



Water Resources Department North Mall Office Building

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MEMORANDUM

- TO: Water Resources Commission
- FROM: Phillip C. Ward, Director
- SUBJECT: Agenda Item I, August 3, 2012 Water Resources Commission Meeting

Impoundments Storing More Than 3,000,000 Gallons – Rogue Basin Application R-87742, Gary Martin

I. Issue Statement

Under the Rogue Basin Program (Middle Rogue Basin, OAR 690-515-0040(2)), the Commission¹ shall review all applications proposing to impound more than 3,000,000 gallons of water, equivalent to 9.2 acre feet (AF), prior to approval and the issuance of a permit. During the review, the Commission may establish additional minimum flows on the natural flow of the proposed stream source to support aquatic life or to minimize pollution. These rules encourage storage projects that are consistent with the purposes of the minimum perennial streamflows. R-87742 proposes to store more than 9.2 AF within the Rogue Basin.

II. Background

Application R-87742, in the name of Gary Martin, within the Middle Rogue Basin, proposes the storage of 15.3 AF. The Department asked the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) whether they recommend any additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution in regards to the proposed impoundments for this application. Neither recommended additional minimum flows, but both did provide other comments under OAR 690-033.

¹ The basin program makes reference to the "Water Policy Review Board" which was the name of the Water Resources Commission when the program was adopted.

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III. Discussion

Consistent with the authority provided under the Department's Division 33 rules, ODFW recommended conditions necessary to protect the habitat of sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species. The Department will propose that the conditions recommended by ODFW be included in the permit. Neither ODFW nor DEQ recommended establishment of additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution.

Conclusion

The Department finds that Application R-87742 may continue to be processed without the need for additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution.

IV. Alternatives

The Commission may consider the following actions:

- 1. Direct the Department to continue processing Application R-87742 without additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution.
- 2. Recommend additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution, to be incorporated in any permits issued.
- 3. Require the Department to conduct further review of the applications and report to the Commission at a future meeting.

VI. Recommendation

The Director recommends Alternative 1, that the Commission direct the Department to continue processing Application R-87742 without additional minimum flows to support aquatic life or minimize pollution.

Attachment:

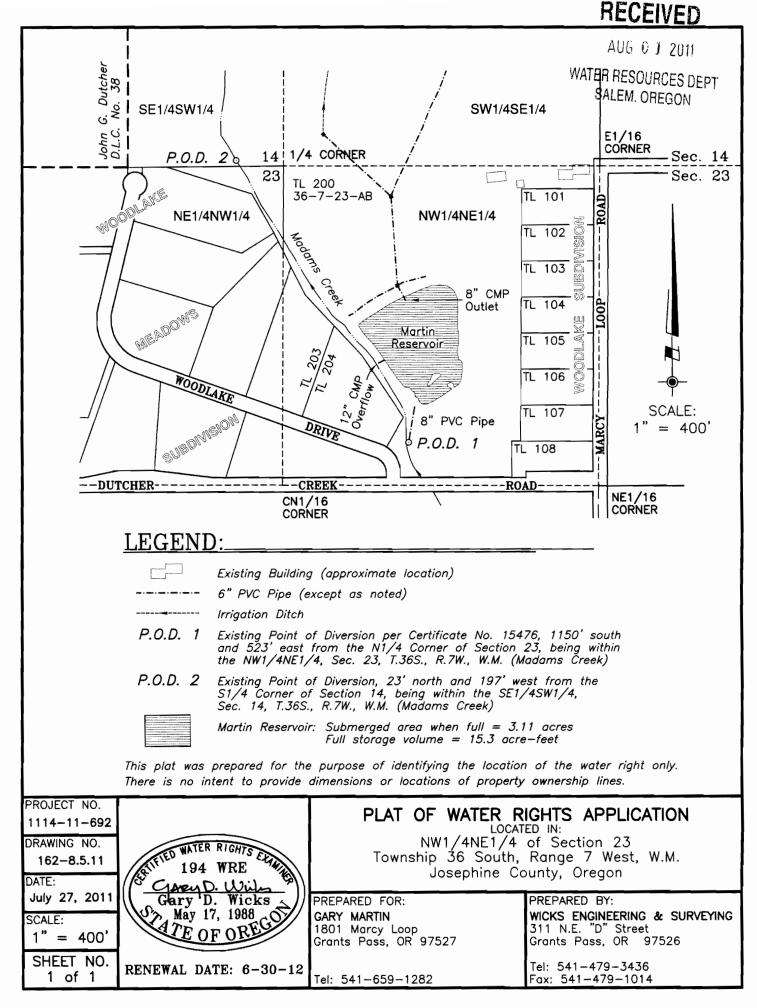
- 1. Middle Rogue Basin, OAR 690-515-0040(2)
- 2. Application Map

Dwight French/Tim Wallin (503) 986-0819/(503) 986-0891

Middle Rogue Basin, OAR 690-515-0040(2):

(2) Storage:

(a) All applications for appropriation of water for storage in structures impounding more than 3,000,000 gallons of water shall be reviewed by the Water Policy Review Board prior to approval. During the review the Water Policy Review Board may establish additional minimum flows on the natural flow of the stream to support aquatic life or minimize pollution. Storage projects consistent with the purposes of minimum perennial streamflows shall be encouraged;



R-87742