

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FOR GROUNDWATER APPLICATIONS

TO: Water Rights Section Date December 29, 2015

FROM: Groundwater Section J. Hackett
Reviewer's Name

SUBJECT: Application G- 18167 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 groundwater 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: Weedman Ranches Inc. County: Sherman

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) 0.071 cfs from 1 well(s) in the John Day Basin,
_____ subbasin

A2. Proposed use Irrigation Seasonality: March 1 – 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	SHER 50344	1	CRB	0.071	1N/18E-22 SE-SW	390' N, 2275' E fr SW cor S 22
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	1480	141	110	7/12/2011	333	0-167	+2-167			30		A

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** _____

A5. ☒ **Provisions of the** John Day Basin rules relative to the development, classification and/or management of groundwater hydraulically connected to surface water ☐ **are**, or ☒ **are not**, activated by this application.
(Not all basin rules contain such provisions.)

Comments: _____

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

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

B1. **Based upon available data**, I have determined that groundwater* 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 groundwater 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 groundwater 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 groundwater resource; or
- d. ☒ **will, if properly conditioned**, avoid injury to existing groundwater rights or to the groundwater resource:
 - i. ☒ The permit should contain condition #(s) 7N;
 - 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 groundwater production from no deeper than _____ ft. below land surface;
 - b. ☐ **Condition** to allow groundwater production from no shallower than _____ ft. below land surface;
 - c. ☐ **Condition** to allow groundwater production only from the _____ groundwater 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 Groundwater 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. **Groundwater availability remarks:** The applicant's well is located in an area that contains basalt flows of the Columbia River Basalt Group (CRBG) from land surface to depths of several thousand feet. Within the CRBG, most water occurs in confined aquifers that occupy thin rubble zones (interflow zones) at the contacts between lava flows. The interiors of the basalt flows generally have low porosity and permeability and act as confining beds. This geometry generally produces a stack of thin aquifers (interflow zones) separated by thick confining beds (flow interiors). The low permeability of the basalt flow interiors probably limits the natural vertical connection between overlying aquifers.

Surficial geologic mapping (Swanson et. al, 1981) indicates that the applicant's well should encounter the Frenchman Springs Member of the Wanapum Basalt Formation from near land surface to a depth of approximately 300 feet (elevation 1480 to 1180 feet above mean sea level (msl)). Beneath the Frenchman Springs Member, the well will likely encounter multiple flows of the Sentinel Bluffs Member of the Grande Ronde Basalt Formation. Locally, the total thickness of the Grande Ronde Basalt is approximately 6500 feet.

There are no nearby wells with long-term water level trends to assess the stability of the resource. This indicates the need for a long-term water level measurement condition (7N).

C. GROUNDWATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-09-040**C1. 690-09-040 (1):** Evaluation of aquifer confinement:

Well	Aquifer or Proposed Aquifer	Confined	Unconfined
1	Basalt	☒	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐

Basis for aquifer confinement evaluation: Water level rose well above the depth at which it was encountered, indicating confined conditions.

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?			Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?	
						YES	NO	ASSUMED	YES	NO
1	1	Grass Valley Canyon	1370	1120-1060	3325	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Basis for aquifer hydraulic connection evaluation: The applicant's well is open from approximately 1313 to 1147 feet elevation and likely produces from one or more water-bearing zones that locally intersect and are hydraulically connected to the channel of Grass Valley Canyon.

Water Availability Basin the well(s) are located within: GRASS VALLEY CAN > JOHN DAY R - AT MOUTH

C3a. 690-09-040 (4): Evaluation of stream impacts for each well 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?
1	1	☐	☐			☐	0.15	☒	<25%	☒
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐

C3b. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts by total appropriation 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 #		Q _w > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Q _w > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Q _w > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐

Comments: Modeling in similar circumstances suggests that pumping impacts will be less than 25% of the pumping rate after 30 days of pumping.

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													
(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 groundwater 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: Swanson, D.A., Anderson, J.L., Camp, V.E., Hooper, P.R., Taubeneck, W.H., and Wright, T.L., 1981, Reconnaissance Geologic Map of the Columbia River Basalt Group, Northern Oregon and Western Idaho: U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report 81-797.

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

Water Availability Analysis Detailed Reports

GRASS VALLEY CAN > JOHN DAY R - AT MOUTH JOHN DAY BASIN

Water Availability as of 12/29/2015

Watershed ID #: 30620401 ([Map](#))

Exceedance Level: 80% ▼

Date: 12/29/2015

Time: 3:47 PM

Water Availability Calculation

Monthly Streamflow in Cubic Feet per Second
Annual Volume at 50% Exceedance in Acre-Feet

Month	Natural Stream Flow	Consumptive Uses and Storages	Expected Stream Flow	Reserved Stream Flow	Instream Flow Requirement	Net Water Available
JAN	1.57	0.12	1.45	0.00	0.00	1.45
FEB	2.38	0.37	2.01	0.00	0.00	2.01
MAR	8.31	1.18	7.13	0.00	0.00	7.13
APR	3.71	0.50	3.21	0.00	0.00	3.21
MAY	0.86	0.70	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.16
JUN	0.61	0.52	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.09
JUL	0.51	0.18	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
AUG	0.29	0.08	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.21
SEP	0.23	0.05	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.18
OCT	0.31	0.03	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.28
NOV	0.15	0.02	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.13
DEC	0.74	0.08	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.66
ANN	3,340.00	232.00	3,110.00	0.00	0.00	3,110.00

Well Location Map

G-18167, Weedman

1:24,000 scale

