

WATER TRANSFER WORKING GROUP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

APPLICATION NO./COURT CLAIM NO. Court Claim No. 00828		
APPLICANT NAME Russell Creek Water Users Assoc.	CONTACT NAME Kelsey Collins	TELEPHONE NO. 509-575-2640
WATER RIGHT HOLDER'S NAME (if different) Russell Creek Water Users Assoc.		EMAIL KESI461@ECY.WA.GOV

DATE OF APPLICATION Pending	PRIORITY DATE July 21, 1949; mitigated by trust water right with June 30, 1873 priority date
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WATER SOURCE: Russell Creek, tributary to Rimrock Lake	CROP: N/A - Indoor Use Only
INSTANTANEOUS QUANTITY: N/A	ANNUAL QUANTITY: 0.6 (consumptive use)
PERIOD OF USE: Continuous – year round	
PLACE OF USE: Russell Creek Water Users Association Lots 1 through 11 within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and that portion of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying north of State Highway 12; All within Section 4, of Unsurveyed T. 13 N., R. 13 E.W.M., Snoqualmie National Forest	PURPOSE OF USE: Community domestic for 11 recreational cabins
IRRIGATION METHOD: N/A	

<p>CONSUMPTIVE USE CALCULATION:</p> <p>The junior claim holder is authorized to divert a cumulative annual quantity of 2.0 acre-feet per year. Assuming 30 percent of the total authorized Qa is consumptively used by indoor domestic use (on septic), the required mitigation is 0.6 ac-ft/yr.</p> <p>The community is located on National Forest System lands, authorized by a special use permit. The permit specifics lot appearance shall be maintained in the condition of a natural northwest forest environment. Planting of lawns or non-native plants is prohibited.</p>

<p>NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:</p> <p>As directed by Senate Bill 6861, Ecology is providing water banking opportunities for Yakima Basin Cabin Owners with junior claims (post-1905) to purchase senior mitigation credits to offset the consumptive use of water during years of rationing by the US Bureau of Reclamation.</p>
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Ecology proposes to offset 0.6 ac-ft/yr of consumptive use with mitigation credits from Trust Water Right Nos. CS4-00195CTCL(A)sb6, CS4-00195CTCL(B)sb6, and CS4-00195CTCL(C)sb6 – collectively known as Bruton Ditch. The Burton Ditch project was last presented to the WTWG on September 14, 2009.

Of the 60 ac-ft/yr currently assigned to the USBR-Ecology Exchange Contract (Contract No. 09XX101700) under the Burton Ditch project, 0.6 ac-ft will be allocated to the subject application to address impacts to TWSA.

PROPOSED USBR-ECOLOGY CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT RATIONALE

Diversion of surface water during rationing years will impact flows in the Yakima River when the TWSA irrigation supply period is in effect.

IMPACT ANALYSIS

The point of diversion is located on Russell Creek, approximately 2,000 feet above the confluence with Rimrock Lake. Water is diverted from the creek, filtered, chlorinated, and stored prior to distribution to the cabins. Return flow to the Lake occurs through septic. Based on the authorized quantities, the cumulative consumptive impact will not exceed 0.6 ac-ft/yr.

Rimrock Lake is a migratory barrier to anadromous salmonids (Tieton Dam has no fish passage facilities), and Russell Creek is too small and steep to provide habitat for anadromous salmonids (Reclamation 2005). In addition, WDFW fish distribution data indicate no occurrence of Bull Trout or other ESA-listed fish.

CONCLUSION

During rationing years, the availability of water to satisfy TWSA in the Yakima River will not be impacted if 0.6 ac-ft were held and released from Rimrock Lake. Assignment of 0.6 ac-ft would be in compliance with the consultation threshold in paragraph 18(b) of the USBR-Ecology contract.

REFERENCES

Ecology 2011. Columbia River Instream Atlas Project, Publication Number: 11-12-015. Prepared by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. September 2011.

Reclamation, 2005. Phase I Assessment Report, Storage Dam Fish Passage Study, Yakima Project, Washington. Revised April 2005

WDFW. SalmonScape. <http://wdfw.wa.gov/mapping/salmonscape/index.html>.

WTWG Project form

CLAIMANT NAME: **Russell Creek Water Users Assoc.** COURT CLAIM NO. 00828 (A)02097

Certificate Number: S4-83207-J

Subbasin: 17 Tieton

Source: Russell Creek tributary to Rimrock Lake

Use: Group domestic supply for 11 recreational residences

Period of Use: Continuously

Quantity: 0.01 cfs; 2 acre-feet per year

Priority Date: **July 21, 1949**

Point of Diversion: 500 feet north and 1200 feet west of the center of Section 4, being within the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 4 of Unsurveyed T. 13 N., R. 13 E.W.M., Snoqualmie National Forest

Place of Use: Russell Creek Water Users Association Lots 1 through 11 within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and that portion of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying north of State Highway 12; All within Section 4, of Unsurveyed T. 13 N., R. 13 E.W.M., Snoqualmie National Forest

Limitations of Use: On January 14, 2008, notice was give than an application to add a point of diversion has been approved. The additional point of diversion is located 300 feet north and 1200 feet west of the center of unsurveyed Section 4, T. 13 N., R. 13 E.W.M. A maximum of 0.0009 cfs, 0.2 acre-foot per year can be diverted from this additional point of diversion. The place of use for the additional point of diversion is Lot 1, within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and that portion of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying north of State Highway 12, all within unsurveyed Section 4, T. 13 N., R. 13 E.W.M., Snoqualmie National Forest. The approval contained a development schedule that required construction be complete by July 21, 2005. To date, a completion of construction form has not been received.

PROJECT LOCATION MAP



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