WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

STEVENS COUNTY
WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD
Application for Change/Transfer
Record of Decision

For Ecology Use Only
Received: RECEIVED NOV 21 2012 DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
Reviewed by: _____
Date Reviewed: _____

Applicant: Hunters Water District

Application Number: STEV-12-02

This record of decision was made by a majority of the board at an open public meeting of the Stevens County Water Conservancy Board held on September 17, 2012. The undersigned board commissioners certify that they each understand the board is responsible "to ensure that all relevant issues identified during its evaluation of the application, or which are raised by any commenting party during the board's evaluation process, are thoroughly evaluated and discussed in the board's deliberations. These discussions must be fully documented in the report of examination." [WAC 173-153-130(5)] The undersigned therefore, certifies that each commissioner, having reviewed the report of examination, knows and understands the content of the report.

☒ **Approval:** The Stevens County Water Conservancy Board hereby **grants** conditional approval for the water right transfer described and conditioned within the report of examination on November 19, 2012 and submits this record of decision and report of examination to the Department of Ecology for final review.

☐ **Denial:** The (board name) Water Conservancy Board hereby **denies** conditional approval for the water right transfer as described within the report of examination on (date report of exam was signed) and submits this record of decision to the Department of Ecology for final review.

Signed:

Jim Gleaton, Chair
Stevens County Water Conservancy Board

Date: 11/19/12
Approve ☒ Deny ☐ Abstain ☐ Recuse ☐ Other ☐

Wes McCart, Vice Chair
Stevens County Water Conservancy Board

Date: _____
Approve ☐ Deny ☐ Abstain ☐ Recuse ☐ Other ☐

Luke McGuire, Treasurer
Stevens County Water Conservancy Board

Date: 11/19/12
Approve ☒ Deny ☐ Abstain ☐ Recuse ☐ Other ☐

Tom Sparley, Member
Stevens County Water Conservancy Board

Date: 11/19/12
Approve ☒ Deny ☐ Abstain ☐ Recuse ☐ Other ☐

Mailed with all related documents to the Dept of Ecology Eastern Regional Office, and other interested parties on November 23, 2012

If you have special accommodation needs or require this form in alternate format, please contact 360-407-6607 (Voice) or 711 (TTY) or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

STEVENS COUNTY
WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD
Application for Change/Transfer
OF A RIGHT TO THE BENEFICIAL USE OF THE PUBLIC WATERS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

Report of Examination

RECEIVED
NOV 2 1 2012
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

NOTE TO APPLICANT: Pursuant to WAC 173-153-130(8), the applicant is not permitted to proceed to act on the proposal until Ecology makes a final decision affirming, in whole or in part, the board's recommendation. It is advised that the applicant not proceed until the appeal period of Ecology's decision is complete.

☒ Surface Water ☒ Ground Water

DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	WATER RIGHT DOCUMENT NUMBER (i.e., claim, permit, certificate, etc.)	WATER RIGHT PRIORITY DATE	BOARD-ASSIGNED CHANGE APPLICATION NUMBER
May 21, 2012	Permit G3-22369P	January 14, 1974	STEV-12-02

NAME: Hunters Water District, Ron Bircher

ADDRESS (STREET)	(CITY)	(STATE)	(ZIP CODE)
PO Box ~~98~~ 107	Hunters	WA	99137

Changes Proposed: ☐ Change purpose ☐ Add purpose ☐ Add irrigated acres ☐ Change point of diversion/withdrawal

X Add point of diversion/withdrawal ☐ Change place of use ☐ Other (Temporary, Trust, Interties, etc.)_____

SEPA
The board has reviewed the provisions of the State Environmental Policy Act of 1971, Chapter 43.21C RCW and the SEPA rules, chapter 197-11 WAC and has determined the application is: ☒ Exempt ☐ Not exempt

BACKGROUND AND DECISION SUMMARY

Existing Right (Tentative Determination)

MAXIMUM CUB FT/ SECOND	MAXIMUM GAL/MINUTE	MAXIMUM ACRE-FT/YR	TYPE OF USE, PERIOD OF USE
	200	31	Continuous Domestic Supply- year round

SOURCE	TRIBUTARY OF (IF SURFACE WATER)
Groundwater (lower confined aquifer Hunters Creek) and Two (2) Wells	

AT A POINT LOCATED: PARCEL NO.	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE	WRIA	COUNTY
(1) 8000999 (AHC-125) – SO2	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(2) 8000999 (AHC-126) – SO1	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY ON WHICH WATER IS USED

The service area described in the current Hunters Water District (HWD) Water System Plan approved by the Washington State Department of Health.

PARCEL NO.	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE,
			5,6,7,8	30N	37E
			12	30N	36E

Proposed Use

MAXIMUM CUB FT/ SECOND	MAXIMUM GAL/MINUTE	MAXIMUM ACRE-FT/YR	TYPE OF USE, PERIOD OF USE
	200	31	Continuous Domestic Supply- year round

SOURCE	TRIBUTARY OF (IF SURFACE WATER)
Groundwater (lower confined aquifer Hunters Creek) and Three (3) Wells	

AT A POINT LOCATED: PARCEL NO.	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE	WRIA	COUNTY
(1) 8000999 (AHC-125) – SO2	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(2) 8000999 (AHC-126) – SO1	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(3) 8009775 (AEH-249)	NW	NE	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY ON WHICH WATER IS USED

The service area described in the current Hunters Water District (HWD) Water System Plan approved by the Washington State Department of Health.

PARCEL NO.	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE,
			5,6,7,8	30N	37E
			12	30N	36E

Board's Decision on the Application

MAXIMUM CUB FT/ SECOND	MAXIMUM GAL/MINUTE	MAXIMUM ACRE-FT/YR	TYPE OF USE, PERIOD OF USE
	200	31	Continuous Domestic Supply- year round

SOURCE	TRIBUTARY OF (IF SURFACE WATER)
Groundwater (lower confined aquifer Hunters Creek) and Three (3) Wells	

AT A POINT LOCATED: PARCEL NO. (See Note Below)	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE	WRIA	COUNTY
(1) 8000999 (AHC-125) – SO2	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(2) 8000999 (AHC-126) – SO1	NE	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(3) 8009775 (AEH-249)	NW	NE	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens
(4) 8000999 (BCH-092) – SO3	E1/2	NW	07	30N	37E	58	Stevens

Note: Withdrawal SO2 was taken out of service and is now a monitoring well and replaced with SO3 as outlined in the Showing of Compliance form dated August 30th, 2012. SO1 and SO3 will remain as supply wells and AEH-249 will only be used for non-agricultural irrigation at the school facility.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY ON WHICH WATER IS USED

The place of use (POU) of this water right is the service area described in the most recent Water System Plan approved by the Washington State Department of Health, so long as the water system is and remains in compliance with the criteria in RCW 90.03.386(2). RCW 90.03.386 may have the effect of revising the place of use of this water right.

PARCEL NO.	¼	¼	SECTION	TOWNSHIP N.	RANGE,
			5,6,7,8	30N	37E
			12	30N	36E

Note: This application is being reviewed in conjunction with the change application submitted for Water Right No. G3-25239C, Stevens County Water Conservancy Board Application STEV-12-03.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORKS

Two wells (Ecology Well Tag IDs AHC125 and AHC126) are currently listed as withdrawal points on the existing G3-22369 permit and are located in a well house on Hunters Campground Road (N48.11842, W-118.20521) for the Hunters Water District (HWD) water supply system. Currently, well AHC126 (SO1), an 8-inch well completed to a depth of 238 feet below grade is the main supply well. The second well, AHC 125 (SO2), completed to a depth of 189 feet below grade, was taken off-line in July 2012 and is currently used as a monitoring well. Water is withdrawn from the wells and is conveyed into an arsenic treatment plant located adjacent to the pump house where the water is treated prior to distribution throughout the Hunters Water District service area. The arsenic treatment plant became operational in February 2011. In 2008, the Columbia School District (CSD) was connected to the HWD distribution system for use within the school, as requested by the Washington State Department of Health. The water distribution system which formerly served the school, was modified to withdraw water for non-agricultural irrigation purposes only, so treated water supplied by the HWD would not be used for irrigation. A detailed description of the water system is provided in the most recent water system plan for the Hunters Water District.

In July 2012, after submittal of the change application to the Board, the HWD received funding to install a new backup well. Well BCH092 was completed on 7/17/12 and installed to a depth of 200 feet below grade. The well was installed immediately outside the existing pump house. The well was completed into the same confined aquifer as SO1 and SO2, and was under artesian flowing conditions. The HWD will connect this well into the water system to replace well SO2 (AHC125) as the emergency backup well for the system and identified as SO3 in the water system plan. Well SO2 will be converted to a monitoring well and not be used for water supply in the future. On August 15th, 2012 the HWD submitted a "Showing of Compliance with RCW 90.44.100(3)" to the Department of Ecology notifying them that an additional well was being added to G3-22369P. The HWD had discussions with Ecology notifying them that SO2 will be taken offline and converted to a monitoring well. A copy of this form and the new well log are included in the file.

DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

BEGIN PROJECT BY THIS DATE:	COMPLETE PROJECT BY THIS DATE:	COMPLETE CHANGE AND PUT WATER TO FULL USE BY THIS DATE:
Started	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2018

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Hunters UGA is located in eastern Washington, along the east side of Lake Roosevelt within Township 30 North, Range 37 E.W.M., Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8. The HWD has two approved groundwater wells and the CSD has one well used under their existing water rights located in Section 7. The HWD water supply wells and distribution system are located on Hunters Campground Road, immediately west of the Community of Hunters. These wells withdraw groundwater and then are treated for distribution to the water users within the Hunters Water District. A third well is located in the parking lot of the Columbia School District where water is withdrawn for direct application for irrigation of the grounds at the school.

There are currently three wells associated with the application submitted to the Board and a fourth which was installed in July 2012 to replace an existing well as described in Showing of Compliance Form dated 8/15/2012. Well AHC-125 (SO2) was installed by the Department of Natural Resource in December 1970 and was given to the HWD when the District was being formed. This well eventually sanded in and could not be used for a reliable water supply. Well AHC-126 (SO1) was installed by Hunters in June 1985 and is the main water supply well. Well AEH-249 was installed by the Columbia School District in August 1962 and was the main water supply well to the School. An additional well was installed by the applicant after the submission of this application. Well BCH092 was completed on 7/17/12 and installed to a depth of 200 feet below grade. The well was installed immediately outside the existing pump house. The well was completed into the same confined aquifer as SO1 and SO2, and was under artesian flowing conditions. The HWD will connect this well into the water system to replace well SO2 (AHC125) as the emergency backup well for the system and is identified as SO3 in the water system plan. Well SO2 will be converted to a monitoring well and not be used for water supply in the future. On August 15th, 2012 the HWD submitted a "Showing of Compliance with RCW 90.44.100(3)" to the Department of Ecology notifying them that an additional well was being added to G3-22369P. The HWD had discussions with Ecology notifying them that SO2 will be taken offline and converted to a monitoring well. A copy of this form and the new well log are included in the file.

Groundwater permit G3-22369P is currently owned by the Hunters Water District. The original application was filed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources on January 14th, 1974. The original application requested 200 gpm and 70 AF per year. On December 17th, 1980, the Washington State DNR assigned the permit over to the Hunters Water District which was forming at that time. It appears an original permit to appropriate pubic groundwater was issued on July 30th, 1974. In November 1980, Cunningham Engineers submitted information for the Proof of Appropriation to Ecology. Prior to issuing the certificate, Ecology noted that some changes had been made from the time of the original application. Ecology prepared a change application in December 1982 which added a point of withdrawal and changed the place of use. These changes were advertised in June 1983 and the revised Permit was issued. Another Proof of Appropriation was filed in August-September 1983. On October 17th, 1983, superseeding permit No. G3-22369P was issued which supersedes the original permit issued on 7/30/1974. This superseding permit had an identified Qi of 200 gpm, and a Qa of 31 AF/year, to be withdrawn from 2 wells. In October 1983, Ecology issued an extension on the permit for the development schedule from 10/1/1982 to 10/1/1984, and attempted to schedule the field visit for the Proof of Appropriation. The progress sheet has some notations dated 10/1/1986 that the water was put to beneficial use, but no final certificate was issued. No final field visit appears to have been conducted by Ecology.

One change application is on file for groundwater permit G3-22369, which was filed with Ecology on June 12, 2009. This change application was filed for the purposes of seeking potential new water withdrawal points in the Hunters valley. The application was filed for issuance of a preliminary permit to conduct aquifer testing. The HWD drilled two wells in Section 12 (one south of the Hunters Campground Road, and one within the NPS property by the campground). These wells did not find potential new points of withdrawal that were not impaired by arsenic. This change application is still on file with Ecology and no action is currently being undertaken. The HWD will withdraw this application.

The HWD also filed two new applications for additional water allocations. G3-30595 was filed on June 12, 2009 to seek an additional 31 AF and 200 gpm from potential new wells in the Hunters Creek drainage. This application was rejected by Ecology in a letter from Mr. Kevin Brown on February 1, 2011, due to the HWD not pursuing the application at that time. A second water right application was filed on June 12, 2009 for the potential allocation of Columbia River Valley water. This application, G3-30596A, requested 500 gpm and 150 AF of water for the HWD. This application is currently open and being evaluated by Ecology.

Groundwater certificate G-25329C was owned by the Columbia School District (CSD), who filed the original application on April 15th, 1977. The application requested 30 gpm, 34.4 AF/year (28 AF/yr continuously for providing water to 250 students, and 6.4 AF/yr, to irrigate 2 acres from April 1 through October 1 of each year). The Permit was issued to the school District on 12/12/1978. The well used for the original school supply was drilled in 1961, and could yield 200 gpm with 67.2 feet of drawdown as documented in a November 1961 pump test. Since the time the Permit was issued in 1978, the school district has utilized the water for the school each year.

In November 2004, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) notified the CSD they were exceeding the 10 ppb arsenic MCL. In April 2006, the DOH informed the CSD that they would have to start conducting quarterly monitoring for arsenic due to the water quality exceedences. In January 2007, the DOH finally sent a letter to CSD that their system has violation of MCL for arsenic and some mitigation had to be completed. In March 2007, the CSD entered into a bilateral agreement with the HWD to have water provided to the school, and the intertie was completed in early 2008. In August 2008, the CSD water system was no longer recognized by the DOH for domestic supply. CSD is still using water for non-agricultural irrigation of the school grounds.

Once the CSD was connected to the HWD, per guidance from the DOH, the HWD approached the CSD regarding their water rights. At that time the HWD was exceeding their annual diversion quantities. This was occurring due to growth management criteria and connecting water users to the system to avoid withdrawal of the arsenic impaired waters within the Hunters Creek drainage. On October 20th, 2011, the CSD and HWD entered into an agreement and the CSD water rights were quitclaimed to the HWD. A copy of the agreement and quitclaim deed is enclosed in the file.

On May 21st, 2012 The Hunters Water District of Hunters, Washington filed an application to add points of withdrawal under Groundwater Permit No. G3-22369 with the Board. With the current change application, the Hunters Water District is requesting to:

- Add an additional authorized point of withdrawal to include the former CSD well to the existing two points of withdrawal (SO1 and SO3) currently owned by the HWD

The application was accepted at the Board's open public meeting on May 21st, 2012, and was assigned the following processing number: STEV-12-02. Application STEV-12-02 is the subject of this Report of Examination.

Attributes of the water right as currently documented

Name on Permit: Hunters Water District

Water right document number: Ground Water Right Permit No. G3-22369P

Priority date, first use: January 14, 1974

Water quantities: Qi: 200 gpm Qa: 31 acre-ft/ year

Source: Lower confined aquifer in Hunters Creek drainage, 2 wells

Points of diversion/withdrawal: Groundwater – Two (2) Wells: #SO1) 1125 feet south and 385 feet west from the N1/4 corner of Sec. 7; #SO2) 1125 feet south and 400 feet west from the N1/4 corner of Sec. 7; both in NE1/4NW1/4, Section 7, Township 30 N, Range 37 E.W.M.

Purpose of use: Community Domestic Supply

Period of use: Continuous

Place of use: The service area described in the current Hunters Water District Water System Plan within T30N, R37 E.W.M., and approved by the Washington State Department of Health.

NOTE: On August 15th, 2012 the HWD submitted a "Showing of Compliance with RCW 90.44.100(3)" to the Department of Ecology notifying them that an additional well was being added to G3-22369P. The HWD had discussions with Ecology notifying them that SO2 will be taken offline and converted to a monitoring well. A new well SO3 (BCH-092) was completed in July 2012 and will replace well SO2.

Tentative determination of the water right

The tentative determination is provided on the front page of this report. The Board finds that Ground Water Right Permit No. G3-22369P is valid and has not been abandoned or relinquished.

History of water use

In the mid 1980's the Hunters Water District was forming and the Washington DNR assigned over their water right permit to service the residents in the Hunters UGA. Since that time, the HWD has been serving the residents in the area. In November 2004, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) notified the CSD they were exceeding the 10 ppb arsenic MCL. In April 2006, the DOH informed the CSD that they would have to start conducting quarterly monitoring for arsenic due to the water quality exceedences. In January 2007, the DOH finally sent a letter to CSD that their system has violation of MCL for arsenic and some mitigation had to be completed. In March 2007, the CSD entered into a bilateral agreement with the HWD to have water provided to the school, and the intertie was completed in early 2008. In August 2008, the CSD water system was no longer recognized by the DOH.

Once the CSD was connected to the HWD, per guidance from the DOH, the HWD approached the CSD regarding their water rights. At that time the HWD was exceeding their annual diversion quantities. This was occurring due to growth management criteria and connecting water users to the system to avoid withdrawal of the arsenic impaired waters within the Hunters Creek drainage. On October 20th, 2011, the CSD and HWD entered into an agreement and the CSD water rights were quitclaimed to the HWD. A copy of the agreement and quitclaim deed is enclosed in the file.

In 2010-2011, the HWD has installed an arsenic treatment system within their delivery system to supply a clean supply of water to the residents and school within the HWD.

The HWD has been serving the residents of the area in accordance with the requirements of the Growth Management Act, and under the direction of the Health Department to minimize the exposure of arsenic to the local residents in the area. No detailed records have been kept on the quantities of water pumped by the HWD. Since the upgrades to the water system in 2011, a meter has been installed.

Water right permit No. G3-22369P allows the HWD to withdraw 31 AF per year for continuous domestic use to serve the community of Hunters. The HWD has recently installed an arsenic treatment system in their water system in order to safely serve the water users within the water district service area. Information on the design and installation of the arsenic treatment system is on file at the DOH. The system was design and installed by Belsby Engineering of Spokane, WA. The HWD water right is not sufficient enough to serve the water users connected to the HWD Water supply system. The HWD has been working with Ecology to seek new water sources to meet the demands of the community of Hunters. Options have included filing applications to request water from the FDR drawdown allocations, and potentially from the Sullivan Lake water. These applications are still on file with Ecology and are planned to remain through the upcoming Ecology evaluation period. The applications currently being evaluated by the Stevens County Water Conservancy Board will not affect the status of the Ecology applications, as they are requested for existing needs and additional future growth of the Hunters UGA.

As referenced above, the HWD has been modifying their system to accommodate the water users in the area. Although the system currently has a meter, the HWD has not maintained pumping records. Limited records were available for this review. The HWD engineers did have records for the water system for 2008. Table 1 presents the recorded data provided.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF HWD PUMPING RECORDS FOR 2008

Month	Gallons	Acre-Feet
January	803,775	2.47
February	668,700	2.05
March	785,600	2.41
April	991,200	3.04
May	1,219,100	3.74
June	1,102,600	3.38
July	1,527,100	4.69
August	1,565,328	4.80
September	951,500	2.92
October	803,775	2.47
November	803,775	2.47
December	803,775	2.47
Total	**12,026,228**	**36.91**

As shown in Table 1, in 2008 the HWD pumped approximately 36.91 AF of water. The CSD was connected to the HWD in early 2008.

The CSD has utilized their water by supplying water to the school facilities and irrigating 2.0 acres of athletic fields on the school grounds. A summary of the schools use of their certificate is presented in the WNR Group Report dated July 10th, 2012. Certificate G3-25329 allows for community domestic supply of 250 students. The certificate makes no indication of staff or personnel, so the board concludes that this is implied in the certificate. The school has averaged serving water to 251.8 students and faculty as shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF PERSONS AT CSD

Year	Students	Staff	Total
2002	212	48	260
2003	204	48	252
2004	210	48	258
2005	215	47	262
2006	204	47	251
2007	194	46	240
2008	194	46	240
Average	**204.7**	**47.1**	**251.8**

Certificate G3-25329 also allows 6.4 AF/year for non-agricultural irrigation of 2 acres. The school property has approximately 10 acres of undeveloped land on the school campus. The irrigation system is supplied water from the main school well (AEH249) and conveys water to the field in the northern area of the property, and to landscaping around the school building (see WNR Group Report). The school irrigates approximately two acres on any given year. The WIG was reviewed for an estimate of water use for turf in the area. No WIG stations were found that were close to the town of Hunters. The station which has the closest temperature and precipitation pattern similar to Hunters was interpreted to be Coulee Dam. The WIG estimates a water duty of 31.43 inches for turf, or approximately 2.62 feet per acre. The CSD grounds are located in the Hunters Creek Valley which is comprised mostly of sands and gravels. These more permeable soils would have a higher required water duty due to the higher return flows through the sands and gravel. Therefore, a water duty of 3.2 feet per acre appears to be a reasonable value for irrigation of turf in the Hunter Creek Valley. The school has irrigated the ball fields each year and has put the water to beneficial use.

SEPA

Ground water permit G3-22369Pheld by the Hunters Water District is less than the threshold of 2250 gpm, therefore this application for change is categorically exempt from SEPA (WAC 197-11-800(4)).

COMMENT AND PROTESTS

RCW 90.03.280 requires that notice of a water right application be published once a week, for two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the water is to be stored, diverted and used. Public notice of the application was given in the ***Chewelah Independent***, Chewelah, Washington on June 21 and June 28, 2012. The protest period ended on July 28, 2012.

There were no protests received during the 30 day protest period. In addition, no oral or written comments were received at an open public meeting of the Board.

INVESTIGATION

In considering the proposed change application, the Board's investigation included, but was not limited to, research and review of:

- Appropriate rules and statutes;
- Ecology Water Right files;
- Other water rights, permits, claims and applications in the area;
- Topographic maps and aerial photographs;
- Water well logs;

- Available geologic and hydrogeologic reports;
- Water system plans;
- Discussions with representatives from HWD and Columbia School District;
- A site visit by Board members to document existing site conditions; and
- Discussions with Gene St.Godard, hydrogeologist, and review of his Hydrogeologic Assessment/Extent and Validity Analysis Report dated July 10, 2012, in support of the transfer application.

The following information was obtained from a site inspection conducted by Wes McCart, Jim Gleaton and Greg Daniels on June 8th, 2012. Representatives of the Board met with Ron Bircher and Bud Budwig (representatives from the HWD), and Gene St.Godard of the WNR Group, Inc. (consultant for the HWD) at the well sites. In addition, a representative from the Columbia School District was present during the site walk through on the school property.

The HWD system was inspected first: There are two 8-inch wells located in the pump house facility located along Hunters Campground Road. The two wells were documented as having Ecology ID numbers of AHC-125 (SO#2) and AHC-126 (SO#1). AHC-125 has a meter with serial #77-3-516 and is not in use at this time due to sand issues in the well, and the well casing be bent which does not allow the pump to be removed for maintenance. However, the well is maintained for monitoring. Well AHC-126 (SO1) is the main production well. It has a McCrometer Flow meter (serial #85-4-938) located in the piping. Water withdrawn from the wells is conveyed to an arsenic treatment facility located adjacent to the pump house. From this location water is pumped to the water tank located in the northeastern part of the HWD service area and then distributed throughout the service area. The GPS coordinates for the pump house are: 48.11842 N. lat. / 118.20521 W long. Well SO3 was recently installed, and at the time of this ROE, was being developed and construction was ongoing to connect it to the water system. After completion of construction activities, SO1 and SO3 will be the primary production wells.

The Columbia School District well (AEH-249) consist of an 8-inch well located in a pump house in the school's parking lot. No flow meter was present on the system. Water is withdrawn from this well and is conveyed to pressure tanks within the school's structure. From this location, it was formerly used to supply water to the school building and the irrigation system. The distribution piping to the school has been abandoned and water is now supplied to the building by the HWD. Water is still conveyed to the schools ball field for irrigation. Field irrigation occurs via 2-inch handlines with 964 Rainbird sprinklers. Irrigation occurs with 3 handlines with approximately 30 sprinklers. The GPS coordinates for the school well are 48.11928 N. lat. / 118.20222 W long.

Photos and maps of the site are included in the water right file, along with the application for change. A copy of the WNR Group, Inc. Report dated July 10th, 2012 is also included in the file.

Hydraulic Continuity/Same Source

The Board requested that the applicant's prepare an assessment by a licensed Hydrogeologist to determine if the points of withdrawal at the HWD pump house and the CSD well were in the same body of water. A copy of the WNR Group Inc. report dated July 10th, 2012 is included in the file. In summary, the conclusions from this report stated:

> *The hydrogeologic setting in the vicinity of Hunters, Washington is of a shallow perched water system on the valley walls and benches that is intrinsically linked to recharge of the shallow aquifer from the surface and groundwater of the upper drainage, and a second deeper confined aquifer in the lower parts of the drainage. The lower confined aquifer is separated from the thin upper unconfined aquifer by an approximately 100 foot thick clay interval. Specifically, it is interpreted that surface water and shallow groundwater in the upper drainage is recharged from precipitation (rain and snow). The precipitation is transported via overland flow and through shallow groundwater flow in the shallow aquifer in the upper drainage. It was noted that the upper portions of the drainage consisted of coarser valley fill, specifically colluvium and alluvium. The soils appeared permeable and could percolate precipitation into the shallow groundwater fairly easily. Within the Hunter Creek drainage, the surface water and shallow aquifer return as baseflow to Hunter Creek and eventually the Columbia River (Lake Roosevelt). The lower confined aquifer appears to be present in the lower half of the drainage, and underlies the area around the town of Hunters. Both the CSD and HWD points of withdrawal are completed into this lower confined aquifer. Recharge from this aquifer is interpreted to be from leakage from the upper aquifer in the headwaters of the valley, and from leakage along the valley walls. The confined aquifer appears to thin to the west towards Lake Roosevelt, as a bedrock high is present. The lower confined aquifer is inferred to top this bedrock high in several areas and/or flow through fractures in the bedrock. The groundwater eventually flows westerly and enters into the Columbia River valley fill sediments.*
>
> *The Hunter Water District and Columbia School District wells (AHC-125, AHC-126, and AEH-249 [and BCH-092]) are located in Section 7 and are founded within the lower confined aquifer. A review of well logs reveal that the Hunter Water District wells are completed to depths of 189 and 238 feet. The primary water bearing unit is sand and gravel located at depths below 170 feet. The groundwater within these wells is artesian and had recorded pressures of 22 psi and 175 gpm. Yields from the two Hunter Water District wells were recorded at 175 to 500 gpm.*
>
> *No detailed well log was available for the Columbia School District well (AEH-249) which is located in the NW¼ NE¼ Section 7, approximately 1,000 feet northeast of the Hunter Water District wells. This well is completed to a depth of 385 feet, and is located approximately 80 feet higher in elevation than the Hunter's wells, which would place the bottom of the well in the same general stratigraphy as that of the HWD's wells. The well has a hydrostatic head in the well to a depth of 27.5 feet below the ground surface. Yield from this well was recorded at 115 gpm.*

Anecdotal information from the town representative's state then when the two Hunter wells are pumping, water level wells in the school district well declines. This would be indicative of the reduced head pressure in the school well caused from the town pumping from the confined aquifer. Therefore, it is our opinion that the Columbia School District well and the two Hunter Water District wells are withdrawing water from the lower confined aquifer, and as such, are withdrawing water from the same body of water. Therefore, the two water rights can be consolidated.

In our opinion, the groundwater recovery wells of the HWD and CSD are within the same hydrologic system. The three wells are founded within the deeper semi-confined aquifer system located in the lower Hunters Creek drainage. Therefore, in our professional opinion, the three proposed points of withdrawal addressed under this change application are within the same body of water.

Proposed project plans and specifications

The change applications are seeking to add points of withdrawal of the CSD and HWD that are currently within the Hunters Water District (HWD) service area to each water right. The HWD currently owns groundwater permit No. G3-22369P for an instantaneous withdrawal rate of 200 gpm and an annual allocation of 31 acre-feet. This water right has a priority date of January 14th, 1974. The Columbia School District had water right No. G3-25239C with an instantaneous withdrawal rate of 30 gpm and an annual allocation of 34.4 acre-feet. Due to arsenic concerns in the Hunters Creek Valley aquifer, the Columbia School District, under request of the Washington State Health Department, was connected to the HWD system in early 2008. In October 2011, the Columbia School District Quit Claimed their water rights (G3-25329C and SW right Cert. No. 15, Page 7337) to the HWD.

The requested changes are bringing into compliance the HWD for those changes directed by the Health Department. Water supplied to the residents within the HWD, including the Columbia School District, will be supplied by the wells (SO1 and SO3) located on Hunters Campground Road. Water for non-agricultural irrigation of the school's athletic fields will be withdrawn from the existing CSD well (AEH-249) and applied directly to the ball fields, because this water use does not require treatment.

Water system plan configurations are presented in the Water System Plan prepared for the HWD by Belsby Engineering. Existing and proposed service areas are presented in that Plan.

The requested changes to Groundwater permit G3-22369P and Groundwater certificate G3-25239 will not result in an increased water use under this request, nor will it pose a risk of impairment to other water rights or exempt wells.

Other water rights appurtenant to the property

Other than water rights G3-22369P and G3-25329, one other water right (SW-No. 7337) is owned by the HWD. Water right Certificate No. 15, Page 7337 is a surface water right from Hunters Creek for 0.10 cfs for fire protection and this water right was quit claimed by the school district to the HWD in October 2011. Application CG3-22369 dated June 12, 2009, requesting a preliminary permit is also on the record. The HWD has indicated that they will withdraw this application filed on June 12, 2009 for adding points of withdrawal. The HWD also submitted an application for Columbia River water in June, 2009 which was assigned No. G3-30596A and has been assigned a priority date of June 12, 2009 and will remain on file.

No other water rights are appurtenant to the CSD property.

Public Interest (groundwater only)

The proposed transfer is subject to RCW 90.44.100 and therefore, cannot be detrimental to the public interest, including impacts on any watershed planning activities. Currently, there is no active watershed planning effort in WRIA 58. The Board received no comments, protests, or other indications that the proposed change would be detrimental to the public interest. Further, the Board believes this transfer to be in the public interest as it will complete the efforts of the HWD and the School District to remove the schools domestic water supply (inside use) from the untreated school well. The DOH has overseen the transferring of the school's water to SO1 and SO3 and connection of the school to the HWD treated water system.

Tentative Determination

The Stevens County Water Conservancy Board finds that Water Right Permit G3-22369P is valid and has not been abandoned or relinquished. The tentative determination of the extent and validity of the water right is provided on the front page of this report.

CONCLUSIONS

Tentative determination (validity and extent of the right)

The Board finds that a valid water right exists for Groundwater Right Permit No. G3-22369 for a Qi of 200 gpm and a Qa of 31 acre-ft/yr.

Also see tentative determination on page 1.

Relinquishment or abandonment concerns

The Board finds no evidence of relinquishment or abandonment of the water right under consideration.

Consideration of comments and protests

No Public comments or protests were received by the Stevens County Water Conservancy Board.

Impairment

The Board finds no indication that the requested changes to add points of withdrawal will cause impairment of other groundwater uses. Water users in the area are being connected to the HWD water supply system due to the arsenic issues in the watershed.

Public Interest

The Board finds that the proposed change does not appear to be detrimental to the public interest. Further, the Board finds that the additional points of withdrawal will better serve the citizens of Hunters and the mandate to supply water in the UGA by providing treatment of the arsenic in the HWD water distribution system.

DECISION

Based on the above investigation and conclusions, the Board's decision is to Approve the requested addition of points of withdrawal as follows:

Purpose of Use and Quantities
200 gpm, 31 acre-ft/yr for year-round Community Domestic Supply (No change)

Place of Use
The place of use (POU) of this water right is the service area described in the most recent Water System Plan approved by the Washington State Department of Health, so long as the water system is and remains in compliance with the criteria in RCW 90.03.386(2). RCW 90.03.386 may have the effect of revising the place of use of this water right.

Points of Withdrawal
AHC-126 (SO#1) and BCH-092 (SO#3 which replaced SO#1 in Showing of Compliance letter dated 8/15/12)), located in the E1/2NW1/4 of Section 7, Township 30N, Range 37 E. Willamette Meridian; and
One well (AEH-249) located in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 7, Township 30N, Range 37 E. Willamette Meridian.
-Well AHC-125 will be maintained as a monitoring well.

Also see the Boards decision on page 2.

PROVISIONS

Conditions and limitations

In accordance with WAC 173-160, wells shall not be located within certain minimum distances of potential sources of contamination. These minimum distances shall comply with local health regulations, as appropriate. In general, wells shall be located at least 100 feet from sources of contamination. Wells shall not be located within 1,000 feet of the boundary of a solid waste landfill.

All water wells constructed in the state shall meet the construction requirements of WAC 173-160 titled "Minimum Standards for the Construction and Maintenance of Wells" and RCW 18.104 titled "Water Well Construction". Any well which is unusable, abandoned, or whose use has been permanently discontinued, or which is in such disrepair that its continued use is impractical or is an environmental, safety or public health hazard shall be decommissioned.

Total diversion from the three wells for Water Right Permit No. G3-22369(P) shall not exceed 200 gpm and 31 acre-feet per year.

All wells shall be tagged with a Department of Ecology unique well identification number. This tag shall remain attached to the well. If you are required to submit water measuring reports, reference this tag number.
Required installation and maintenance of an access port as described in WAC 173-160- 291(3).

An approved measuring device shall be installed and maintained for each of the sources authorized by this water right in accordance with the rule "Requirements for Measuring and Reporting Water Use", WAC 173-173.
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/measuring/measuringhome.html

Water use data shall be recorded weekly and maintained by HWD for a minimum of five years, and shall be promptly submitted to Ecology upon request.

The water source and/or water transmission facilities are not wholly located upon the land owned by the applicant. Issuance of a permit by this Department for appropriation of the waters in question does not convey a right of access to, or other right to use, land which the applicant does not legally possess. Obtainment of such right is a private matter between applicant and owner of that land.

This authorization to make use of public waters of the State is subject to existing rights, including any existing rights held by the United States for the benefit of Indians under treaty or otherwise

Nothing in this authorization shall be construed as satisfying other applicable federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations."

The rule above describes the requirements for data accuracy, device installation and operation, and information reporting. It also allows a water user to petition Ecology for modifications to some of the requirements. Installation, operation and maintenance requirements are enclosed as a document entitled "Water Measurement Device Installation and Operation Requirements".

Department of Ecology personnel, upon presentation of proper credentials, shall have access at reasonable times, to the project location, and to inspect at reasonable times, records of water use, wells, diversions, measuring devices and associated distribution systems for compliance with water law.

Use of water under this authorization shall be contingent upon the water right holder's maintenance of efficient water delivery systems and use of up-to-date water conservation practices consistent with established regulation requirements and facility capabilities.

A certificate of water right will not be issued until a final examination is made.

Construction Schedule

- Begin construction of Project: Started
- Completion of Project: December 31, 2013
- Complete change and put water to beneficial use by: December 31, 2018

The undersigned board commissioner certifies that he/she understands the board is responsible "to ensure that all relevant issues identified during its evaluation of the application, or which are raised by any commenting party during the board's evaluation process, are thoroughly evaluated and discussed in the board's deliberations. These discussions must be fully documented in the report of examination." [WAC 173-153-130(5)] The undersigned therefore, certifies that he/she, having reviewed the report of examination, knows and understands the content of this report and concurs with the report's conclusions.

Signed at Colville, Washington
This 19th Day of November, 2012

Jim Gleason For

Wes McCart, Board Representative
Stevens County Water Conservancy Board

If you have special accommodation needs or require this form in alternate format, please contact 360-407-6607 (Voice) or 711 (TTY) or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

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