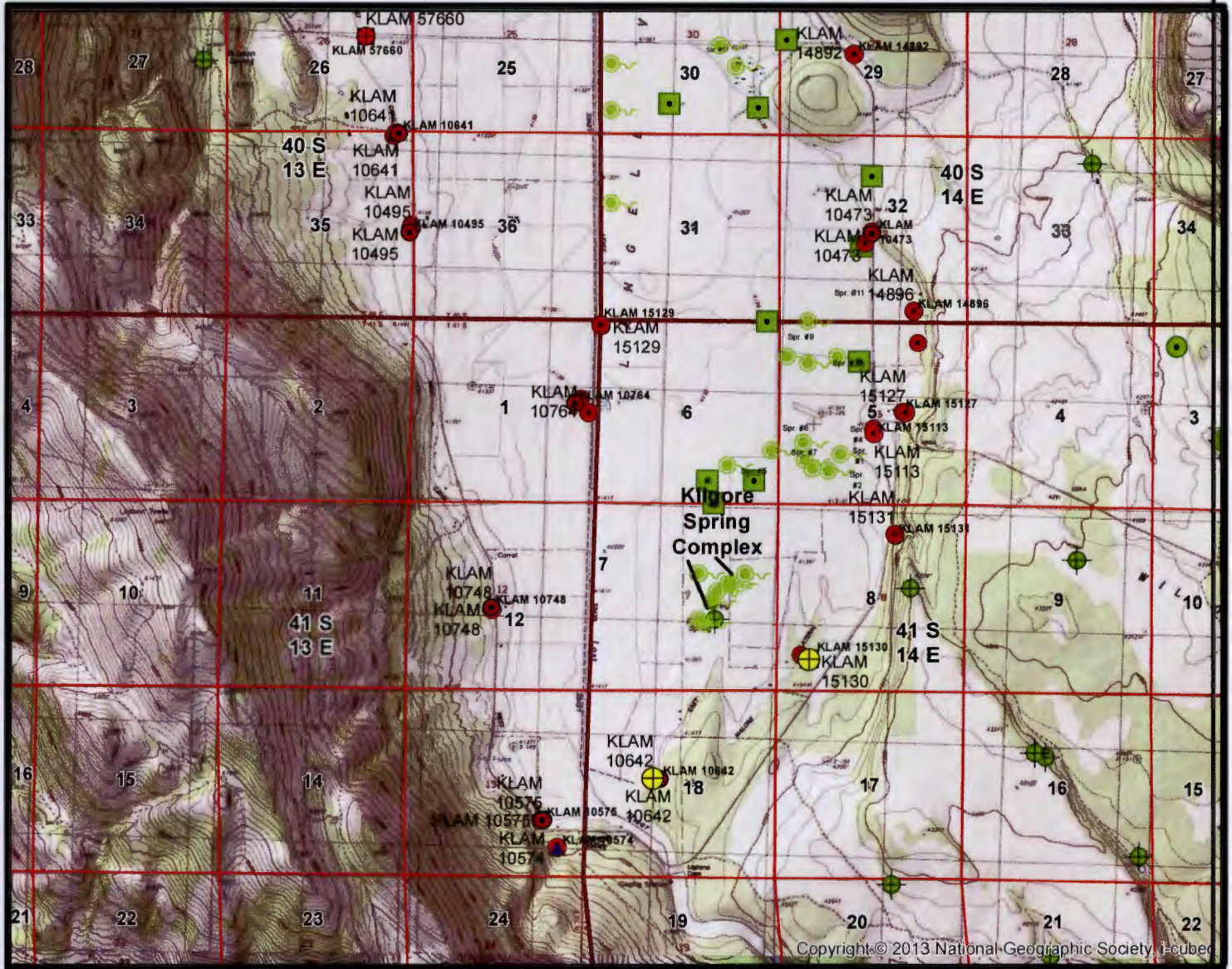
"Large" water use condition (totalizing flowmeter required). Note that "The readings must be reported to the Department by 15 November."

Special condition: "Prior to use, the well shall be configured to allow a strictly clean water (no oil) static water level measurements with an electric-tape. That can include measurement access via an unobstructed vertical discharge pipe that allows the groundwater level to fluctuate freely within the discharge pipe (no valves, etc.). Otherwise, a dedicated measuring tube must be installed prior to use. The tube must be unobstructed, have a diameter of 3/4 inch (0.75 inch) or greater, and pursuant to figure 200-5 in OAR 690-200."

Special condition for drought static groundwater level measurement and reporting: "The static groundwater level at the well(s) must be measured to the nearest 0.10 foot and recorded and reported to the Department within 7 days prior to drought groundwater pumping at the well(s) begins, and subsequently measured to the nearest 0.10 foot (inch), recorded, and reported to the Department at the end of drought groundwater pumping at the well(s). The last measurement must be reported to the Department by 15 November of the same year."

Special condition: "Groundwater pumping under this permit shall discontinue or be reduced if south Langell Valley sub-area wells with permanent primary and/or supplemental groundwater rights are being regulated off due to groundwater level decline or interference with senior water rights unless the Department determines no action is necessary (pumping under this permit can continue) because the groundwater resource can sustain continued groundwater pumping under this permit without adversely impacting the resource or without causing substantial interference with senior water rights."

GW Drought Permit Application G-17842 Dennis Hitt



Yellow = Proposed POAs
Red & Blue = Other Wells
Green = Surface Water Rights



Legend

- 2001 to 2010 Long-Term GW Declines
- Contour
 - 10 - 20 feet
 - 20 - 30 feet
 - >30 feet