



State of Washington  
 Department of Ecology  
 Office Of Columbia River  
 Report of Examination for Lake Roosevelt  
 Incremental Storage Releases Water Permit

**PRIORITY DATE**  
October 7, 2011

**APPLICATION NUMBER**  
S3-30652

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
Margaret R. Williams  
13149 E. 47<sup>th</sup> Lane  
Yuma, AZ 85367

**SITE ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT)**  
1857 B Hwy 25 N  
Evans, WA 99126

**Quantity Authorized for Diversion**

DIVERSION RATE	UNITS	ANNUAL QUANTITY (AF/YR)
0.02	CFS	0.5

**Purpose**

PURPOSE	WITHDRAWAL RATE	ANNUAL QUANTITY (AF/YR)	PERIOD OF USE (mm/dd)
Non-agricultural Irrigation	0.02 CFS	0.5	4/15 – 10/1

**Source Location**

COUNTY	WATERBODY	TRIBUTARY TO	WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA
Stevens	Columbia River		61-Upper Lake Roosevelt

SOURCE FACILITY/DEVICE	PARCEL	WELL TAG	TWP	RNG	SEC	QQ Q	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Columbia River	1969410		37N	38E.W.M.	22	SE¼SW¼	48.68697°	-118.01461°

Datum: WGS84

Source Location: 560 feet north and 3660 feet west of the SE corner of Section 22, T. 37 N., R. 38 E.W.M.

**Place of Use (See Attached Map and Attached)**

**PARCELS (NOT LISTED FOR SERVICE AREAS)**

1969410

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF AUTHORIZED PLACE OF USE**

Lot SP 26-89-1: That portion of the SE¼SW¼ of section 22, township 37 north, range 38 east, W.M., in Stevens County, Washington, described as follows: Commencing at the Columbia River Reservoir Boundary Marker No. 9 which is a 1" steel pin, as shown on print sheet No. 1827, Columbia River Reservoir, Grand Coulee Dam; thence S. 07°43'17" E. for 56.63 feet, more or less, to the west line of the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way; thence south along the west line of said right of way to a point 525 feet north of, as measure along the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way, the south line of the SE¼SW¼ of said section 22; thence N. 82°17' W. to the Columbia River Reservoir Boundary; thence N. 7°43' E. to the true point of beginning.

### Proposed Works

A ¾ hp submersible pump with appropriate screened intake, 1¼-inch supply line, and lawn irrigation system.

### Development Schedule

BEGIN PROJECT	COMPLETE PROJECT	PUT WATER TO FULL USE
5/1/2013	5/1/2014	5/1/2015

### Measurement of Water Use

How often must water use be measured?	Monthly
How often must water use data be reported to Ecology?	Annually (Jan 31)
What volume should be reported?	Total Annual Volume
What rate should be reported?	Annual Peak Rate of Withdrawal (cfs)

### Provisions

#### Water Service Contract

Use of water under this permit or certificate is contingent upon the applicant's compliance with a water service contract with Ecology for recovery of costs associated with the Lake Roosevelt Incremental Release Project. Failure to comply with the terms of the water service contract will result in cancellation of the permit or revocation of the certificate.

#### Measurements, Monitoring, Metering and Reporting

An approved measuring device must be installed and maintained for each of the sources identified by this water right in accordance with the rule "Requirements for Measuring and Reporting Water Use", WAC 173-173, which describes the requirements for data accuracy, device installation and operation, and information reporting. It also allows a water user to petition the Department of Ecology for modifications to some of the requirements.

Recorded water use data may be submitted via the Internet. To set up an Internet reporting account, contact the Central Regional Office. If you do not have Internet access, you can still submit hard copies by contacting the Central Regional Office for forms to submit your water use data.

#### Water Use Efficiency

The water right holder is required to maintain efficient water delivery systems and use of up-to-date water conservation practices consistent with RCW 90.03.005.

#### Schedule and Inspections

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.

#### General

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

**Your Right To Appeal**

You have a right to appeal this Order to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

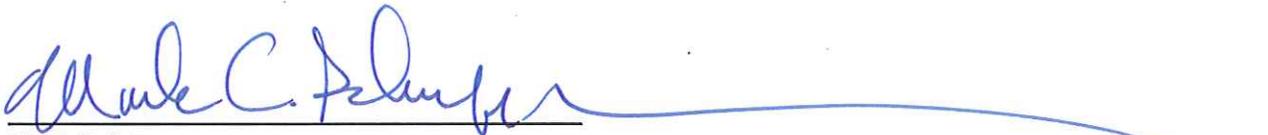
To appeal you must do the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of the Order.

File your appeal and a copy of this Order with the PCHB (see addresses below). Filing means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours.

- Serve a copy of your appeal and this Order on Ecology in paper form - by mail or in person. (See addresses below.) E-mail is not accepted.
- You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

Street Addresses	Mailing Addresses
<b>Department of Ecology</b> Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503	<b>Department of Ecology</b> Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608
<b>Pollution Control Hearings Board</b> 1111 Israel RD SW, Ste 301 Tumwater, WA 98501	<b>Pollution Control Hearings Board</b> PO Box 40903 Olympia, WA 98504-0903

Signed at , Washington, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of November 2012.

  
 Mark C. Schuppe  
 Operations Manager

For additional information visit the Environmental Hearings Office Website: <http://www.eho.wa.gov>. To find laws and agency rules visit the Washington State Legislature Website: <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser>.

## INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

Application for Water Right -- Margaret R. Williams

Water Right Control Number S3-30652

Jeff MacLennan, Department of Ecology

### **BACKGROUND**

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#### **Description and Purpose of Proposed Application**

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On October 7, 2011 the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) accepted Water Right Application Number S3-30652 submitted by Margaret Williams requesting 0.02 cubic feet per second (cfs) for non-agricultural irrigation of less than one-half acre from the Columbia River. The applicant requested to be included in the Lake Roosevelt Incremental Storage Releases Program (Program) on October 2, 2012.

Ecology employee Jeff MacLennan received permission from Mrs. Williams to access the property in a telephone conversation on October 3, 2012. The purpose of the site visit was to scope the size of the project and to take a GPS fix on the proposed site for access to the Columbia River. Mrs. Williams has been diverting water from the Columbia River for 19 years, but has recently been required by the National Park Service to provide a water right permit.

The proposed water use is for a single home in Stevens County. Land covered by the place of use is owned by Margaret Williams. Access to the Columbia River is managed by the National Park Service.

**Table 2 Amended Application Summary**

<b>Name</b>	Margaret R. Williams
<b>Priority Date</b>	10/7/2011
<b>Instantaneous Quantity</b>	0.02 cfs
<b>Annual Quantity</b>	2 af/yr
<b>Purpose(s) of Use</b>	Non-agricultural irrigation
<b>Period of Use</b>	Seasonal
<b>Place(s) of Use</b>	Stevens County parcel #1969410

#### **Legal Requirements for Approval of Appropriation of Water**

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Chapters 90.03 and 90.44 RCW authorize the appropriation of public water for beneficial use and describe the process for obtaining water rights. Laws governing the water right permitting process are contained in RCW 90.03.250 through 90.03.340 and RCW 90.44.050. In accordance with RCW 90.03.290, determinations must be made on the following four criteria in order for an application for water rights to be approved:

- Water must be available
- There must be no impairment of existing rights
- The water use must be beneficial
- The water use must not be detrimental to the public interest

#### **Public Notice**

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 or counties where the water is to

be stored, diverted and used. Notice of this application was published in the *Statesman-Examiner* during the weeks of October 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012. No letters of protest or concern were received.

#### Consultation under WAC 173-563-020

Under WAC 173-563-020(4), consultation is required before issuance of new Columbia River permits:

*The instream flows established and implemented by this chapter for instream and out-of-stream uses, and the average weekly flows applied by this chapter to out-of-stream uses do not apply to any application for water from the main stem Columbia River on which a decision is made by the department of ecology on or after July 27, 1997. Any water right application considered for approval or denial after that date will be evaluated for possible impacts on fish and existing water rights. The department will consult with appropriate local, state, and federal agencies and Indian tribes in making this evaluation. Any permit which is then approved for the use of such waters will be, if deemed necessary, subjected to instream flow protection or mitigation conditions determined on a case-by-case basis through the evaluation conducted with the agencies and tribes.*

On December 14, 2009, Ecology contacted local, state, and federal agencies and Indian tribes requesting consultation and comments on issuing new municipal and industrial permits from the Columbia River mitigated by 13,527 acre-feet of water under the Program. On November 5, 2010, Ecology consulted with local, state, and federal agencies and Indian tribes again to update the quantity of water released, to 37,500 acre-feet of water released for municipal/industrial uses and associated instream releases.

From these consultations, Ecology received written responses from the WDFW, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the United States Forest Service. Ecology also had several meetings with stakeholders, including the Columbia River Policy Advisory Group (PAG) where it received oral comments.

Copies of the written comments received are available in the file and PAG meeting notes are available on-line at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr\\_pag.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr_pag.html). The comments generally identified that the Lake Roosevelt Incremental Storage Release Project was adequate mitigation for up to 25,000 acre-feet of new municipal, domestic and industrial permits.

#### State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

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Pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (Chapter 43.21C RCW) and the SEPA Rules (Chapter 197-11 WAC), the Program was addressed in the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (FPEIS) for the Columbia River Management Plan. A Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) was released on August 29, 2008 and an Addendum to the FSEIS was released on December 29, 2009; both documents address the Program in detail. On June 12, 2009, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) issued an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the project under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The above described SEPA Documents are available online:

FPEIS - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/eis.html>

FSEIS & FSEIS Addendum - [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr\\_lkroos.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr_lkroos.html)

EA & FONSI - [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr\\_lkroos\\_envirostudies.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr_lkroos_envirostudies.html).

Project specific SEPA compliance

A water right application is subject to a SEPA threshold determination (i.e., an evaluation whether there are likely to be significant adverse environmental impacts) if any one of the following conditions are met.

- It is a surface water right application for more than 1 cubic feet per second. If the project is for agricultural irrigation, the threshold is increased to 50 cubic feet per second, so long as the project will not receive public subsidies;
- It is a groundwater right application for more than 2,250 gallons per minute;
- It is an application combined with other water right applications for the same project, exceeds the amounts above;
- It is a part of a larger proposal that is subject to SEPA for other reasons (e.g., the need to obtain other permits that are not exempt from SEPA);
- It is part of a series of exempt actions that, considered together, trigger the need to do a threshold determination, as defined under WAC 197-11-305.

Because this application does not meet any of these conditions, it is categorically exempt from SEPA and a threshold determination is not required. Except for the possibility that a meter may need to be installed, this project is complete.

## **INVESTIGATION**

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A field examination was conducted by Ecology employee Jeff MacLennan on October 5, 2012. Mrs. Williams's neighbor, Mr. Dean Smith showed Mr. MacLennan around the property. The proposed access point was located, measured by GPS, and found to be about a third of a mile downstream from USGS river mile 711. The applicant's delivery system crosses National Park Service land. The National Park Service will allow the applicant to continue accessing this land with the applicant's submission of a state authorized water right permit. The proposed place of use contains a maunufactured home, a stand-alone single car garage, and about 2,500 square feet of lawn. The property is on a flat terrace with a steep, wooded drop-off to the river on the west side and an equally steep and wooded climb to the highway on the east side.

### **Water Availability**

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For water to be available for appropriation, it must be both physically and legally available.

### **Legal Availability**

The Program involves releases of water stored in Lake Roosevelt under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's 1938 storage right (Reservoir Certificate Number R3-11793) to provide municipal, domestic and industrial water supply, provide water to replace some ground water in the Odessa Subarea, enhance stream flows in the Columbia River to benefit fish, and provide drought relief for interruptible water right holders.

Surface Water Permit Number S3-30556 was issued on September 25, 2008 to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, authorizing maximum of 305 cubic feet per second, 37,500 acre-feet per year for instream purposes in Lake Roosevelt and below Grand Coulee Dam with a priority date of May 16, 1938. Surface Water Permit Number S3-30556 is considered the "secondary" water use permit authorizing use of water stored under Reservoir Certificate Number R3-11793.

On December 21, 2010, Ecology issued Superseding Certificate of Trust Water Right S3-30556, accepting 305 cubic feet per second, 37,500 acre-feet per year to the Washington State Trust Water Right Program

(TWRP) for the purpose of instream flow. Under Superseding Certificate of Trust Water Right S3-30556, water is held in the TWRP to mitigate the impacts of 25,000 acre-feet of new state water rights issued under the Program's municipal and industrial water right permitting; the remaining 12,500 acre-feet is reserved exclusively for instream flows. In June 2011, Ecology provided notice under RCW 90.42.040(5) that it would modify Superseding Certificate of Trust Water Right S3-30556 to allow for mitigation of domestic uses as well as municipal and industrial uses. No comments from this notification were received, and Ecology issued a second Superseding Certificate of Trust Water Right S3-30556 on August 17, 2011.

### **Physical Availability**

Municipal, domestic, and industrial water uses associated with the Program will divert/withdraw water from the Columbia River or tributary groundwater on a continuous, year-round basis. In the preferred Alternative 1C, identified in the SEIS, mitigation releases from Lake Roosevelt will occur during time periods that will provide the greatest benefit to fish populations. These releases will occur during the months in which increased flow in the Columbia River will benefit fish the most, generally during April through September. The exact quantities and timing of the mitigation releases will be determined annually by the Fish Flow Releases Advisory Group (FFRAG). The membership of the FFRAG agrees that mitigation releases should be scheduled to help restore normative flows in the Columbia River. Since flows in October through March are higher than normative, mitigation for withdrawals under the Program during this time period are not seen as critical by FFRAG, leaving water available for release during the critical April through September period. This strategy was also supported in the consultations for the project.

The subject application is being investigated under the mitigation framework established under the Program. In order to mitigate the impacts of any new appropriation of water on the Columbia River, hydrologic evidence must indicate that impacts on the Columbia River associated with the proposed water use would be successfully mitigated by the Lake Roosevelt mitigation releases. Additionally, it must be possible to manage the impacts on the Columbia River of proposed pumping in a manner that avoids carry-over of impacts across mitigation cycles.

Because this project proposes to divert water directly from the Columbia River, it is clear water is physically available.

### **Impairment Considerations**

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#### **Columbia River Water Rights**

An investigation of a water right application includes an analysis of whether the proposed water use will impair other existing water rights. The impairment analysis involves identifying how the proposed water use may impact the current water rights regime.

In considering impacts to existing water right holders and the instream flow rule, an analysis must consider actual river operation, particularly in drought years when water availability issues are most acute. In the context of this application, there are four classes of water uses that must be considered:

- Water right holders with priority dates senior to May 16, 1938.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Although the priority date of this application is October 7, 2011 based on the date of filing with Ecology, the application is backed by mitigation with a priority date of May 16, 1938, which is how it will be managed if regulation of Columbia River water rights is required.

- Uninterruptible water rights with priority dates junior to May 16, 1938.
- Interruptible water rights with priority dates junior to May 16, 1938.
- The June 24, 1980 Instream Flow Rule (WAC 173-563).

A detailed analysis of the current water rights regime on the Columbia River was issued in the Report of Examination (ROE) for S3-30556.

Under the current Program, 37,500 acre feet per year of mitigation water is held in the TWRP for instream purposes under Superseding Trust Water Certificate S3-30556 with a priority date of May 16, 1938, 25,000 acre-feet of which may be used for mitigation of new out-of-stream uses. Under the State's priority system, the mitigation water is senior to all water rights issued after May 16, 1938. The mitigation water rights are specifically exempted from the Columbia River instream flow rule (WAC 173-563-020(5)). Additionally, the mitigation water is protected under the TWRP from diversion by junior water right holders who may be curtailed during low-flow years. These junior users total approximately 379 interruptible rights who are curtailed based on a forecast methodology outlined in WAC 173-563. Although junior to the mitigation that is available for this application, no conflict is expected between the applicant's diversions and interruptible water users because of the mitigation provided by Lake Roosevelt.

The applicant has been using water from this source and for the requested purpose for more than 20 years without any known impairment to other water users.

#### **Consideration of Protests and Comments**

There were no letters of protest or comments of concern submitted in response to the publication of the legal notice.

#### **Beneficial Use**

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The use of water non-agricultural irrigation is defined in statute as a beneficial use (RCW 90.54.020(1)).

Beneficial use encompasses two principal elements of a water right:

1. Beneficial use refers to the purpose for which water may be used.
2. Beneficial use determines the measure of a water right. The owner of a water right is entitled to the amount of water necessary for the purpose to which it has been used.

To determine the amount of water necessary for a beneficial use, courts have developed the principle of "reasonable use". Reasonable use of water is determined by analysis of the factors of water duty and waste. In this case, a water duty of 0.02 cubic feet per second and 0.5 acre-foot per year are determined to be a reasonable amount of water for this area.

#### **Public Interest Considerations**

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Analysis of whether this application meets the requirements of RCW 90.03.290 that the proposed use of water will not be detrimental to the public welfare involves analysis of how the approval of the proposed use of water will affect the range of values that are encompassed the public interest.

Several sections of statute list the legislative policies that guide the consideration of the public interest during the allocation of water, including sections of the 1971 Water Resources Act (Chapter 90.54 RCW) and Chapter 90.90 RCW entitled "Columbia River Basin Water Supply".

An analysis of the public interest considerations for the Program is contained in the Report of Examination for Application No. S3-30556, the "secondary use" permit for the Lake Roosevelt releases.

The public interests associated with the Program's municipal and industrial permitting are specifically cited in several sections of Chapter 90.90 RCW.

- RCW 90.90.005(1) states "The legislature finds that a key priority of water resource management in the Columbia river basin is the development of new water supplies that includes storage and conservation in order to meet the economic and community development needs of people and the instream flow needs of fish".
- RCW 90.90.005(2) directs Ecology to "aggressively pursue the development of water supplies to benefit both instream and out-of-stream uses".
- RCW 90.90.020(3)(b) instructs Ecology to focus on "Sources of water supply for pending water right applications".
- RCW 90.90.020(3)(d) instructs Ecology to focus on "New municipal, domestic industrial, and irrigation water needs within the Columbia river basin".
- RCW 90.90.060(3) states that Lake Roosevelt releases "will bolster the state economy and will meet the following critical needs" including "new water supplies for municipalities with pending water right applications".

The Program's domestic, municipal and industrial permitting achieves the statutorily mandated public interest requirements by allowing new state water rights to be issued while mitigating the impacts to fish.

If the subject application is approved, the public welfare may be affected in several ways:

- Economic activity is likely to result from the use of water for commercial/industrial purposes, as the associated construction and operation activities generate increased economic and social opportunities.
- The use of water for community domestic purposes is not expected to affect local cultural, recreational, or environmental resources.
- The adaptive management strategy for mitigation releases will ensure releases occur at times that are most beneficial for Endangered Species Act-listed salmon and steelhead species in the Columbia River, thus assuring effective mitigation for this appropriation of water.

## Conclusions

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### Beneficial Use

The proposed use of water for non-agricultural irrigation of one-half acre is considered to be a beneficial use.

### Water Availability

The analysis provided above demonstrates that water is physically and legally available for the proposed use of water.

### Impairment

The proposed beneficial use of water will not impair existing water rights.

Public Interest

The proposed use of water would not be detrimental to the public welfare.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Based on the above investigation and conclusions, I recommend that this request for a water right be approved and that a permit be issued in the amounts and within the limitations listed below and subject to the provisions listed above.

Purpose of Use and Authorized Quantities

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The amount of water recommended is a maximum limit and the water user may only use that amount of water within the specified limit that is reasonable and beneficial:

0.02 cubic feet per second

0.5 acre-feet per year

Non-agricultural irrigation of less than ½ acre of lawn and garden

Point of Diversion

560 feet north and 3660 feet west of the SE corner of Section 22, T. 37 N., R. 38 E.W.M.

Place of Use

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Lot SP 26-89-1: That portion of the SE¼SW¼ of section 22, township 37 north, range 38 east, W.M., in Stevens County, Washington, described as follows: Commencing at the Columbia River Reservoir Boundary Marker No. 9 which is a 1" steel pin, as shown on print sheet No. 1827, Columbia River Reservoir, Grand Coulee Dam; thence S. 07°43'17" E. for 56.63 feet, more or less, to the west line of the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way; thence south along the west line of said right of way to a point 525 feet north of, as measure along the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way, the south line of the SE¼SW¼ of said section 22; thence N. 82°17' W. to the Columbia River Reservoir Boundary; thence N. 7°43' E. to the true point of beginning.

  
Report Writer

11/29/12  
Date

*If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call Water Resources Program at (360) 407-6600. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.*