Oregon Water Resources Department

Water Right Services Division

Application for Extension of Time

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	Permit Information		
Application:	S-84662		
Permit:	S-53809		
Basin:	Lower Willamette / Watermaste	Lower Willamette / Watermaster District 20	
Date of Priority:	February 8, 2001	•	
Source of Water:	An unnamed drainage ditch and Gilbert River	An unnamed drainage ditch and Jack Slough, tributaries of Gilbert River	
Purpose or Use:	Irrigation of 21.1 acres and wildl	Irrigation of 21.1 acres and wildlife enhancement	
Maximum Rate:	0.26 cubic foot per second (cfs)		

Please read this Proposed Final Order in its entirety.

In summary, the Department proposes to:

 Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2006, to October 1, 2021.¹

This Extension of Time request is being processed in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 537.230 and 539.010(5), and Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 690, Division 315

¹ Pursuant to ORS 537.230(4), upon the completion of beneficial use of water allowed under the permit, the permit holder shall hire a certified water rights examiner to survey the appropriation. Within one year after the complete application of water to a beneficial use (or by the date allowed for the complete application of water to a beneficial use), the permit holder shall submit a map of the survey and the claim of beneficial use.

ACRONYM QUICK REFERENCE

Application – Application for Extension of Time
Department – Oregon Water Resources Department
ODFW – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
PFO – Proposed Final Order
POD – point of diversion
cfs – cubic feet per second
FOF – Finding of Fact

AUTHORITY

Generally, see ORS 537.230 and OAR Chapter 690 Division 315.

ORS 537.230(3) provides in pertinent part that the Oregon Water Resources Department (Department) may, for good cause shown, order an extension of time within which irrigation or other works shall be completed or the right perfected. In determining the extension, the Department shall give due weight to the considerations described under ORS 539.010(5) and to whether other governmental requirements relating to the project have significantly delayed completion of construction or perfection of the right.

ORS 539.010(5) instructs the Director to consider: the cost of the appropriation and application of the water to a beneficial purpose; the good faith of the appropriator; the market for water or power to be supplied; the present demands therefor; and the income or use that may be required to provide fair and reasonable returns upon the investment.

OAR 690-315-0040 provides that in order to approve an application for an extension of time to complete construction or apply water to full beneficial use, the Department shall make the findings in OAR 690-315-0040(1) including a finding that there is "good cause" to approve the extension. OAR 690-315-0040(2)-(4) contains the factors that the Department must consider to make findings that support a "good cause" determination.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On August 20, 2002, Permit S-53809 was issued by the Department. The permit
 authorizes the use of up to 0.26 cfs of water from an unnamed drainage ditch and Jack
 Slough, tributaries of Gilbert River, for irrigation of 21.1 acres and wildlife enhancement.
 The permit specified complete application of water was to be made on or before
 October 1, 2006.
- On January 9, 2017, the permit holder, Kristi and David Fazio, submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" (Application) to the Department, requesting the time to apply water to full beneficial use under the terms of Permit S-53809 be extended from October 1, 2006, to October 1, 2021. This is the first permit extension requested for Permit S-53809.

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 On January 17, 2017, notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit S-53809 was published in the Department's Public Notice. No public comments were received.

Review Criteria [OAR 690-315-0040]

In order to approve an Application for an Extension of Time to complete construction and/or apply water to full beneficial use pursuant to ORS 537.230 or 537.630, or to begin construction, pursuant to ORS 537.248, the Department must make the findings in OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a) – (d).

Complete Extension of Time Application [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a)]

4. On January 9, 2017, the Department received a completed Application for Extension of Time and the fee specified in ORS 536.050 from the permit holder.

Start of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and 690-315-0040(5)]

 Construction of the water system began prior to permit issuance. The permit holder states, construction began in 2000 with the installation of a pump and motor at point of diversion (POD) #2.

Based on Finding of Fact (FOF) 5, the Department has determined the permit holder has satisfied the condition requiring beginning of construction of the water works.

Good Cause [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d)]

The Department must find that there is "good cause" to approve the extension. In making a "good cause" finding, the Department shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(2).

Reasonable Diligence of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(a)]

In order to make a finding of "good cause" to approve the extension, the Department shall consider whether the applicant has demonstrated "reasonable diligence" in previous performance under the permit. OAR 690-315-0040(2)(a). In determining "reasonable diligence", the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the following factors: a) The amount of construction completed within the time allowed in the permit or previous extension; b) The amount of beneficial use made of the water during the permit or previous extension time limits; c) Water right holder conformance with the permit or previous extension conditions; and d) Financial investments made toward developing the beneficial use of water.

Amount of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(a)]

The amount of construction completed within the time allowed in the permit.²

6. Construction of the water system began prior to permit issuance. The permit holder

² "Actual Construction" is defined in OAR 690-315-0020(3)(d)(A)and(B) as physical work performed toward completion of the water system which demonstrates the water right permit holder's good faith and intention to complete the project with reasonable diligence. Actual construction does not include planning a diversion system, formulating a business plan, securing financing, letting contracts, purchasing but not installing equipment, surveying, clearing land or planting crops.

- installed a pump, motor, and fish screen at POD #2, and installed water lines, sprinklers, and underground main lines to the area of use.
- 7. No other work was accomplished during the original development time frame under Permit S-53809, as a majority of the work was accomplished prior to permit issuance.

The Department has determined based on Finding of Fact (FOF) 6, that work has been accomplished prior to permit issuance, which provides evidence of good cause and reasonable diligence towards the complete application of water to a beneficial use.

Compliance with Conditions [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(c)]

The water right permit holder's conformance with the permit conditions.

POD #1

The Application states POD #1 has not been developed.

- 8. If the Applicant develops POD #1, the following permit conditions must be complied with:
 - "Before water use may begin under this permit, a totalizing flow meter must be installed at each diversion point. The totalizing flow meter must be installed and maintained as identified in OAR 690-507-645. The permittee shall maintain the meter in good working order, shall keep a complete record of the amount of water used each month and shall submit a report which includes the recorded water use measurements to the Department annually or more frequently as may be required by the Director"; and
 - The permittee shall install, maintain, and operate fish screening to prevent fish
 from entering the proposed diversion. The permittee shall also install a fishway
 at the obstruction that will provide adequate upstream and downstream passage
 for fish."

POD #2

The Application states POD #2 is fully developed.

- 9. The Department has considered the permit holder's compliance with conditions, and has identified the following concerns for POD #2: (1) the record does not show that a totalizing flow meter has been installed; and (2) annual reports of the amount of water used each month have not been received by the Department by October 1, 2006.
- Department records show an annual water use report was submitted for the 2015 water year.

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11. The permit holder obtained written documentation, dated January 4, 2016, from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) approving the current fish screening on POD #2, and waiving the condition to install a fishway, as they are not required for Permit S-53809. This letter is in the file for Permit S-53809.

The Department has determined based on FOF 9, that the permit holder has not demonstrated compliance with the following permit condition for POD #2 as required by Permit S-53809:

"Before water use may begin under this permit, a totalizing flow meter must be installed at each diversion point. The totalizing flow meter must be installed and maintained as identified in OAR 690-507-645. The permittee shall maintain the meter in good working order, shall keep a complete record of the amount of water used each month and shall submit a report which includes the recorded water use measurements to the Department annually or more frequently as may be required by the Director."

In order to legally perfect the use of water under this permit, the permit holder must demonstrate that all conditions of the permit have been satisfied.

Beneficial Use of Water [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(b)]

The amount of beneficial use made of the water during the permit time limits.

12. The Application states a maximum rate of 0.26 cfs of water has been diverted from POD #2 on an unnamed drainage ditch and Jack Slough, tributaries of Gilbert River, for irrigation of 21.1 acres.

The Department has determined based on FOF 9, that beneficial use of water has not yet been demonstrated under this permit because not all permit conditions were satisfied by October 1, 2006.

<u>Financial Investments to appropriate and Apply Water to a Beneficial Purpose [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(b),(3)(d),(4)(d)]</u>

13. The Application states the permit holder has invested approximately \$36,000, which is about 97 percent of the total projected cost for complete development of this project. The permit holder anticipates an additional \$1,000 investment is needed for the completion of this project.

The Department has determined based on FOF 13, that the permit holder had made an investment, which provides evidence of good cause and reasonable diligence towards the complete application of water to a beneficial use.

Reasonable Diligence of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(a)]

The Application provides evidence of progress towards completion of the water system; a financial investment has been made; the permit holder has not demonstrated compliance with all permit conditions, and; beneficial use has not been demonstrated. The Department has determined the applicant has demonstrated the minimum necessary for the Department to find reasonable diligence towards complete application of water to a beneficial use.

The Market and Present Demands for Water [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-f)]

The Department's determinations of market and present demand for water or power to be supplied shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-f). In accordance with OAR 690-315-0040(4), the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the following factors when determining the market and the present demand for water or power to be supplied:

- (a)The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows;
- (b) Special water use designations established since permit issuance, including but not limited to state scenic waterways, federal wild and scenic rivers, serious water management problem areas or water quality limited sources established under 33 U.S.C. 1313(d);
- (c) The habitat needs of sensitive, threatened or endangered species, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- (d) Economic investment in the project to date;
- (e) Other economic interests dependent on completion of the project; and
- (f) Other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demands for water and power.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a)

The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows.

- 14. A review of the amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows was determined at the time of issuance of Permit S-53809; furthermore, water availability for other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows after the permit was issued is determined when an application for a new water right is submitted.
- 15. Current Water Availability Analysis for the Gilbert River, (Tributary to Columbia River) at the mouth shows that water is available January through December at the 80% exceedance level.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(b)

Special water use designations established since permit issuance, including but not limited to state scenic waterways, federal wild and scenic rivers, serious water management problem areas or water quality limited sources established under 33 U.S.C. 1313(d).

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- 16. The points of diversion are located on a tributary of Gilbert River, and are not located within a Withdrawn Area.
- 17. Gilbert River is not located within or above a state or federal scenic waterway.
- 18. The points of diversion are not in a location listed by the Department of Environmental Quality as a water quality limited stream.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(c)

The habitat needs of sensitive, threatened or endangered species, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

19. Gilbert River is located within an area ranked "low" for stream flow restoration needs as determined by the Department in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and is located within a Sensitive, Threatened or Endangered Fish Species Area as identified by the Department in consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(d)

Economic interests dependent on completion of the project.

20. The Application states an approximate total of \$36,000 has been invested in the project.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(e)

Other economic interests dependent on completion of the project.

21. The Application did identify economic interests other than those of the applicant's that may be dependent on completion of the project. The permit holder operates other farms, and the complete development of this permit provides economic viability for their family business.

OAR 690-315-0040(4)(f)

Other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demand for water and power.

22. No other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demand for water and power have been identified.

OAR 690-315-0040(2)(f) Fair Return Upon Investment

23. The Application did not identify that the use and income from the permitted water development will likely result in reasonable returns upon the investment made to date.

OAR 690-315-0040(2)(g) Other Governmental Requirements

24. The Application did not identify any delay in the development of this project that was caused by any other governmental requirements.

Unforeseen Events [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(h)]

25. The Application did not identify any unforeseen events.

Denial of an Extension Would Result in Undue Hardship [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(i)]

26. The Application did not state if a denial of the extension would result in undue hardship.

Good Faith of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(c)]

27. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit S-53809.

Duration of Extension [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c)]

Under OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c), in order to approve an extension of time for water use permits the Department must find that the time requested is reasonable and the applicant can complete the project within the time requested.

28. As of January 9, 2017, the permit holder states the remaining work to be completed consists of meeting all permit conditions, including installing a totalizing flow meter on POD #2, and submitting annual water use reports; and applying water to full beneficial use.

Given the amount of development left to occur, the Department has determined that the permit holder's request to have until October 1, 2021, to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit S-53809 is both reasonable and necessary.

Good Cause [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d)]

The Department must find that there is "good cause" to approve the extension. In making a "good cause" finding, the Department shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(2).

The Department has considered the reasonable diligence and good faith of the appropriator, the cost to appropriate and apply water to a beneficial purpose, the market and present demands for water to be supplied, the financial investment made and fair and reasonable return upon the investment, the requirements of other governmental agencies, and unforeseen events over which the permit holder had no control, whether denial of the extension will result in undue hardship to the applicant and whether there are no other reasonable alternatives for meeting water use needs, any other factors relevant to a determination of good cause, and has

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determined that the applicant has shown that good cause exists for an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use pursuant to OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Applicant has submitted a complete extension application form and the fee specified in ORS 536.050, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a).
- 2. The Applicant complied with construction timeline requirements to begin construction as required by ORS 537.230, OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and OAR 690-315-0040(5).
- 3. Based on Finding of Facts 5 through 27, full application of water to beneficial use can be accomplished by October 1, 2021³, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c).
- 4. The Applicant can complete the project within the time period requested for the extension on the project. OAR 690-315-0050(5).
- 5. The Applicant has demonstrated good cause for the extension. OAR 690-315-0050(5).

PROPOSED ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Department proposes to issue an order to:

Extend the time to apply water to beneficial use under Permit S-53809 from October 1, 2006, to October 1, 2021.

DATED: February 21, 2017

Dwight French, Administrator Water Right Services Division

If you have any questions, please check the information box on the last page for the appropriate names and phone numbers.

³Pursuant to ORS 537.230(3), upon the completion of beneficial use of water allowed under the permit, the permittee shall hire a certified water rights examiner to survey the appropriation. Within one year after the complete application of water to a beneficial use (or by the date allowed for the complete application of water to a beneficial use), the permittee shall submit a map of the survey and a new or revised claim of beneficial use as deemed appropriate by the Department.

Proposed Final Order Hearing Rights

- Under the provisions of OAR 690-315-0100(1) and 690-315-0060, the applicant or any
 other person adversely affected or aggrieved by the proposed final order may submit a
 written protest to the proposed final order. The written protest must be received by
 the Water Resources Department no later than <u>April 7, 2017</u>, being 45 days from the
 date of publication of the proposed final order in the Department's weekly notice.
- 2. A written protest shall include:
 - a. The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner;
 - A description of the petitioner's interest in the proposed final order and if the protestant claims to represent the public interest, a precise statement of the public interest represented;
 - A detailed description of how the action proposed in the proposed final order would adversely affect or aggrieve the petitioner's interest;
 - d. A detailed description of how the proposed final order is in error or deficient and how to correct the alleged error or deficiency;
 - e. Any citation of legal authority supporting the petitioner, if known;
 - f. Proof of service of the protest upon the water right permit holder, if petitioner is other than the water right permit holder; and
 - g. The applicant or non-applicant protest fee required under ORS 536.050.
- 3. Within 60 days after the close of the period for requesting a contested case hearing, the Director shall:
 - a. Issue a final order on the extension request; or
 - b. Schedule a contested case hearing if a protest has been submitted, and:
 - 1) Upon review of the issues, the Director finds there are significant disputes related to the proposed agency action; or
 - The applicant submits a written request for a contested case hearing within 30 days after the close of the period for submitting protests.

Notice Regarding Service Members: Active duty service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. 50 U.S.C. App. §§501-597b. You may contact the Oregon State Bar or the Oregon Military Department for more information. The toll-free telephone number for the Oregon State Bar is: 1 (800) 452-8260. The toll-free telephone number of the Oregon Military Department is: 1 (800) 452-7500. The Internet address for the United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Legal Services Locator website is: http://legalassistance.law.af.mil

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- If you have any questions about statements contained in this document, please contact Corey A Courchane at (503) 986-0825.
- If you have questions about how to file a protest or if you have previously filed a protest and you want to know the status, please contact Patricia McCarty at 503-986-0820.
- If you have any questions about the Department or any of its programs, please contact our Water Resources Customer Service Group at 503-986-0801.

Address any correspondence to:

Water Right Services Division

725 Summer St NE, Suite A

Fax: 503-986-0901 Salem, OR 97301-1266