WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT MEMO April 7, 2015

TO: **Application G-** 17997

FROM: Mike Zwart **- Groundwater Section**

SUBJECT: **Scenic Waterway Interference Evaluation**

_____ YES
✓ NO — The source of appropriation is within or above a Scenic Waterway

_____ YES
✓ NO — Use the Scenic Waterway condition (condition 7J)

_____ Per ORS 390.835, the Groundwater Section is able to calculate groundwater interference with surface water that contributes to a Scenic Waterway. The calculated interference distribution is provided below.

_____ Per ORS 390.835, the Groundwater Section is unable to calculate groundwater interference with surface water that contributes to a scenic waterway; therefore, the Department is unable to find that there is a preponderance of evidence that the proposed use will measurably reduce the surface flows necessary to maintain the free-flowing character of a scenic waterway.

DISTRIBUTION OF INTERFERENCE

Calculate interference as the monthly fraction of the annual consumptive use and fill in the table below. If interference cannot be calculated, per criteria in 390.839, do not fill in the table but check the "unable" option above, thus informing the Water Rights Section that the Department is unable to make a Preponderance of Evidence finding.

Exercise of this permit is calculated to reduce monthly flows in the _____ Scenic Waterway by the following amounts, expressed as a proportion of the annual consumptive use pumped from the well.

Monthly Fraction of Annual Consumptive Use

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FOR GROUNDWATER APPLICATIONS

TO: Water Rights Section Date **April 7, 2015**

FROM: Groundwater Section **Michael Zwart**
Reviewer's Name

SUBJECT: Application G- **17997** Supersedes review of _____
Date of Review(s)

PUBLIC INTEREST PRESUMPTION; GROUNDWATER

OAR 690-310-130 (1) *The Department shall presume that a proposed groundwater use will ensure the preservation of the public welfare, safety and health as described in ORS 537.525.* Department staff review ground water applications under OAR 690-310-140 to determine whether the presumption is established. OAR 690-310-140 allows the proposed use be modified or conditioned to meet the presumption criteria. **This review is based upon available information and agency policies in place at the time of evaluation.**

A. GENERAL INFORMATION: Applicant's Name: **Wilks Ranch Oregon Limited** County: **Malheur**

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) **2.05** cfs from **one** well(s) in the **Malheur** Basin, **Lost Valley Creek / Willow Creek** subbasin Quad Map: **Cow Valley West**

A2. Proposed use **Irrigation, 123 acres** Seasonality: **March 1 to October 31**

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	**Proposed**	**Rye Valley**	**Basalt**	**2.05**	**15S/40E-4 NE-NE**	**120' S, 1050' W fr NE cor S 4**
2						
3						
4						
5						

* Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock

Well	Well Elev ft msl	First Water ft bls	SWL ft bls	SWL Date	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)	Draw Down (ft)	Test Type
1	**3962**				**800**	**0-200**	**0-200**		**unknown**			

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** **The proposed construction is estimated. The nearest deep wells are within the Cow Valley Critical Groundwater Area to the east. The proposed well is likely to penetrate a Tertiary basalt aquifer at the proposed depth.**

A5. ☒ **Provisions of the Malheur** Basin rules relative to the development, classification and/or management of ground water hydraulically connected to surface water ☐ **are**, *or* ☒ **are not**, activated by this application. (Not all basin rules contain such provisions.)
Comments: **Note: the proposed well is located less than 1000 feet from the western boundary of the critical area.**

A6. ☐ **Well(s) #** _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, tap(s) an aquifer limited by an administrative restriction.
Name of administrative area: _____
Comments: _____

B. GROUND WATER AVAILABILITY CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-310-130, 400-010, 410-0070

B1. **Based upon available data**, I have determined that ground water* for the proposed use:

a. ☐ **is** over appropriated, ☐ **is not** over appropriated, *or* ☒ **cannot be determined to be** over appropriated during any period of the proposed use. * This finding is limited to the ground water portion of the over-appropriation determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;

b. ☐ **will not** *or* ☐ **will** likely be available in the amounts requested without injury to prior water rights. * This finding is limited to the ground water portion of the injury determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;

c. ☐ **will not** *or* ☐ **will** likely to be available within the capacity of the ground water resource; or

d. ☒ **will, if properly conditioned,** avoid injury to existing ground water rights or to the ground water resource:
   i. ☒ The permit should contain condition #(s) **7N, large measurement and reporting condition.**;
   ii. ☒ The permit should be conditioned as indicated in item 2 below.
   iii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in item 3 below;

B2. a. ☐ **Condition** to allow ground water production from no deeper than _____ ft. below land surface;

b. ☒ **Condition** to allow ground water production from no shallower than **200** ft. below land surface;

c. ☐ **Condition** to allow ground water production only from the _____ ground water reservoir between approximately_____ ft. and_____ ft. below land surface;

d. ☐ **Well reconstruction** is necessary to accomplish one or more of the above conditions. The problems that are likely to occur with this use and without reconstructing are cited below. Without reconstruction, I recommend withholding issuance of the permit until evidence of well reconstruction is filed with the Department and approved by the Ground Water Section.

Describe injury –as related to water availability– that is likely to occur without well reconstruction (interference w/ senior water rights, not within the capacity of the resource, etc): _____

B3. **Ground water availability remarks: Groundwater levels have rebounded markedly in the adjacent Cow Valley Critical Groundwater Area as a result in changes in irrigation practices and the groundwater control provisions within the critical area. In addition, this area has not experienced much additional groundwater development in recent years. However, any new permits for the use of groundwater in the vicinity of the critical area should include measurement and reporting conditions.**

C. GROUND WATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-09-040

C1. **690-09-040 (1):** Evaluation of aquifer confinement:

Well	Aquifer or Proposed Aquifer	Confined	Unconfined
1	**Likely Tertiary Basalts underlying basin-fill sediments**	☒	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐

Basis for aquifer confinement evaluation: **Basalt aquifers are typically confined and review of well logs within the critical indicates that this is likely to be the case at the proposed well.**

C2. **690-09-040 (2) (3):** Evaluation of distance to, and hydraulic connection with, surface water sources. All wells located a horizontal distance less than ¼ mile from a surface water source that produce water from an unconfined aquifer shall be assumed to be hydraulically connected to the surface water source. Include in this table any streams located beyond one mile that are evaluated for PSI.

Well	SW #	Surface Water Name	GW Elev ft msl	SW Elev ft msl	Distance (ft)	Hydraulically Connected? YES	NO	ASSUMED	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed? YES	NO
1	1	**Lost Valley Creek**	**3900±**	**3960**	**1350**	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Basis for aquifer hydraulic connection evaluation: **The targeted bedrock/basalt aquifer is likely well below the nearest reach of the creek.**
Water Availability Basin the well(s) are located within: **31011923, Lost Valley Cr > Willow Cr at mouth.**

C3a. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts for <u>each well</u> that has been determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. Limit evaluation to instream rights and minimum stream flows that are pertinent to that surface water source, and not lower SW sources to which the stream under evaluation is tributary. Compare the requested rate against the 1% of 80% *natural* flow for the pertinent Water Availability Basin (WAB). If Q is not distributed by well, use full rate for each well. Any checked ☒ box indicates the well is assumed to have the potential to cause PSI.

Well	SW #	Well < ¼ mile?	Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐

C3b. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts <u>by total appropriation</u> for all wells determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. **Complete only if Q is distributed among wells.** Otherwise same evaluation and limitations apply as in C3a above.

	SW #		Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐

Comments: ______________________________

C4a. **690-09-040 (5):** Estimated impacts on **hydraulically connected surface water sources greater than one mile** as a percentage of the proposed pumping rate. Limit evaluation to the effects that will occur up to one year after pumping begins. This table encompasses the considerations required by 09-040 (5)(a), (b), (c) and (d), which are not included on this form. Use additional sheets if calculated flows from more than one WAB are required.

Non-Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
(A) = Total Interf.													
(B) = 80 % Nat. Q													
(C) = 1 % Nat. Q													
(D) = (A) > (C)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(E) = (A / B) x 100		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

(A) = total interference as CFS; (B) = WAB calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (C) = 1% of calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (D) = highlight the checkmark for each month where (A) is greater than (C); (E) = total interference divided by 80% flow as percentage.

Basis for impact evaluation:

C4b. **690-09-040 (5) (b) The potential to impair or detrimentally affect the public interest is to be determined by the Water Rights Section.**

C5. ☐ **If properly conditioned**, the surface water source(s) can be adequately protected from interference, and/or ground water use under this permit can be regulated if it is found to substantially interfere with surface water:

i. ☐ The permit should contain condition #(s)_____;

ii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in "Remarks" below;

C6. **SW / GW Remarks and Conditions**

References Used: **Local well logs; water-level data at nearby wells; review of file G-17102; Geology of the Oregon Part of the Baker 1° by 2° Quadrangle, by Brooks, et al, 1976 (GMS-7); Hydrogeology of the Ontario Area, Malheur County, Oregon, by Gannett, 1990, OWRD Groundwater Report #34; Evaluation of the Cow Valley Critical Groundwater Area, Malheur County, Oregon, by Hartford, 1988, OWRD Open-File Report 88-01.**

D. WELL CONSTRUCTION, OAR 690-200

D1. **Well #:** _____ **Logid:** _____

D2. **THE WELL does not appear to meet current well construction standards based upon:**

a. ☐ review of the well log;
b. ☐ field inspection by _____;
c. ☐ report of CWRE _____;
d. ☐ other: (specify) _____

D3. **THE WELL construction deficiency or other comment is described as follows:** _____

D4. ☐ **Route to the Well Construction and Compliance Section for a review of existing well construction.**

Water Availability Tables

Application G-17997, Wilks Ranch Oregon Limited