



## **Water Right Application Initial Review**

September 1, 2017

NIKON AND LUBA CAM  
13384 RIVER RD NE  
GERVAIS OR 97026

Reference: G-18482

Application G-18482 proposes the appropriation of 0.22 cubic foot per second (CFS) of water from Well 1 (MARI 50586/L01904) in East Champoeg Creek Basin for year-round nursery use on 7.4 acres.

### **Summary**

The proposed groundwater use will have the potential for substantial interference with East Champoeg Creek. Therefore, in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 690-400-0010(11)(a)(B), surface water availability must also be considered. Surface water is available during the period October 1 through May 31. **It is unlikely that the application will be approved unless a suitable mitigation proposal is provided prior to issuance of the Proposed Final Order.**

### **Additional Information Opportunity**

The potential for substantial interference with surface water may be avoided with a rate reduction to 0.021 CFS. However, there is an underlying groundwater permit using Well 1 (MARI 50586/L01904) as evidenced by Permit G-13370, for the appropriation of 0.098 CFS, which is in excess of the threshold for triggering the potential for substantial interference with surface water. Further appropriation from this well is considered “stacking” and the combined rates of appropriation analyzed relative to impact to resources. If underlying permit G-13370 was cancelled and the rate for this application reduced to 0.021 CFS, the Department would likely propose to approve year-round nursery use. Conversely, if the rate under this application was reduced to 0.021 CFS the use would likely be allowable November 1 to February 28/29 of each year for nursery use, and the existing permit, G-13370, at the rate of 0.098 CFS, would remain allowable for irrigation March 1 to October 31 of each year.

This initial review does not 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. If significant public interest issues are identified, they could have an impact on the eventual outcome of the application.

**At this time, you must decide whether to proceed or to withdraw the application.**

#### Proceed

If you choose to proceed with the application you do not have to notify the Department. The application will 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.

#### Withdraw

You may withdraw the application and receive a refund (minus a \$260 processing charge per application). You must notify the Department in writing by **Friday, September 15, 2017**. For your convenience you may use the enclosed "STOP PROCESSING" form.

#### **Initial Review Preliminary Determinations (OAR 690-310-0080)**

1. The application proposed the appropriation of 0.22 CFS of water from Well 1 (MARI 50586/L01904) in East Champoeg Creek Basin for year-round nursery use on 7.4 acres.
2. The proposed use is not prohibited by law or rule except where otherwise noted below.
3. Uses included in nursery use are fully included in irrigation and agriculture uses, both of which are allowed under the Willamette Basin Program (OAR 690-502). Therefore, the appropriation of water from Well 1 (MARI 50586/L01904) in East Champoeg Creek is allowable.
4. The Department has determined, based upon OAR 690-009, that the proposed groundwater use will have the potential for substantial interference with East Champoeg Creek. Therefore, in accordance with OAR 690-400-0010(11)(a)(B), surface water availability must also be considered. Surface water is available during the period October 1 through May 31.
5. Groundwater will likely be available within the capacity of the resource, and if properly conditioned (and if authorized), the proposed use of groundwater will avoid injury to existing groundwater rights.
6. The proposed use is not located within or above any state or federal scenic waterway.
7. The point of appropriation is not located within a Critical, Limited, or Withdrawn groundwater area.
8. Because this application will have an impact on surface water flows where the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has identified that sensitive, threatened or

endangered fish are present, this application will be reviewed by at least ODFW and the Department of Environmental Quality in accordance with OAR 690-033 rules. This review could have an impact on the eventual outcome of your application. This review could cause your application to be proposed for denial, the season of use to be shortened or impacted in some other way when the Department issues a proposed final order at the next stage of processing.

9. The proposed diversion falls within a high priority area for streamflow restoration under the Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds.
10. Documentation has been submitted from the relevant land-use planning jurisdiction that indicates the proposed use is allowed outright. 537.621(3)(b); 690-310-0150(2)(b)

If a Permit is Issued it will Likely Include the Following Conditions:

1. Construction of the well shall begin within five years of the date of permit issuance. The deadline to begin construction may not be extended. This permit is subject to cancellation proceedings if the begin construction deadline is missed.
2. If the number, location, source, or construction of any well deviates from that proposed in the permit application or required by permit conditions, this permit may not be valid, unless the Department authorizes the change in writing.
3. **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 appropriation. 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 used each month, and shall submit an annual report which includes the recorded 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.

4. **Static Water Level Conditions:**

To monitor the effect of water use from the well(s) authorized under this permit, the Department requires the water user to obtain, from a qualified individual (see below), and report annual static water level measurements. The static water level shall be measured in the month of March. Reports shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of measurement.

Measurements must be made according to the following schedule:

**Before Use of Water Takes Place**

**Initial and Annual Measurements**

The Department requires the permittee to report an initial water level measurement in the month specified above once well construction is complete and annually thereafter until use of water begins; and

**After Use of Water has Begun**

**Seven Consecutive Annual Measurements**

Following the first year of water use, the user shall report seven consecutive annual static water level measurements. The first of these seven annual measurements will establish the reference level against which future annual measurements will be compared. Based on an analysis of the data collected, the Director may require the user to obtain and report additional annual static water level measurements beyond the seven year minimum reporting period. The additional measurements may be required in a different month. If the measurement requirement is stopped, the Director may restart it at any time.

All measurements shall be made by a certified water rights examiner, registered professional geologist, registered professional engineer, licensed well constructor or pump installer licensed by the Construction Contractors Board and be submitted to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The Department requires the individual performing the measurement to:

- A. Identify each well with its associated measurement; and
- B. Measure and report water levels to the nearest tenth of a foot as depth-to-water below ground surface; and
- C. Specify the method used to obtain each well measurement; and
- D. Certify the accuracy of all measurements and calculations reported to the Department.

The water user shall discontinue use of, or reduce the rate or volume of withdrawal from, the well(s) if any of the following events occur:

- A. Annual water level measurements reveal an average water level decline of three or more feet per year for five consecutive years; or
- B. Annual water level measurements reveal a water level decline of 15 or more feet in fewer than five consecutive years; or
- C. Annual water level measurements reveal a water level decline of 25 or more feet; or
- D. Hydraulic interference leads to a decline of 25 or more feet in any neighboring well with senior priority.

The period of non-use or restricted use shall continue until the water level rises above the decline level which triggered the action or until the Department determines, based on the permittee's and/or the Department's data and analysis, that no action is necessary because the

aquifer in question can sustain the observed declines without adversely impacting the resource or senior water rights. The water user shall in no instance allow excessive decline, as defined in Commission rules, to occur within the aquifer as a result of use under this permit. If more than one well is involved, the water user may submit an alternative measurement and reporting plan for review and approval by the Department.

5. Groundwater production shall occur only from the alluvial groundwater reservoir.

**6. Well Identification Tag Condition:**

Prior to using water from any well listed on this permit, the permittee shall ensure that the well has been assigned an OWRD Well Identification Number (Well ID tag), which shall be permanently attached to the well. The Well ID shall be used as a reference in any correspondence regarding the well, including any reports of water use, water level, or pump test data.

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 contact me at [Barbara.J.Poage@oregon.gov](mailto:Barbara.J.Poage@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0859 if you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter or the application. Please include the application number in all correspondence. 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: Barbara Poage, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St NE Ste A, Salem OR 97301-1266. Our fax number is 503-986-0901.

Sincerely,

Barbara Poage  
Water Right Application Specialist

enclosures: Application Process Description and Stop Processing Request Form

G-18482  
WAB: 30200708

# APPLICATION FACT SHEET

Application File Number: G-18482

Applicant: NIKON AND LUBA CAM

County: MARION

Watermaster: Joel Plahn, 16, NWR

Priority Date: March 20, 2017

Source: WELL 1 (MARI 50586/L01904) IN EAST CHAMPOEG CREEK

Use: NURSERY USE ON 7.4 ACRES

Quantity: 0.22 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Basin Name & Number: Willamette, #2

WAB: CHAMPOEG CR>WILLAMETTE R; WILLAMETTE R > COLUMBIA R - AB  
MOLALLA R

Well Location(s):

POA	POA Name	Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
1	WELL 1 (MARI 50586/L01904)	5 S	2 W	WM	29	NW NW	870 FEET SOUTH AND 3063 FEET WEST FROM NE CORNER, ANDERSON DE HAVEN DLC 92

Place of Use:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
5 S	2 W	WM	29	NW NW	6.40
5 S	2 W	WM	30	NE NE	1.00

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: Tuesday, September 5, 2017**

**14 DAY STOP PROCESSING DEADLINE DATE: Friday, September 15, 2017**

**30 DAY COMMENT DEADLINE DATE: Thursday, October 5, 2017**

# Mailing List for IR Copies

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Application G-18482

IR Date: 9/1/2017

**Original and map mailed to applicant:**

NIKON AND LUBA CAM  
13384 RIVER RD NE  
GERVAIS OR 97026

Copies Mailed

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(SUPPORT STAFF)

**SENT VIA EMAIL:**

1. WRD – Watermaster Joel Plahn # 2
2. ODFW
3. DEQ
4. Agent – Jeanne Boatwright, [JEANNE@BOATWRIGHTENGR.COM](mailto:JEANNE@BOATWRIGHTENGR.COM)

Copies sent to:

1. WRD – Hydrographics

IR, Map, and Fact Sheet Copies sent to:

1. WRD - File G-18482
2. Department of Agriculture

Specialist: Barbara Park Poage

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

In order to use the waters of Oregon, an application must be submitted and a permit obtained from the Water Resources Department. The water must be used for beneficial purpose without waste. For more information about water right topics, weekly public notice, forms and fees please visit our web site at [www.wrd.state.or.us](http://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 Customer Service Group 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.
- An 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.
- Four 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.
- **An 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.



## **5. Final Order (FO)**

- If no protest is filed, Final Order is issued.

### ***The protest process***

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

- settlement discussion;
- contested case hearing;
- proposed Order;
- period of time to file exceptions; or
- Possible hearing by Water Resources Commission.
- Final Order is 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 the 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.

**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 \$260

**STOP PROCESSING REQUEST FOR  
GROUNDWATER, SURFACE WATER AND REGULAR RESERVOIR  
APPLICATIONS**

Applicant notification to withdraw Water Right Application G-18482

After reviewing the Initial Review for my application, I request that processing be stopped and the fees be refunded (minus a \$260 examination fee.) I understand that without a valid permit I may not legally use the water as requested in my application

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Under ORS 537.150 (5) and 537.620 (5) timely submission of this request authorizes that the water right application process be stopped and all filing fees (except \$260 examination fee) be returned.*

**This notice must be received at Water Resources Department by **Friday, September 15, 2017****

Return the notice to:

OWRD, Water Rights Division  
STOP PROCESSING  
725 Summer Street, NE - Suite A,  
Salem OR, 97301-1271