

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes Monday, December 3, 2018, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

In the room: Tristen Lamb, Erin Moore, Samantha Cox, Tom Ring, Chris Lynch, Stuart Crane, Jon Kohr, Dave Brown, Stan Isley, Scott Turner, Chris Kossik, Jolee Ramos

On the phone: Jeff Schuster, Jessica Kuchan

- Approval of Minutes:

November 5, 2018 – The group approved the draft meeting minutes posted on the website.

Previous Business:

- None.

New Business:

- 2019-12 – TS Bransford (G4-36003). Chris Kossik presented. The proposal is for one residential connection at 275 gpd used year round with no outdoor irrigation, mitigated by Kittitas County's Amerivest right (CS4-01968sb11a(Bb)). The Exchange Contract will not be used. The location is in the yellow zone, with pumping impacts expected to hit the Yakima River. WDFW commented that there was not much water near the place of use and there are no known hydraulic project approvals nearby. **Thumbs up.**
- 2019-13 – Cardwell (G4-36008). Chris Kossik presented. The proposal is for one residential connection at 275 gpd used year round with 500 square feet of lawn and garden irrigation, mitigated by Kittitas County's Amerivest right (CS4-01968sb11a(Bb)). The Exchange Contract will not be used. The location is in the red zone with a note that the red zone is drawn by the KRD canal; hydrogeology review suggests impacts will be to the Yakima River and potentially Park Creek. WDFW noted it hadn't been consulted and that there are a number of barriers below the location of the proposed new well. The group discussed red, yellow, and green zone boundaries and when supplemental ESA consultation should occur. Yakama Nation and WDFW requested further explanation as to why a withdrawal in the red zone would not harm fish, habitat, or existing users. WDFW additionally questioned if there was a screen on the diversion and wanted to know if Park Creek dries up seasonally at this location. **Recommended that the proposal come back with additional information requested. Ecology proposed to send out additional information via email with opportunity for the group to offer votes via email, and the group was okay with that.**
- 2019-14 – Call (G4-36021). Chris Kossik presented. The proposal is for one residential connection at 275 gpd used year round with 500 square feet of lawn and garden irrigation, mitigated by Kittitas County's Reecer Creek right (CS4-02261sb7@2(B)). The Exchange Contract will be used to address out of season impacts (9/01-3/31). Pumping impacts are expected to hit the Yakima River. The WBN is within the area of Permit No. G4-35799(A) held by Kittitas County. **Thumbs up.**

Other business:

- Kittitas County Over-the-Counter Water Budget Neutral Program Proposal – 2018 Amendment. Erin Moore presented. Kittitas County is requesting approval to issue mitigation certificates to WBN permit-exempt well water uses through their Over-the-Counter (OTC) program in yellow areas covered by permits G4-35799 (Portions A, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, M, and N). The amendment requests no additional authorizations or places of use beyond what the current permits authorize; it mirrors in permit-exempt uses what they already have permit coverage for. The green zones are already covered by the OTC program, and there are no red zones in the requested area. Reports would be provided to WTWG twice each year that detail how many certificates issue, which package they issue from (A or B), which groundwater source they are from, and which right they are mitigated by. Yakama Nation requested a map that shows the yellow areas within the places of use for the permits where Kittitas County proposes to issue WBN permit-exempt mitigation water authorizations. **The decision is deferred until that map is provided.**