

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes

Monday January 9, 2017, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Dave Brown, Suzanne Blakeney (phone), Stuart Crane, Carron Helberg, Elayne Hovde, Stan Isley, Jonathan Kohr, Chris Lynch, Jason McCormick, Greg McLaughlin (phone), Jason McShane, Tom Ring, Jeff Schuster (phone), Chad Stuart, Kurt Walker and Brian Iller.

- Approval of Minutes:

December 2016 – the group approved the minutes.

Stan introduced Elayne Hovde as Jerry Jacoby's replacement on the YRBWEP Team.

Welcome Aboard!

- 2017-22 USBR SDiv: Will be postponed and not discussed today. To be discussed in the future. Stan explained that the revised version had some typos in the first version and he added a map. Stan explained that the revised versions of the project descriptions posted for 2017-22 through 2017-26 simply corrected some typos in the first versions and added a map to each project description.

Previous Business:

- 2017-10 Longmeier: This proposal has no mitigation for pumping impacts to the upper Cle Elum River above Lake Cle Elum and needs further discussion. Tom has spoken to Joe Mentor or Jessica Kuchan to start a dialogue about the mitigation water packages the New Suncadia Water Bank offers, and identifying this area as a 'no outdoor irrigation' area. Or perhaps the Longmeiers would voluntarily agree to not irrigate lawn or garden at their home. **It remains on hold and will come back to the group at a later time.**

New Business:

- 2017-21 First Creek: Greg & Suzanne presented this proposal. Tom Ring asked if this was a permanent acquisition, yes it is. Only one water user is affected, will meet twice a year to change how water is used. There are screening needs, it is a good idea to get everyone in trust or get off this water source. Jonathan discussed compliance monitoring. Greg used Ellensburg WIG to calculate the fallowed CU water quantity, being conservative, looking for balance. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-23 Wapatox: Place in trust for instream flow use in the Naches River and its side channels, including the South Naches Channel, large quantity water right (300-450 cfs, when naturally available), year-round, total of about 261,000 ac/ft/yr. A small quantity (currently about 30 cfs) of Reclamation's water will continue to be used during the irrigation season to convey the Wapatox Ditch Co. 50 cfs irrigation water right down the

canal to the irrigators' turnouts. Stan is looking to completely eliminate the need for this conveyance water use as a goal for the future. **Thumbs Up.**

- 2017-24 USBR KOA: Stan explained this is a surface water right from Blue Slough that will be transferred to instream flow Trust water use in Blue Slough and/or the Yakima River, and also includes a ground water right being placed into the trust. Tom Ring asked how does someone exercise a ground water trust right. How is it managed? Action would be taken to protect it, if it were impaired in the future. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-25 Istvan: Stan explained this instream flow use of two small Teanaway River irrigation water rights, purchased by Reclamation YRBWEP in 1999, using the 2008 Reclamation/Ecology Yakima Basin Trust Water Rights Management MOU. Jonathan asked about water marketing, water banking. Tom Ring said if there was fallowed CU, it would change/add to the instream target flows at Parker. The fallowed CU will add to Parker & Prosser instream target flows, and will carry all the way downstream to the Pacific Ocean. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-26 Schaake: Stan explained Reclamation purchased these two irrigation water rights in 2003, there are two rights, fallowed CU will carry downstream all the way to the Pacific Ocean, fallowed CU of 122 acre-feet per year, this group reviewed the transfer of these 2 water rights to temporary instream flow use in 2007, prior to entry of the Adjudication Court OPL authorizing such use, thus this transfer proposal is somewhat of a redundancy, requesting approval of the permanent transfer of these 2 rights to instream flow Trust water use. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-27 Nassen and 2017-28 Morgan: Kurt explained these together, in the Badger Pocket Area off Badger Creek. Each propose one single domestic use from a well, no irrigation, mitigated with Kittitas County (Amerinvest) Water Bank water. Jonathan wondered about upstream of KRD's spill, Jason McCormick said it was dry. Kurt said downstream has no restrictions. There are other approvals in the area, but because of the fish questions, both of these have been tabled for the next meeting. **Pending, come back next month.**
- 2017-29 Lancaster: Kurt explained it is near Lake Easton, full mitigation by New Suncadia Water Bank, for one well, 1 domestic supply, 500 ft² irrigation. All were in agreement. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-30 Micallet: Kurt explained it is in lower Kittitas County, north of the Manastash Creek basin, mitigated by Kittitas County (Amerinvest) Water Bank, 1 well, 1 domestic supply, no irrigation, Stan says the calc's check OK, Tom OK, Jonathan looks good. **Thumbs Up.**
- 2017-31 Hasbargen: Upper Kittitas County SE of Easton, green zone with several previous proposals nearby, 1 well, 1 domestic supply, 500 ft² irrigation, mitigated by Kittitas County (Roth) Water Bank, contract use period is ok, everyone is OK with it. **Thumbs Up.**

Next Meeting:

- February 6, 2017, Monday @ 1:00 PM, YFO Conference Room
- New Proposals in by COB Monday, January 30, 2017.

2017 Future Meeting Schedule:

- Feb 6; Mar 6; Apr 3; May 1; June 5; July 10; all on Monday @1:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned.