

Water Resources Department

725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301 (503) 986-0900 Fax (503) 986-0904

May 27, 2016

JOHN LAW RUTH LAW 233 HIDDEN CREEK COURT MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Reference: File S-88228

Dear Applicant:

# THIS IS NOT A PERMIT AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE NEXT PHASE OF PROCESSING.

This letter is to inform you of the preliminary analysis of the water-use permit application and to describe the options. In determining whether an application may be approved, the Department must consider the factors listed below, all of which must be favorable to the proposed use if it is to be allowed. Based on the information supplied, the Water Resources Department has made the following preliminary determinations:

## **Initial Review Determinations:**

1. The application proposed the diversion of 4.5 acre feet (AF) of stored water from Lost Creek Reservoir, constructed under Permits R-8141 and R-8142, a tributary of Rogue River, for irrigation of 1.0 acre April 1 through October 31 of each year.

The application also proposed the diversion of 0.005 cubic foot per second of water from Rogue River, a tributary of Pacific Ocean, for year-round domestic use for one household.

- 2. The proposed use is not prohibited by law or rule except where otherwise noted below.
- 3. The diversion of water from Lost Creek Reservoir, constructed under Permits R-8141 and R-8142, a tributary of Rogue River; and Rogue River, a tributary of Pacific Ocean, for irrigation and domestic use is allowable under the Rogue Basin Program (OAR 690-515-0040).
- 4. Surface water for year-round domestic use is not available at any time of year.
- 5. Surface water is not available in the amount requested during the entire period requested. However, by providing additional information you may request a limited permit for human consumption use (indoor use only: cooking, drinking, and sanitation), limited to 500 gallons per day. Please refer to the **Additional Information Opportunity** section below for details.

- 6. The proposed use is located above and within the Rogue Scenic Waterway, as designated under Oregon Revised Statute 390.826.
- 7. The proposed diversion falls within a high priority area for streamflow restoration under the Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds.
- 8. Prior to permit issuance, if one is issued, the Department must receive evidence that you have written authorization or an easement permitting access to lands not owned by you.
- 9. Prior to the issuance of a permit, the Department must receive a copy of a valid and executed contract between you and the Bureau of Reclamation to appropriate stored water from Lost Creek Reservoir.

## **Summary of Initial Determinations**

The diversion of 4.5 AF of water from Lost Creek Reservoir, constructed under Permits R-8141 and R-8142, a tributary of Rogue River, for irrigation of 1.0 acre is allowable during the full period requested, April 1 through October 31 of each year, contingent on the Department receiving a valid and executed contract from the Bureau of Reclamation.

The diversion of 0.005 CFS of water from Rogue River, a tributary of Pacific Ocean, for year-round domestic use for one household is not allowable, and it appears unlikely that you will be issued a permit for this use. However, by providing additional information you may request a limited permit for human consumption use (indoor use only: cooking, drinking, sanitation) at 0.005 CFS, further limited to 500 gallons per day.

## **Additional Information Opportunity**

Due to requirements for existing water rights and/or minimum flows in a scenic waterway, water is not available in sufficient quantities to support the proposed use. However, human consumption of water (indoor use only: cooking, drinking and sanitation) from the proposed source may be considered a high public interest use if there is no reasonable alternative. If you can provide evidence that this is the case, we will work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to attempt to determine conditions which will protect instream values during the months when instream flow requirements are not met. These conditions may include mitigation measures to offset the impact of the requested use.

Please complete and return the attached "Application Supplement for Human Consumption & Livestock Uses" form. Please submit the information no later than June 30, 2016. If you are unable to submit the information listed above, you may request an administrative hold for up to an additional 180 days. You must submit the request in writing, stating how much time you will need and why you need additional time. If an administrative hold is granted, your application will not be processed further until the requested information is received or the extended deadline has passed.

If we do not receive the items requested above or a request for an administrative hold by this date, the Department will likely proceed with a Proposed Final Order recommending denial of this use proposed under the application.

Because of these favorable determinations, the Department can now move the application to the next phase of the water-rights application review process, where public interest factors will be evaluated.

Please reference the application number when sending any correspondence regarding the conclusions of this initial review. Comments received within the comment period will be evaluated at the next phase of the process.

## To Proceed With the Application:

If you choose to proceed with the application, you do not have to notify the Department. The application will automatically be placed on the Department's Public Notice to allow others the opportunity to comment. After the comment period the Department will complete a public interest review and issue a Proposed Final Order.

## Withdrawal Refunds:

If you choose not to proceed, you may withdraw the application and receive a refund (minus a \$225 processing charge per application). To accomplish this you must notify the Department in writing by **Friday**, **June 10**, **2016**. For your convenience you may use the enclosed "STOP PROCESSING" form.

## If A Permit Is Issued It Will Likely Include The Following Conditions:

- 1. Measurement devices, and recording/reporting of annual water use conditions:
  - A. Before water use may begin under this permit, the permittee shall install a totalizing flow meter at each point of diversion. The permittee shall maintain the device in good working order.
  - B. The permittee shall allow the watermaster access to the device; provided however, where any device is located within a private structure, the watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
  - C. The permittee shall keep a complete record of the volume of water diverted each month, and shall submit a report which includes water-use measurements to the Department annually, or more frequently as may be required by the Director. Further, the Director may require the permittee to report general water-use information, including the place and nature of use of water under the permit.
  - D. The Director may provide an opportunity for the permittee to submit alternative measuring and reporting procedures for review and approval.
- 2. You may be required to install fish screens at the point of diversion to meet Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife specifications for adequate protection of aquatic life.

This initial review does not attempt to address various public interest issues such as sensitive, threatened, or endangered fish species. These issues will be addressed as the Department reviews comments from the public and other agencies, and prepares a Proposed Final Order. Be aware that, if significant public interest issues are found to exist, such a finding could have an impact on the eventual outcome of the application.

The water source identified in the application may be affected by an Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan. These plans are developed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) with the cooperation of local landowners and other interested stakeholders, and help to ensure that current and new appropriations of water are done in a way that does not adversely

harm the environment. You are encouraged to explore ODA's Water Quality Program web site at http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/NaturalResources/Pages/AgWaterQuality.aspx to learn more about the plans and how they may affect the proposed water use.

## If you have any questions:

Feel free to call me at 503-986-0816 if you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter or the application. Please have the application number available if you call. General questions about water rights and water use permits should be directed to our customer service staff at 503-986-0801. When corresponding by mail, please use this address: Kim French, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St NE Ste A, Salem OR 97301-1266. Our fax number is 503-986-0901.

Sincerely,

Kim French

Water Right Application Caseworker

enclosures: Application Process Description and Stop Processing Request Form

S-88228 WAB 15-31531002 POU 15-31531002

## **APPLICATION FACT SHEET**

Application File Number: S-88228

Applicant: JOHN LAW AND RUTH LAW

County: Josephine

Watermaster: 13

Priority Date: May 9, 2016

Source: LOST CREEK RESERVOIR, CONSTRUCTED UNDER PERMITS R-8141 AND R-8142, TRIBUTARY OF ROGUE RIVER; AND ROGUE RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF PACIFIC OCEAN

Use: IRRIGATION OF 1.0 ACRE AND YEAR-ROUND DOMESTIC USE FOR ONE HOUSEHOLD

Quantity: 4.5 ACRE FEET FROM STORED WATER AND 0.005 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND FROM LIVE FLOW

Basin Name & Number: Rogue, #15

Stream Index Reference: Volume 1A ROGUE R MISC

Point of Diversion: NWSE, SECTION 2, T36S, R7W, W.M.; 945 FEET SOUTH AND 1490 FEET WEST FROM E1/4 CORNER, SECTION 2

Place of Use:

QQ IRRIGATION DOMESTIC
SE 4 NE 4 1.0 ACRE X
SECTION 2
TOWNSHIP 36 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST, W.M.

14 DAY STOP PROCESSING DEADLINE DATE: Friday, June 10, 2016

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: Tuesday, May 31, 2016** 

30 DAY COMMENT DEADLINE DATE: Thursday, June 30, 2016

## APPLICATION PROCESS DESCRIPTION FOR GROUNDWATER. SURFACE WATER AND REGULAR RESERVOIR APPLICATIONS

In order to take and use the waters of Oregon, a citizen must first obtain a permit from the Water Resources Department. The water must be used for beneficial purpose - without waste. To become well-informed about water right topics, weekly public notice, forms and fees please visit our web site at www.wrd.state.or.us

#### 1. Pre-application considerations

- follow instructions in the application packet
- if you have questions about completing an application or would like to arrange a pre-application conference contact the Department's Water Rights Information Group (WRIG) at 503-986-0801

#### 2. Application filing

- application with fee is received by the Department
- Department determines completeness of application
- if use is not allowed by statute (ORS 538), the application and fees are returned to the applicant
- incomplete application and fees are returned to the applicant
   only a complete application receives a tentative priority date, is assigned a caseworker, and moves forward for processing

#### 3. Initial Review (IR)

- caseworker reviews application by considering basin plans, water availability, statutory restrictions and all other appropriate factors
- caseworker sends IR report to applicant
- contact the caseworker if you have questions about the IR
- seven days after date of the IR, it is included in Department's weekly Public Notice
- public comments must be submitted within 30 days after the Public Notice
- administrative hold may be requested in writing by applicant

#### 4. Proposed Final Order (PFO)

- caseworker evaluates application against required criteria and develops draft permit, if appropriate
- PFO includes instructions for filing of protests
- caseworker considers public comments and mails PFO to applicant
- the PFO is included in Department's weekly Public Notice
- public protests to the PFO must be submitted within 45 days after the Public Notice

## Stop Processing deadline is within 14 days of Initial Review - use the form below

- applicant may request no further action and fee refund of all but \$225

STOP PROCESSING REQUEST FOR	
GROUNDWATER, SUF	REFACE WATER AND REGULAR RESERVOIR APPLICATIONS
Applicant notification to w	ithdraw Water Right Application #
	Review for my application, I request that processing be stopped and the
	S225 examination fee.) I understand that without a valid permit I may
	requested in my application
Signature	date
Signature	date
	l 537.620 (5) timely submission of this request authorizes that the water estopped and all filing fees (except \$225 examination fee) be returned.
This notice must be receive	ed at Water Resources Department by
Return the notice to: OW	RD, Water Rights Division
STO	P PROCESSING
725	Summer Street, NE - Suite A
Sale	m OR 97301-1271

#### 5. Final Order (FO)

- if no protest is filed, Final Order is issued

## The protest process

If one or more protests are filed, permit process consists of:

- settlement discussion
- contested case hearing
- proposed order
- period of time to file exceptions
- possible hearing by Water Resources Commission
   final order issued

## Permit holder responsibilities

- comply with all water use conditions of the permit
- advise Department of address change or assignment to new permit holder

- if need arises, request extension of time or authorize cancellation of permit submit timely claim of beneficial use (COBU) to Department most permits require COBU to be prepared by a Certified Water Right Examiner
- permits may be canceled by the permit holder or by the Department for failure to comply with or one or more permit conditions