

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 16, 2024
To: Transfer 89430
From: Christian Stewart
Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

This transfer proposes to change place of use, point of diversion, nature of use, period of use, and add points of diversion. The proposed use is Municipal for the City of Driggs service area from 1/1 to 12/31. The proposed quantity is 0.47 CFS and 97.9 AF. The split portion of the water right has been assigned water right number 22-14623.

Authority to File: Thomas and Lexie Hill are the owners of record for water right 22-7681. Rocky Mountain Water Exchange LLC (RMWE) is under contract with Thomas and Lexie Hill and has authorization to transfer and sell water right 22-7681. The application was signed by Thomas and Lexie Hill. The application included a signed authorization from August Christensen, mayor of the City of Driggs, to transfer 0.47 CFS of water right 22-7681 into the City municipal system to offset water demand for new developments.

Water Right Validity: Water right 22-7681 was licensed on 10/19/2000. Aerial imagery cannot identify any 5 year periods of non use for the acres involved in this transfer. Water right 22-7681 was most recently included in transfer approval 89400. No forfeiture issues identified.

Injury to Other Water Rights: The application was not protested. The water right is not in a water district; no watermaster was contacted. The applicant proposes to pump water from existing wells utilized by the City of Driggs for their existing municipal water rights. No injury issues identified.

Enlargement of Use: Upon transfer approval, the remaining portion of water right 22-7681 will be reduced by .47 CFS, 36.8 acres, and 128.8 acre feet. The historical consumptive use of 36.8 acres of Alfalfa- Less Frequent Cuttings is 97.9 AF, the volume for the proposed municipal use. 24.8 acres of right 22-86B overlaps the place of use on the acres proposed to be transferred away. The right holder indicates that this Teton River irrigation right is physically and administratively undeliverable. Right 22-86B was included as an associated right in the transfer application and will be reduced by 0.5 cfs, 86.8 AF, and 24.8 acres. This transfer does not propose an increase in the diversion rate or consumptive water volume. The period of use change from to 4/15-10/31 to 1/1-12/31 will not result in enlargement because the authorized annual volume remains the same. No enlargement issues identified.

Local Public interest: No issues identified.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: No issues identified.

Effect on Economy the Local Area: No issues identified.

Effect on Agricultural Base of the Local Area: This application proposes changing the nature of use for 36.8 irrigated agricultural acres. No significant effect on the agricultural base of the local area identified.

Review of the application finds there is no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Section 42-222 Idaho Code preventing processing of this application.