

Instream Lease Process

Changing a Water Right

OAD 690 Division 77

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

*The vision of the
Water Resources
Department is to
assure sufficient and
sustainable water
supplies are available
to meet current and
future needs.*

Limitations

- The length of the lease may not exceed 5 years
- May lease a portion of or an entire water right
- Must specify if protecting a point or a reach
- May not exercise supplemental rights on the "FROM" lands during the term of the lease

Submittal Deadlines

- July 1 for seasonal uses
- October 1 for year around uses

Application & Fee Submitted

- Must specify the length of time being requested
- Must include all required information and attachments
- Acceptance is subject to completeness review
- Needs signatures of both Lessors and Lessees
- May apply for split-season lease

Public Notice

- OWRD Weekly Notice
- Posted in the local Watermaster's office
- Notice sent to each affected local government and district
- Notice sent to affected Indian tribes
- 21-day comment period

Application and Stream Conditions Reviewed

- Subject to Watermaster review
- No injury or enlargement
- Review of surface water availability and existing instream uses

Final Order Issued

- OWRD will Approve or Deny Application
- Approved changes have an expiration date
- OWRD may revoke at any time if the lease is found to cause injury

Changes Revert Upon Expiration

- All uses automatically revert to terms and conditions of originating water right upon expiration
- Time during which water is used under an approved lease does not apply toward a finding of forfeiture under ORS 540.610

OWRD

Main Office

725 Summer St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

503-986-0884

Sarah.A. Henderson
@Oregon.gov