Water Resource Commission Meeting December 3, 2021 Agenda Items D and J

## Hello Commissioners:

I am concerned that drought and climate change are not being planned for sufficiently in the management of our groundwater resources in the **Deschutes Basin**.

The 5 year update ending 2019 for the Deschutes Groundwater Mitigation Rules continues to identify places where water conservation measures can be improved. Examples would be:

Install a new gauge to replace the now unused gauge at Lower Bridge.

Require that Water Management Conservation Plans WMCP's account for 100% of their groundwater useage: the 10% of municipal groundwater that is not required to be accounted for needs to be accounted for by type of use as well as billed for.

Implement the No Nett Loss of Wetlands that Governor Brown and Department of State Land (DSL) is now gearing up for.

Refine the zone of mitigation so that mitigation occurs in the zone of impact and not in a general zone especially where there are springs and/or wetlands in a specific zone of impact. Refine the incremental mitigation plan so that permanent mitigation is in hand before municipal permits are issued: otherwise as it now stands there is already concern that permanent mitigation is unobtainable in the future or even incrementally. Recognize that Urban Cities' densities will continue without necessarily retiring nearby agricultural water rights as was done in the past because cities are now building density instead of sprawling the UGB onto nearby agricultural lands outside city limits. Cities will increase their water needs without obtaining the agricultural water rights that heretofore they could mitigate with. Remove the mitigation bank that has not been active and has not been licensed by the Secretary of State since 2017: i.e. Deschutes Irrigation, LLC \* These are all situations that hereto have not been accounted for in the Deschutes Groundwater Mitigation Rules and that would conserve groundwater already permitted.

Drought and Climate Change heat waves are Real. The Deschutes Basin was not immune to these. Drought and Climate Change are impacting not just acquifer charge but are also impacting how people are behaving. Examples of this are: in stream leased water will be reduced as it is increasingly being needed on lands for agriculture and/or lifestyle. Many lifestyle choices to create water in people's front yards in the desert are new uses being applied for from groundwater wells. Because of drought where agricultural water rights are being reduced in delivery because of water availability, Habitat Conservation Plans, or ESA requirements, more people will draw water from the ground. So for instance exempt wells should now be included in Groundwater measurements in the Deschutes Basin: it is NOW no longer appropriate to assume a rural household consumes the same as a municipal household because the rural household has a larger footprint than the municipal household. So assumptions of water demands need to be scrutinized according to climate change and drought.

Finally the Deschutes Groundwater Mitigation Rules today do not mitigate for groundwater extraction. We've known this since the modeling of the Yinger Report in 2008 (13 years ago). Further discussions by Gannet in 2012 elaborate on climate. However, the answer that OWRD is requesting of the Water Resource Commission is to begin exploring within 1 month (year 2022) to increase the 200 cfs cap. It is inappropriate to increase the 200 cfs cap before all of the items identified in the (ODFW) Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's submittals Oct 2021 have been IMPLEMENTED.

I look to your Water Resource Commission as a steward of our Public Waters for descendants of Oregonians. Implementing conservation measures and protecting springs and wetlands in our aridifying High Desert is a priority over doing ecological harm to our surface waters by extending the 200 cfs cap.

Thank you for considering my views. Nunzie Rould

Nunzie Gould

19845 JW Brown Bend, OR 97701

\* Exhibit A: SOS registry re Deschutes Irrigation LLC.

New Search



## **Business Name Search**

**Printer Friendly** 

New Search	Printer F	<u>riendly</u>	Business I	Entity Data		12-01-2021 13:21
Registry Nbr	Entity Type	<u>Entity</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	Registry Date	Next Renewal Date	Renewal Due?
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## New Search Printer Friendly Name History

Business Entity Name	Name Type	<u>Name</u> <u>Status</u>	Start Date	End Date
DESCHUTES IRRIGATION, LLC	EN	CUR	04-14-2004	

## Please <u>read</u> before ordering <u>Copies</u>.

New Search Printer Friendly Summary History

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Image Available		Transaction Date	Effective Date	<u>Status</u>	Name/Agent Change	Dissolved By
	ADMINISTRATIVE DISSOLUTION	06-15-2017		SYS		
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PAYMENT	04-03-2008	2008	SYS		
CHANGE OF REGISTERED AGENT/ADDRESS	04-02-2008		FI	Agent	
ANNUAL REPORT PAYMENT	04-17-2007	04-16- 2007	SYS		
CHANGE OF REGISTERED AGENT/ADDRESS	04-12-2006		FI	Agent	
ANNUAL REPORT PAYMENT	03-14-2006	03-13- 2006	SYS		
AMENDED ANNUAL REPORT	03-30-2005		FI		
ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION	04-14-2004		FI	Agent	

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