

WATER TRANSFER WORKING GROUP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

APPLICATION NO./COURT CLAIM NO. Nos. G4-35927, S4-35928, S4-35929, S4-35930, S4-35931, S4-35933, S4-35934, S4-35937, S4-35943, and two pending.		
APPLICANT NAME Multiple, all within the Cooper Lake Cabin Community	CONTACT NAME Kelsey Collins	TELEPHONE NO. 509-575-2640
WATER RIGHT HOLDER'S NAME (if different) Multiple		EMAIL KESI461@ECY.WA.GOV

DATE OF APPLICATION May – June, 2017	PRIORITY DATE Post 1905; mitigated by trust water right with June 30, 1873 priority date
---	---

WATER SOURCE: Cooper Lake and River	CROP: N/A - Indoor Use Only
INSTANTANEOUS QUANTITY: 0.05 cfs (each); 0.55 cfs (total)	ANNUAL QUANTITY: 0.11 acre-feet (consumptive use)
PERIOD OF USE: Continuous – year round	
PLACE OF USE: SW1/4 Section 1 T. 22 N., R. 13 E.W.M.	PURPOSE OF USE: Single domestic for up to 11 cabins
IRRIGATION METHOD: N/A	

CONSUMPTIVE USE CALCULATION: New Mitigated Water Right - Ecology has determined (Ecology 2006) that the average seasonal recreational cabin uses approximately 100 gallons per day (gpd) or 0.03 ac-ft/yr for occupancy up to 105 days per year. Assuming 30 percent of total use is consumptive; each cabin would require up to 0.01 ac-ft/yr. Therefore, for the 11 unpermitted cabins in the Cooper Lake community, 0.11 ac-ft/yr will be required to fully mitigate the new water rights.
--

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: As directed by Senate Bill 6861, Ecology is providing water banking opportunities for Yakima Basin Cabin Owners with junior claims (post-1905) to purchase senior mitigation credits to offset the consumptive use of water during years of rationing by the US Bureau of Reclamation. Ecology proposes to offset 0.11 ac-ft/yr of consumptive use with mitigation credits from Trust Water Right Nos. CS4-00195CTCL(A)sb6, CS4-00195CTCL(B)sb6, and CS4-00195CTCL(C)sb6 – collectively known as Bruton Ditch. The Bruton Ditch project was presented to the WTWG on September 14, 2009.
--

Of the 60 ac-ft/yr currently assigned to the USBR-Ecology Exchange Contract (Contract No. 09XX101700) under the Bruton Ditch project, up to 0.11 ac-ft will be allocated to the subject applications to address impacts to TWSA.

PROPOSED USBR-ECOLOGY CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT RATIONALE

Diversion of surface water during rationing years will impact flows in the Yakima River when TWSA irrigation supply period is in effect.

IMPACT ANALYSIS

The points of diversion are located directly on Cooper Lake the uppermost reach of the Cooper River. A typical diversion consists of a small electric, gas, or human powered pump along the shoreline of Cooper Lake at a point directly adjacent to each individual cabin. Water is diverted conveyed a short distance to the cabin for general domestic use. Water which is not consumptively used is discharged to an individual on-site septic or drainfield, returning to Cooper Lake and/or river. Every diversion is individually metered.

In addition, there is one community well with a handpump that provides for drinking water for the community. Water is hand pumped, placed in containers (i.e., 5 gallon jugs), and carried to an adjacent cabin for use.

The Cle Elum and lower reaches of the Cooper River provide spawning and rearing habitat for ESA-listed species, including Bull Trout and Chinook Salmon. No ESA-listed species are present in Cooper Lake. However, the total diversion volume – defined as the total Q_a normalized over a 6-month period – is less than 0.5 gpm, below 1 percent of seasonal low flow of the Cooper and Cle Elum Rivers; therefore, no ESA consultation has been conducted.

Low-flow stream gaging conducted in 2015 indicate seasonal low-flow discharge rates of 76.19 and 36.96 cfs in the Cle Elum and Cooper Rivers, respectively.

CONCLUSION

During rationing years, the availability of water to satisfy TWSA in the Yakima River will not be impacted if up to 0.11 ac-ft were held and released from Cle Elum Lake. Assignment of 0.11 ac-ft would be in compliance with the consultation threshold in paragraph 18(b) of the USBR-Ecology contract.

REFERENCES

Ecology 2011. Columbia River Instream Atlas Project, Publication Number: 11-12-015. Prepared by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. September 2011.

Reclamation, 2005. Phase I Assessment Report, Storage Dam Fish Passage Study, Yakima Project, Washington. Revised April 2005

WDFW. SalmonScape. <http://wdfw.wa.gov/mapping/salmonscape/index.html>.