

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 1, 2017, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Dave Brown, Stuart Crane, Elayne Hovde, Stan Isley, Jonathan Kohr, Chris Lynch, Larry Martin, Tom Ring, Jeff Slothower, Kurt Walker, Justin Bezold, Kelsey Collins, and... on the phone were Tom Ring, Arden Thomas, and Suzanne Blakeney.

- Approval of Minutes:

April 3, 2017 – the group approved the minutes.

Previous Business:

- 2017-43, 2017-45, and 2017-46 Big Creek WR LLC (Pending from last month): These WBN proposals will be mitigated with a water right originating in Big Creek. Ecology staff met to discuss local impacts to Big Creek flow that these new wells would have during the September 2 through October 31 base flow period. Water banker Pat Deneen has 0.9 ac-ft/yr of Big Creek winter stock water right he has agreed to use to mitigate for these 3 WBN proposals in the Big Creek watershed. **Thumbs Up for all three.**

New Business:

- 2017-51 Conner: Arden Thomas of WWT discussed this proposal related to the two Conner water rights from the Teanaway River. WWT has an existing late season lease of the two Conner water rights, and WWT is now permanently acquiring a portion of each water right. This proposal additionally calls for combining the separate contiguous places of use for the two Conner water rights into one consolidated place of use, and calls for adding a screened pumpsite diversion on the Teanaway River that they will use only when needed to allow the Conners to divert their full water right quantity when their primary diversion point from their pond does not produce enough to fully satisfy their water rights. Stan mentioned that WWT should get credit for the fallowed consumptive use for the whole month of September, not just for the first half of September. Kurt said Ecology's investigation would look at the Conners' actual historical irrigation practices to determine whether WWT will get credit for all of September's fallowed CU. Larry Martin suggested Ecology and WWT should ensure the Conners have enough Qi remainder to allow their continued use in September to irrigate their retained acreage. Larry suggested adding a table to the WTWG form to describe the existing water right(s) vs. the proposed water right(s) as changed. Stan mentioned he thought he saw some very minor rounding errors in the calculations, and

Arden said WWT and Ecology would make sure the quantities are accurate. Jon Kohr said this project is good for fish. **Thumbs Up.**

- **2017-52 Donogh Custom Homes:** Suzanne Blakeney of WWT presented this proposal to the group. This proposal is for one well for 3 WBN domestic uses, each irrigating 500 square feet of lawn and garden, using the Exchange Water Contract September 1st to March 31st, mitigated from the Masterson Water Bank. The well has previously been approved for other WBN uses. Stan noted two typos. The place of use is within R. 14 E., not R. 16 E., and the Exchange Contract water quantity should be 0.216 ac-ft/yr, not 0.0216 ac-ft/yr. Jon noted the description was somewhat confusing. **Thumbs Up, with the corrections.**
- **2017-53 Hackett and 2017-54 Pratt:** Justin Bezold of Trout Unlimited WWP described these proposals. TU is acquiring 5th class water rights on Manastash Creek on behalf of Ecology. These two proposals are the first, and Justin will likely have 4 more of these same type of proposals in the future. The places of use for these water rights all have overlapping KRD water. Justin checked with KRD, and KRD is okay supplying these parcels solely with KRD water in the future. These two Manastash Creek water rights would augment Manastash Creek instream flows during the April 1 to ~July 1 period, but do not enjoy full season availability. These instream flow water rights would terminate at Manastash Creek's confluence with the Yakima River, folding back into TWSA at that point. KCCD will reduce the diversion quantity at the Consolidated Diversion it manages, to place these water rights instream in Manastash Creek. This instream flow water will benefit spring-spawning steelhead in Manastash Creek. The group suggested Justin bring the 4 future proposals back for WTWG review at a future meeting. **Thumbs up for these two.**
- **2017-55 Hunt:** Kurt described this proposal to the group. It's for a WBN well for a single domestic supply and 500 square feet of lawn and garden irrigation, mitigated by the Burchak Water Bank. Stan said the Water Exchange Contract period should be 11/01 through 3-31 (not 9/01 – 3/31), since the Burchak mitigation water right provides in-time mitigation for this proposed use through October 31. This would also change/reduce the quantity of water assigned to the Exchange Contract. Jon commented that a problem exists with the unnamed creek in this area, and Mitch Long is going to put a better structure in for directing flow. Kurt said that was a condition of the Suncadia Water Bank and agreements to supplement need to be worked out before new WBN's are approved. The group was OK with this proposal. **Thumbs Up, with the corrections.**

Next Meeting:

- June 5, 2017, Monday @ 1:00 PM, YFO Conference Room
- New Proposals in by COB Tuesday, May 30, 2017.

2017 Future Meeting Schedule:

- June 5; July 10; August 7; August 28; October 2; November 6; December 4; January 8 2018; February 5; March 5 2018, all on Monday @1:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned.