Reservations: A Preview of Basin Program Rule-Makings

May 2016

Water Resources Commission Meeting Brenda Bateman, TSD Administrator

Overview

- Introduction / Purpose
- Timeline Review
- Discussion Details
- Next Steps

Introduction / Purpose

- Reservation sets aside unappropriated water for future economic development in a basin; assigns priority date.
- Several reservations requested by Oregon Dept. of Agriculture are set to expire during 2016-17, unless extended by rule-making of the Commission.
- 2016-17 sunsets include reservations in the Hood River (10/16), Malheur (1/17), Owyhee (1/17), Grande Ronde (2/17) Basins.
- Rule adoption scheduled for August and October 2016 Commission meetings.

Timeline Review

- Nov. 2015: Adopted temporary rules to set forth the process for extending reservations (Div. 79)
- Feb. 2016: Adopted rules to extend reservations in the Powder River Basin to 2036 (Division 509)
- April 2016: Adopted permanent rules to set forth the process for extending reservations (Div. 79)
- Aug. 2016: Potential adoption of rules to extend reservations in the Hood River Basin (Division 504)
- Oct. 2016: Potential adoption of rules to extend reservations in Malheur (Div. 510), Owyhee (Div. 511), Grande Ronde Basins (Div. 508)

Discussion Details

- Upcoming sunsets:
 - Hood River Oct. 17, 2016 six sub-basins 82,900 af
 - OMalheur − Jan. 7, 2017 − two sub-basins − 48,200 af
 - Owyhee Jan. 7, 2017 1 basin 60,000 af
 - Grande Ronde Feb. 7, 2017 2 sub-basins 35,900 af

Discussion Details



Discussion Details

- Hood River Rule-Making Underway Now:
 - O April 19 Rules Advisory Committee met @ Hood River Library
 - 18 Participants: irrigation districts, Oregon Farm Bureau, watershed & conservation groups, landowners and businesses, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, county staff and commissioners, state agencies.
 - Received helpful edits and questions that shaped the draft language.
 - O Draft language will be published / noticed June 1.
 - O Public comment period open from June 1 to June 30.
 - O Hearing scheduled for June 22, 4:00 pm at Hood River Library.
 - O Rule-making scheduled for August WRC meeting.

Next Steps



Next Steps

- Grande Ronde Basin Rulemaking (Division 508)
 - ORules Advisory Committee scheduled for May 24, 2016
 - O Chamber Room @ LaGrande City Hall, 10:00 to 4:00
- Malheur Basin Rulemaking (Division 510)
 - ORules Advisory Committee scheduled for May 25, 2016
 - Ontario Community Library 10:00 to 4:00
- Owyhee Basin Rulemaking (Division 511)
 - O Rules Advisory Committee scheduled for May 26, 2016
 - Ontario Community Library 10:00 to 4:00
- Public Comment for all three open the month of July
- Hearing for all three scheduled for late July
- Rule-making scheduled for October WRC meeting

Questions?

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