

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes Monday, August 6, 2018, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

In the room: Chuck Garner, Stuart Crane, Tom Ring, Jeff Schuster, Erin Moore, Samantha Cox, Walt Larrick, Tyson Carlson, Kerrie Mathews, Larry Martin, Jon Kohr, Trevor Hutton, Scott Turner, and Jolee Ramos

On the phone: Megan O'Brien, Justin Bezold, and Mark Crowley

• Approval of Minutes:

June 4, 2018 – The group approved the draft meeting minutes posted on the website.

July 9, 2018 - The group approved the draft meeting minutes posted on the website.

Previous Business:

- Kittitas County Over-The-Counter (OTC) Mitigation Program Update. Erin Moore presented. The County issued 108 certificates through the program. There were 84 from Package A (275 gpd) and 24 from Package B (300 gpd). Out of that, 31 certificates issued from the Roth-Clennon water right (13 from Package A and 18 from Package B); 4 issued from the William water right (all for Package A); and 73 issued from the Amerivest water right (67 from Package A and 6 from Package B). The actual numbers are lower than the projections, but the County expects to see those numbers rise because applicants must obtain building permits within two years of receiving the mitigation certificates. There is no extension process, and Kittitas tracks refunds and close applications to avoid double counting. The maps provided include both exempt and non-exempt certificates issued.
- Overview of G4-35799(D). Trevor Hutton presented. Ecology presented the original permit to the group about a year ago. The current change is a change in place of use and point of withdrawal consistent with areas already approved as part of the OTC program. There is no equivalent change to the exempt OTC program. The intent is to have the POU mirror the green zones as we update them. Portions of Taneum and Manastash were excluded for local availability reasons. It broadens the scope of the permit to accurately reflect the groundwater source and reflect the groundwater body model. It will also assist the county with a simpler implementation of the permit. The area is completely within the green zone, and is all for quantities previously approved by the group. The County's program tracks the well locations and how they are integrated with the surface water sources. The information can be downloaded from the County's suitability map. The change did not go through the WTWG. There is language in the one pagers presented to group that references the yellow zones, but the permits are only intended to address green zones. There was no reference to yellow zones found in the ROE.

New Business:

- **2018-23 – Bill Walmer (G4-35960).** Scott Turner presented. The proposal is for one residential connection at 350 gpd used year round and 500 square feet of lawn and garden irrigation, mitigated by Trailside's right (CS4-02223CTCLsb2@1). The Exchange Contract won't be used. The hydrogeology review shows impact would hit Spex Arth

creek. Trailside has an on-site, in-basin storage facility. Ecology is trying to get updated reporting from Trailside of mitigation pond inflows and outflows, as required by previous authorizations. The group requested a copy of the Trailside trust water agreements, which is a group of several documents. Ecology will provide that to the group on the WTWG website. **Thumbs up.**

- **2018-24 – John Davis (G4-35985).** Scott Turner presented. The proposal is for one residential connection at 275 gpd used year round and 500 square feet of lawn and garden irrigation, mitigated by Kittitas County's Roth right (CS4-01676sb5d@2b(B)). The Exchange Contract will be used to address out-of-season impacts (9/1 – 3/31). Total consumptive use is 0.137 ac-ft/yr. The use is in the upper part of Big Creek. The hydrogeology review suggests the well should be drilled west of the knob area in the parcel. **Thumbs up.**
- **2018-25 – Brian Patton (CS4-01676sb5@7 (KIT-18-01)).** Megan O'Brien presented. The applicant is proposing to place the right in the TWRP for instream flow and mitigation. The right was confirmed for 0.64 cfs, 173.2 ac-ft/yr, 27.3 acres for irrigation. There was a stock water portion that was not protected and has likely relinquished. It is a Class 16 right that originated in the Teanaway and was later changed. The right is not reliable past July 23rd. No mitigated use has been identified at this time, but availability will be considered in future mitigation. CIR was determined using the Penman-Monteith methodology, which identified irrigation requirements in April and October. These requirements were accounted for in May and September in the irrigation schedules provided. TIR is 103.78 ac-ft. The group discussed how to properly assign consumptive use outside of the authorized season of use. There was also discussion that local practice and the climate has changed as well. Additionally, there have been at least three changes on other portions of the claim. USBR has concerns based on the availability issue and the fact that imagery is not conclusive the water was applied consistently. Aspect noted that the right was confirmed in the Elk Heights subbasin adjudication in 2001, and there has not been non-use for a period of more than five years since then. Ecology is still in the process of their review of the conservancy board's decision. **The group recommends this come back to the group once Ecology's review is more complete.**
- **2018-26 – Meany Lodge (Pending Application).** Tyson Carlson presented. Meany Lodge is backcountry ski lodge near Stampede pass on the east side of the railroad. DOH informed them they couldn't use surface water for potable supply because of water quality issues. They have had a pre-meeting with Ecology, and are proposing mitigation through the Cabin Owner program (0.30 ac-ft consumptive use for year round domestic supply). They would retain their outdoor diversion for fire protection. WDFW could not find Tombstone Creek, and wants to know if the diversion is screened because there are non-ESA listed species in Stampede Creek. Aspect believes it comes from a cistern and will verify. **Thumbs up.**

Other business:

- The next meeting will be held on August 27th, instead of the first week in September.