

## Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes Monday, August 5, 2019, @ 1:00 PM

### Attendees:

In the room: Tom Ring, Danielle Squeochs, Scott Turner, Talia Ibargüen, Chuck Garner, Kerrie Mathews, David Brown, Justin Bezold, Erin Eaton, Jonathan Kohr, Larry Martin, Stuart Crane

On the phone: Peter Dykstra, Arden Thomas

### Approval of Minutes:

- July 1, 2019 - KID and WDFW both had comments on the posted minutes. The comments will be addressed in the draft minutes and re-posted for review. The minutes will be up for approval at the August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Previous Business:

- 2019-38 – SERC (G4-32977-19). This project was voted on via email prior to the August meeting in order to meet Ecology's processing deadlines. The group wanted to clarify that when the one pager said the proponent applied in the 2015 drought, it meant the application was also approved in the 2015 drought and that it was the same source for the same proposed use. Ecology indicated the 2015 application was approved for the same source and proposed use.
- The group noted generally that Ecology one pagers for drought should indicate where the mitigation is coming from and how drought mitigation will be accounted for in terms of the emergency well program as a whole. Ecology noted that mitigation for the drought applications is from Ecology's portfolio of rights in the Trust Water Rights Program, with additional mitigation to be acquired and applied over the next 5 years using the fees collected from the 2019 drought applications.

### New Business:

- **2019-40 – Wyckoff Farms (CS4-01180sb12@1) and 2019-41 – Donald Cold Storage (CS4-01180sb12@2).** Scott Turner presented. These two changes are two parts of the same transfer. A previous portion of the transfer was presented to the group in 2018 under the name of Wooden Shoe (WTWG 2019-03). Under the current applications, 52.7 acres would be fallowed and the place of use of the parent right proportionately reduced. The purpose of the water rights will be changed to instream flow and mitigation, with the water parked in the Trust Water Rights Program (Trust) for now. The group briefly discussed the quantities, but Ecology is still reviewing the Conservancy Board ROEs. The group questioned who would check the acres are fallowed, and Ecology verified that the watermaster would be responsible for compliance checks. **Thumbs up for both changes as long as the math checks out.**
- **2019-42 – Trust for Public Lands (CS4-00497sb9 and CS4-00497sb9@1).** Justin Bezold presented. Between the two rights, 88 acres of irrigation will be fallowed. There is a stockwater portion of the rights that was not assigned an annual quantity by the Yakima

County Superior Court. There are multiple water duties based on flood and sprinkler irrigation. A total of 3 cfs and approximately 269 ac-ft/yr will go instream to be managed by Ecology. The primary reach will be approximately 1.25 miles long, beginning at Tjossem ditch point of diversion on the Schaake property owned by the US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and continuing downstream to the end of the property line of the place of use. Both the primary and secondary reaches will ultimately be quantified in Ecology's ROE. The acquisition is part of Kittitas County's back mitigation efforts, so in prorated years, no quantities will be counted toward flows over Parker and Prosser, but the full amount would be counted at both gages in non-proratable years. These changes result from a streamflow restoration grant - the project is part of a larger effort for getting all water users off the Tjossem ditch and also part of Kittitas County land acquisition for floodplain restoration. This diversion reduction will diminish Tjossem ditch flows, and may not leave enough water to reach down ditch users. Trout Unlimited, Kittitas County, and Reclamation have all been working closely on the Schaake and Tjossem ditch projects, and Reclamation noted that want to make sure there are no negative impacts to downstream users. WDFW has concerns about other ditch user compliance. The group is relying on Ecology to do compliance monitoring. The group discussed ways to stop the irrigation ditch use.

**Thumbs up as long as the math checks out.**

Other business:

- The USBR proration forecast has been updated to 69%. Ecology will calculate drought applications based on the updated figure.