



January 14, 2021

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302-1142

Reference: Instream water rights in the Umpqua Basin, Application IS-88956

Dear Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

**THIS IS NOT A WATER RIGHT CERTIFICATE
AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE NEXT PHASE OF PROCESSING**

This document is to inform you of the preliminary analysis of your water right application, the potential limitations to your proposed instream water right, and to describe your options. Based on the information you have provided the Water Resources Department has made the following preliminary determinations:

Please reference the application number when sending correspondence regarding conclusions of this Initial Review.

Preliminary Determinations (Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 690-077-0029)

1. The application proposes the instream protection of water in North Fork Smith River for the conservation, maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life, wildlife, and fish and wildlife habitat.
2. The referenced application is complete and not defective.
3. The proposed use is not prohibited, restricted, or limited by law except for water availability limitations in certain months as noted below.
4. The reach proposed in this application for an instream water right is in the Umpqua Basin.
5. The instream fish life, and wildlife uses are allowed under the Umpqua Basin Program OAR (690-516-0000(1)).
6. Water allocable for instream use is limited to the estimated average natural flow. Specifically, OAR 690-077-0015(4) states "If natural streamflow or natural lake levels are the source for meeting instream water rights, the amount allowed during any identified time period for the water right shall not exceed the estimated average natural flow or level occurring from the drainage system except where periodic flows that exceed the natural flow or level are significant for the applied public use".
7. All amounts of water in this document are shown in cubic feet per second.

Description:

North Fork Smith River, tributary to Smith River, beginning at river mile 20.4 (SWNW, S31, T19S, R9W, WM) in Douglas County (43.875822, -123.83024) and continuing downstream to the mouth river mile 0.0 (SENW, S6, T21S, R10W, WM) in Douglas County (43.779607, -123.936677).

Amount of Water Requested for Instream Use:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
130	130	130	130	70	47	44.6	19.2	28.5	77.2	130	130

Estimated Average Natural Flow:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
433	427	313	181	97.5	41.6	16.6	8.75	6.4	15.9	173	367

Allowable Instream Use:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
130	130	130	130	70	41.6	16.6	8.75	6.4	15.9	130	130

Summary of Determination:

A percentage of the water applied for has been determined to be allocable for the purpose(s) identified in the application. The rate allowed is shown in the table above titled “Allowable Instream Use” and, if less than the rate shown in “Amount of Water Requested for Instream Use” table, is limited to the rate shown in the “Estimated Average Natural Flow” table.

The application can be moved to the next phase of the water rights application review process. Comments received within the comment period will be evaluated at the next phase of the process.

Withdrawal:

If you choose not to proceed, you may withdraw your application. To accomplish this you must notify the Department in writing by **February 2, 2021**.

To Proceed with Your Application:

If you choose to proceed with an application, you do not have to notify the Department. Your 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.

If you have any question:

Feel free to contact R. Craig Kohanek at (503) 986-0823 or Ron.C.Kohanek@oregon.gov if you have questions. Please include the application number in all correspondence.

Sincerely,

R. Craig Kohanek
Water Rights Analyst

Cc: File
Watermaster #15

APPLICATION FACT SHEET

Application File Number: IS-88956

Applicant: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

County(ies): Douglas

Watermaster: Susan Douthit District #15

Priority Date: November 30, 2020

Source Noel Creek, tributary to Smith River

Basin Name & Number: Umpqua Basin, #516

WAB: 330

Allowable Instream Use:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
130	130	130	130	70	41.6	16.6	8.75	6.4	15.9	130	130

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: **Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

30 DAY COMMENT DEADLINE DATE: **Thursday, February 18, 2021**

Mailing List for IR Copies

Application: IS-88956

Date: January 14, 2021

Original mailed to:

Applicant:
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302-1142

Send Auto Email

1. Watermaster: Susan Douthit District #15
2. ODFW District Biologists: Laura Jackson
3. DEQ: umpqua@deq.state.or.us
4. WRD – Surface Water Section

Copies sent to:

WRD - File

IR, Map, and Fact Sheet Copies provided to:

5. US Fish & Wildlife: Nancy Gilbert,
63095 Deschutes Market Rd, Bend OR 97701-9794
6. NW Power & Conservation Council,
851 SW Sixth Ave., Suite 1020, Portland, OR 97204-1347
7. Department of Agriculture: Jim Johnson & Paul Measeles
Salem OR
8. DSL:
9. Tribe(s)

Caseworker: Craig Kohanek

Copies Mailed by:

(STAFF)

on: _____
(DATE)