

# WATER TRANSFER WORKING GROUP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

APPLICATION NO./COURT CLAIM NO. KIT 23-XX / S4-84229-J(A)		
APPLICANT NAME Michael Moeur, Sr.; Betty Moeur; Michael Moeur, Jr.	CONTACT NAME Justin Bezold (Trout Unlimited)	TELEPHONE NO. 509-881-5464
WATER RIGHT HOLDER'S NAME (if different) Flying M Ranch LLC (administratively dissolved to Moeurs)		EMAIL justin.bezold@tu.org

DATE OF APPLICATION April 18, 2023	PRIORITY DATE June 30, 1889
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WATER SOURCE: Yakima River	CROP: Alfalfa/pasture/yard
INSTANTANEOUS QUANTITY: 0.48 cfs	ANNUAL QUANTITY: <i>acre-feet/year</i> 100.42 (21.17 consumptive) for irrigation; 4.13 (3.59 consumptive) for stockwater
PERIOD OF USE: April 1 – October 15 for irrigation, continuous stockwater	
PLACE OF USE: That portion of the SE1/4 of Section 24 and the NE1/4NE1/4 Section 25, T. 17 N., R. 18 E.W.M., lying west of the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way; EXCEPT, the north 300 feet of the NW1/4SE1/4 of Section 24, T. 17 N., R. 18 E.W.M.	PURPOSE OF USE: Irrigation and stockwater
IRRIGATION METHOD: Sprinklers / wheel-line	

CONSUMPTIVE USE CALCULATION: Not applicable – no change
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<p><b>NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:</b></p> <p>The present project will move the point of diversion for water right S4-84229-J(A) from the Tjossem Ditch headworks on a side-channel of the Yakima River to a pond in continuity with the Yakima River within acreage owned by the applicant. Once complete, the applicant will with pump water from the pond on their property and use it for irrigation/stockwater.</p> <p>This point of diversion change is part of the larger Tjossem Ditch Retirement project that TU is advancing (see below). The existing point of diversion is located at 300 feet north and 1200 feet east from the southwest corner of Section 11, being within the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 11, T. 17 N., R. 18 E.W.M., which is also known as the Tjossem Ditch headworks—a once common point of diversion for multiple water rights. The new point of diversion will be located within (approx.) the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 24, T 17 N., R 18 E.W.M.</p> <p><b>Project Background / Supporting Information:</b></p> <p>The Tjossem Ditch headworks are located in a side-channel of the Yakima River near Ellensburg, WA. These headworks have been the authorized point of diversion (POD) for at least 7 different water users with numerous water rights. Historically, the headworks diverted 10 cubic-feet-per-second (cfs) or more into a two-plus mile-long earthen ditch network that conveyed water for irrigation and stockwatering across</p>
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Yakima River floodplain to reach all of the authorized places of use (POU) for Tjossem Ditch water users. Due to a minimally functional fish screen and bypass, fish that entered the Tjossem Ditch have been likely to become trapped and cut-off from an easy return to the river. The lack of a functioning fish bypass at the fish screen, which is located nearly a mile from the headworks, compounds the situation and effectively sentences fish that enter the Tjossem Ditch to death. Given that the proposed water right change helps further the closing of Tjossem Ditch as a diversion point, it also advances USBOR's Schaake property restoration objectives and the goals of the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan. Once it is closed to irrigation diversions, all fish, resident and anadromous salmonids and non-salmonids, will no longer be subject to mortality associated with the Tjossem Ditch.

WTWG Project form

## S4-84229-J(A) - POD Change 2023

