

**Oregon Water Resources Department  
Water Right Services Division**

Water Right Application S-88871 in the            )  
name of GARY SAFLEY and JUDITH A.            )  
SAFLEY    )                    PROPOSED FINAL ORDER

**Summary:** The Department proposes to issue an order approving Application S-88871 and a permit consistent with the attached draft permit.

**Authority**

The application is being processed in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 537.153 through 537.175, and 390.826, and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 690, Divisions 5, 33, 300, 310, 400, 410, and the Rogue Basin Program (OAR 690-515). These statutes and rules can be viewed on the following website: <https://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/programs/policylawandrules/Pages/default.aspx>.

The Department’s main website can be found at: <https://www.oregon.gov/OWRD>.

The Department shall presume that a proposed use will not impair or be detrimental to the public interest if:

- a) The proposed use is allowed in the applicable basin program established pursuant to ORS 536.300 and 536.340 or given a preference under ORS 536.310(12);
- b) Water is available;
- c) The proposed use will not injure other water rights; and
- d) The proposed use complies with the rules of the Commission. ORS 537.153(2); OAR 690-310-0110(1)

All four criteria must be met for a proposed use to be presumed to not impair or be detrimental to the public interest. When the criteria are not met and the presumption is not established. The Department shall determine whether the proposed use will impair or be detrimental to the public interest considering the factors listed in ORS 537.170(8) OAR 690-310-0120(2).

If the Department determines that the proposed use will impair or be detrimental to the public interest, the Department may issue a proposed final order recommending denial of the application.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

### **Application History**

1. On September 8, 2020, Gary Safley and Judith A. Safley filed a complete application for the following water use:

**Source:** ROGUE RIVER, TRIBUTARY TO PACIFIC OCEAN  
**Use:** HUMAN CONSUMPTION USE FOR ONE HOUSEHOLD  
**Rate:** 0.005 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND (CFS)  
**Period of Use:** JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31  
**County:** JACKSON COUNTY  
**Place of Use:** SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 35 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, W.M.

2. On October 2, 2020, the Department mailed the applicant notice of its Initial Review, determining that the diversion of 0.005 CFS of water from Rogue River, tributary to Pacific Ocean, for human consumption use January 1 through December 31 is not allowable; however, additional information was provided and a limited permit for human consumption use (indoor use only: cooking, drinking, sanitation) at 0.005 CFS, further limited to 500 gallons per day, may be allowable. The applicant did not notify the Department to stop processing the application within 14 days of that date.
3. On October 6, 2020, the Department provided notice of the application in its weekly public notice, requesting comments, and providing information for interested persons about obtaining future notices and a copy of the Proposed Final Order.

### **Presumption Criteria (a) Consistency with Basin Program**

3. Human consumption use is allowed under the Rogue Basin Program (OAR 690-515-0000(1)(a)(E), ORS 537.153(2); OAR 690-310-0110(1)(a))

### **Presumption Criteria (b) Water Availability**

4. An assessment of water availability at 80% exceedance for the proposed use was completed using the Department's Water Availability Reporting System. A copy of this assessment is in the application file. This review is done consistent with OAR 690-410-0070(2)(a). During the period of use requested, the assessment established that **surface water is not available**. ORS 537.153(2); OAR 690-310-0150(2)(c)

### **Presumption Criteria (c) Injury Determination**

5. The proposed use will not injure other water rights. ORS 537.153(2); OAR 690-310-0150(2)(e)

### **Presumption Criteria (d) Whether the Use Complies with Rules of the Commission**

6. Documentation has been submitted from the relevant land-use planning jurisdiction that indicates the proposed use is allowed outright. ORS 537.153(2)(b); OAR 690-310-0150(2)(b)
7. The proposed use is in an area of the state in which OAR 690-033-0310 thru -0340 applies. These rules establish definitions, additional procedures, and standards to aid the Department in determining whether a proposed use will impair or be detrimental to the public interest with regard to sensitive, threatened, or endangered fish species.

### **OAR 690-033-0310 Statewide Rules**

- A. The proposed use occurs occur in an area that may affect the habitat of sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species. OAR 690-033-0310(2)
- B. The applicant has been notified that based on a preliminary determination, the proposed use may affect the habitat of sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species and the application may be conditioned or denied. OAR 690-033-0330(1)(a)
- C. The interagency review team has been notified that an application has been received in an area that may affect the habitat of sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species. OAR 690-033-0330(1)(b)
- D. The interagency review team was convened to review the application and recommended conditions as necessary to achieve the standards listed in 690-033-0330(2)(a) and (b). The draft permit is conditioned with passage, screening in-water work timing requirements, and other conditions pertaining to riparian restoration and water quality standards.
- E. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) recommended a Riparian Plan in accordance with ODFW's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Policy described in OAR 635-415, that identifies how the applicant will restore and enhance the riparian areas that may be disturbed during development of the point of diversion. The applicant described in the application materials that "*it will not be necessary to conduct excavation, or clearing of banks, to install the small intake and pump system.*" As a precaution , the draft permit has been conditioned to restore and enhance the riparian area, if the area is disturbed while developing the point of diversion.

### **Determination of Presumption that a Proposed Surface Water Use will not Impair or be Detrimental to the Public Interest**

- 8. Because the criteria are not met (surface water is not available) the presumption is **not** established. ORS 537.153(2); OAR 690-310-0110(1)(a)-(d)
- 9. OAR 690-310-0110(2)(b) states that when the presumption is not established, the Department shall determine whether the proposed use will impair or adversely affect the public interest, and may make specific findings to demonstrate that even though the presumption is not established, the proposed use will not impair or adversely affect the public interest, and propose approval of the application with appropriate modifications or conditions.

### **690-310-0260 Public Interest Findings**

- 10. The proposed use is located above the Rogue Scenic Waterway, as designated under ORS 390.826.
- 11. The proposed diversion and use of water does not significantly impair the free-flowing character of these waters in quantities necessary for recreation, fish and wildlife.
- 12. The proposed diversion and use of water is consistent with the provisions of ORS Chapters 536 and 537 and OAR 690.
- 13. Construction, operation and maintenance of the diversion system will be carried out in a manner consistent with the purposes set forth in ORS 390.805 to 390.925.

14. Water rights for human consumption use shall not exceed 0.005 cubic feet per second per household. OAR 690-310-0260(2)(d)
15. After considering alternative water sources, including groundwater, stored water, purchased trucked water, community and municipal suppliers, and transfers of existing water rights, the Department determined that there are no reasonable alternative sources of water.
16. Denial of the application will result in loss of reasonable expectations for use of the property.

**Other Criteria and Requirements**

17. Pursuant to the provisions of ORS 390.835 and OAR 690-310-0260, the Director is authorized to issue water rights for human consumption use within or above a designated reach of a scenic waterway when flows are less than quantities necessary for recreation, fish, and wildlife. OAR 690-310-0260.
18. The amount requested, 0.005 CFS, is necessary for the proposed use, if further limited to 500 gallons per day.
19. The applicant proposed methods to measure the amount of water diverted, prevent damage to aquatic life and riparian habitat, prevent discharge of contaminated water to a surface stream, or to prevent damage to public uses of any affected surface waters. These measures are adequate at this time. OAR 690-310-0150(2)(j)
20. The proposed use complies with rules of the Water Resources Commission not otherwise described above.

**Further evaluation of the proposed use**

21. Pursuant to ORS 537.170(8), the Department has considered the following factors:
  - A. The conservation of the highest use of the water for all purposes, including irrigation, domestic use, municipal water supply, power development, public recreation, protection of commercial and game fishing and wildlife, fire protection, mining, industrial purposes, navigation, scenic attraction or any other beneficial use to which the water may be applied for which it may have a special value to the public: Domestic use (including human consumption use) is classified under the Rogue Basin Program, and therefore is one of the highest and best uses.
  - B. The maximum economic development of the waters involved: The applicant has demonstrated that denial of this application would result in loss of reasonable expectations for use of the property.
  - C. The control of the waters of this state for all beneficial purposes, including drainage, sanitation and flood control: Human consumption use includes uses of water for sanitation (OAR 690-300-0010(24)). Because the applicant has no other reasonable source of water to provide sanitation to their home, human consumption use is necessary to provide the beneficial use of sanitation to the applicant.

- D. The amount of waters available for appropriation for beneficial use: Water is not available for the proposed use during the full period requested.
- E. The prevention of wasteful, uneconomic, impracticable or unreasonable use of the waters involved: The use will be conditioned to require reasonable use of the water and measurement, recording and reporting conditions as required under ORS 390.835(6)(d)(C).
- F. All vested and inchoate rights to the waters of this state or to the use of the waters of this state, and the means necessary to protect such rights: The pending application's priority date and the Department's existing system of regulation are the means necessary to protect existing vested and inchoate rights, thus the protection of rights consideration is satisfied.
- G. The state water resources policy formulated under ORS 536.295 to 536.350 and 537.505 to 537.534: ORS 536.310(3) provides that "adequate and safe supplies be preserved and protected for human consumption use, while conserving maximum supplies for other beneficial uses." Because the proposed use is human consumption use there is a preference for this use over all other uses.

- 22. No comments were received by the close of the comment period. OAR 690-310-0120(3)(a)
- 23. Information available in Department files, received from other interested agencies, and other available information does not provide a preponderance of evidence that the proposed use would impair or be detrimental to the public interest under ORS 537.153. OAR 690-310-0120(3)
- 24. The Department has determined that, although the presumption is not established by considering the factors in ORS 537.179(8), the proposed use will not impair or be detrimental to the public interest.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The proposed use will not impair or be detrimental to the public interest as described in ORS 537.153(2).

### **PROPOSED ORDER**

The Department recommends approval of Application S-88871, as amended, and issuance of a permit consistent with the attached draft permit.

DATED April 6, 2021

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Alyssa Mucken  
Water Rights Section Manager, for  
Thomas M. Byler, Director  
Oregon Water Resources Department

## Protests

Under the provisions of ORS 537.153(7) (for surface water) or ORS 537.621(8) (for groundwater), you can protest this Proposed Final Order. Protests must be received by the Water Resources Department no later than **May 21, 2021**.

**IMPORTANT:** Due to COVID-19, the Department's office is closed to walk-in services. The Department encourages the submission of protests by U.S. mail. Please consider mailing early to ensure the Department receives the protest by the deadline specified above.

Protests must be in writing and include the following:

- Your name, address, and telephone number;
- A description of your interest in the Proposed Final Order, and, if you claim 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 impair or be detrimental to your interest;
- A detailed description of how the Proposed Final Order is in error or deficient, and how to correct the alleged error or deficiency;
- Any citation of legal authority to support your protest, if known;
- To affect the Department's determination that the proposed use in this application will, or will not, impair or be detrimental to the public interest, ORS 537.153(6) requires that a protest demonstrate, by a preponderance of evidence any of the following: (a) One or more of the criteria for establishing the presumption are, or are not, satisfied; or (b) The specific aspect of the public welfare, safety and health under ORS 537.170(8) that would be impaired or detrimentally affected, and specifically how the identified aspect of the public welfare, safety and health under ORS 537.170 (8) would be impaired or be adversely affected;
- If you are the applicant, the protest fee of \$410 required by ORS 536.050; and
- If you are not the applicant, the protest fee of \$810 required by ORS 536.050 and proof of service of the protest upon the applicant.
- If you are the applicant, a statement of whether or not you are requesting a contested case hearing.

## Requests for Standing

Under the provisions of ORS 537.153(7) (for surface water) or ORS 537.621(8) (for groundwater), persons other than the applicant who support a Proposed Final Order can request standing for purposes of participating in any contested case proceeding on the Proposed Final Order or for judicial review of a Final Order.

Requests for standing must be received in the Water Resources Department no later than **May 21, 2021**. Requests for standing must be in writing, and must include the following:

- The requester's name, mailing address and telephone number;

- If the requester is representing a group, association or other organization, the name, address and telephone number of the represented group;
- A statement that the requester supports the Proposed Final Order as issued;
- A detailed statement of how the requester would be harmed if the Proposed Final Order is modified; and
- A standing fee of \$230. If a hearing is scheduled, an additional fee of \$580 must be submitted along with a petition for party status.

After the protest period has ended, the Director will either issue a Final Order or schedule a contested case hearing. The contested case hearing will be scheduled only if a protest has been submitted and either:

- upon review of the issues, the director finds that there are significant disputes related to the proposed use of water, or
- the applicant requests a contested case hearing within 30 days after the close of the protest period.

If you do not request a hearing within 30 days after the close of the protest period, or if you withdraw a request for a hearing, notify the Department or the administrative law judge that you will not appear or fail to appear at a scheduled hearing, the Director may issue a Final Order by default. If the Director issues a Final Order by default, the Department designates the relevant portions of its files on this matter, including all materials that you have submitted relating to this matter, as the record for purpose of proving a prima facie case upon default.

You may be represented by an attorney at the hearing. Legal aid organizations may be able to assist a party with limited financial resources. Generally, partnerships, corporations, associations, governmental subdivisions or public or private organizations are represented by an attorney. However, consistent with OAR 690-002-0020 and OAR 137-003-0555, an agency representative may represent a partnership, corporation, association, governmental subdivision or public or private organization if the Department determines that appearance of a person by an authorized representative will not hinder the orderly and timely development of the record in this case.

**Notice Regarding Servicemembers:** Active duty servicemembers have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571, or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>. The Oregon Military Department does not have a toll free telephone number.

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- If you have any questions about statements contained in this document, please contact Kim French at Kim.R.French@oregon.gov or 503-986-0816.
  - 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 503-986-0900.
  - Address any correspondence to :      Water Right Services Division  
725 Summer St NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301-1266  
Fax: 503-986-0901
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**DRAFT**

**This is not a permit.**

**DRAFT**

STATE OF OREGON

COUNTY OF JACKSON

**DRAFT PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC WATERS**

THIS DRAFT PERMIT IS HEREBY ISSUED TO

GARY SAFLEY  
JUDITH A. SAFLEY  
3959 OLD STAGE RD  
CENTRAL POINT OR 97502

The specific limits and conditions of the use are listed below.

APPLICATION FILE NUMBER: S-88871

SOURCE OF WATER: ROGUE RIVER, TRIBUTARY TO PACIFIC OCEAN

PURPOSE OR USE: HUMAN CONSUMPTION USE FOR ONE HOUSEHOLD

MAXIMUM RATE: 0.005 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND, FURTHER LIMITED TO 500 GALLONS PER DAY

PERIOD OF USE: JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31

DATE OF PRIORITY: SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

AUTHORIZED POINT OF DIVERSION:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
35 S	1 W	WM	29	SE NW	341 FEET NORTH AND 715 FEET WEST FROM THE C1/4 CORNER, SECTION 29

AUTHORIZED PLACE OF USE:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q
35 S	1 W	WM	29	SE NW

**1. Water Use Measurement, Recording, and Reporting Condition:**

- 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. **Fish Screen/By-Pass Condition:**

The permittee shall install, maintain, and operate fish screening and by-pass devices consistent with current Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) standards. Fish screening is to prevent fish from entering the proposed diversion while by-pass devices provide adequate upstream and downstream passage for fish. The required screen and by-pass devices are to be in place and functional prior to diversion of any water. The permittee shall obtain written approval from ODFW that the installation of the required screen and by-pass devices meets the state's criteria or the permittee shall submit documentation that ODFW has determined screens and/or by-pass devices are not necessary.

3. **Fish Passage Condition:**

The permittee shall not construct, operate, or maintain any dam or artificial obstruction to fish passage across any waters of the state that are inhabited, or were historically inhabited, by native migratory fish (ORS 509.585) without obtaining approval for the artificial obstruction from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). The permittee shall submit a proposal for fish passage to ODFW or apply for a fish passage waiver or exemption. Approval of the proposed fish passage facility, waiver, or exemption shall be obtained **prior to construction** of any in-channel obstruction or **prior to diversion of water** that may create an artificial obstruction due to low flow. The permittee shall submit proof to ODFW that fish passage has been implemented per the plan, waiver, or exemption **prior to diversion of water**. The permittee shall maintain adequate passage of native migratory fish at all times (ORS 509.610) as per the approved plan, waiver, or exemption.

4. **Riparian Condition:**

If the riparian area is disturbed in the process of developing a point of diversion, the permittee shall be responsible for restoration and enhancement of such riparian area in accordance with ODFW's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Policy OAR 635-415. For purposes of mitigation, the ODFW Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Goals and Standards, OAR 635-415, shall be followed.

5. **In-Water Work Condition:**

Any work related to construction, development, or maintenance of the proposed use shall be conducted during the preferred work period of June 15 through August 31, unless an alternate time period is approved by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

**6. Water Quality Condition:**

The use may be restricted if the quality of the source stream or downstream waters decrease to the point that those waters no longer meet existing state or federal water quality standards due to reduced flows.

**STANDARD CONDITIONS**

1. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this permit may result in action including, but not limited to, restrictions on the use, civil penalties, or cancellation of the permit.
2. Where two or more water users agree among themselves as to the manner of rotation in the use of water and such agreement is placed in writing and filed by such water users with the watermaster, and such rotation system does not infringe upon such prior rights of any water user not a party to such rotation plan, the watermaster shall distribute the water according to such agreement.
3. This permit is for the beneficial use of water without waste. The water user is advised that new regulations may require the use of best practical technologies or conservation practices to achieve this end.
4. By law, the land use associated with this water use must be in compliance with statewide land-use goals and any local acknowledged land-use plan.
5. The use of water allowed herein may be made only at times when sufficient water is available to satisfy all prior rights, including prior rights for maintaining instream flows.
6. Construction of the water system 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.
7. Complete application of the water shall be made within five years of the date of permit issuance. If beneficial use of permitted water has not been made before this date, the permittee may submit an application for extension of time, which may be approved based upon the merit of the application.
8. Within one year after complete application of water to the proposed use, the permittee shall submit a claim of beneficial use, which includes a map and report, prepared by a Certified Water Rights Examiner.

Issued \_\_\_\_\_

**DRAFT - THIS IS NOT A PERMIT**

Dwight French  
Water Right Services Division Administrator, for  
Thomas M. Byler, Director  
Oregon Water Resources Department

# Mailing List for PFO Copies

Application S-88871

PFO Date April 6, 2021

**Original mailed via CERTIFIED MAIL to applicant:**

GARY SAFLEY  
JUDITH A. SAFLEY  
3959 OLD STAGE RD  
CENTRAL POINT OR 97502.

Copies Mailed
By: _____
(SUPPORT STAFF)
on: _____

**Sent via auto email:**

1. Applicant - jsafley499@aol.com
2. Agent – Evan Malepsy - emalepsy@roguecivil.com
3. WRD – Watermaster District #13, Shavon L. Haynes
4. WRD - Jake Johnstone SWR
5. WRD – SW Section

**Copies sent to:**

1. WRD – File # S-88871

Application Specialist: Kim French