

## Additional Information

### How will Instream Leasing Affect My Water Right?

Leasing your water right for instream use will have no permanent impact on your water right and will protect it from forfeiture during the term of the lease.

### How Long will this Program be Offered?

The maximum term for full season and split season leases is five years. While instream leases can be renewed indefinitely, the authorizing legislation for split season leases sunsets in 2024.

### How does Instream Leasing Affect my Neighbors?

In the application process, the irrigator, The Fresh Water Trust, and the Oregon Water Resources Department Watermaster determine what conditions are necessary on lease approval to ensure that instream leases do not injure other water right holders.

### Where does the Funding for this Project Come From?

Funding for this project is provided by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) through the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program (CBWTP). BPA provides this funding to mitigate for impacts that the Columbia River Hydropower System has on anadromous fish listed under the Endangered Species Act.

## Participate in your Watershed Council

**The Fifteenmile Watershed Council Meets quarterly, usually on the 15th day of February, May, September and December**

Meetings are held from **6:30—8:30 PM**

At the Barlow Ranger Station

780 NE Court Street, Dufur Oregon 97021

**Meetings are always open to the public.**

You are welcome to attend, whether you want to speak up and help direct council activities, or whether you prefer just to listen and learn more about your watershed.

## What You Can Do

- Enroll in the FAST program and be compensated for temporarily shutting off your diversion during stream temperature alerts.
- Join the FAST alert system to reduce irrigator 'take' liability under the Endangered Species Act.
- Maintain/upgrade your irrigation systems to increase efficiency & conserve water .
- Maintain shade trees on stream-side properties. Our streams suffer from high summer temperatures that harm fish.
- Limit your use of pesticides and herbicides, which drift or wash into streams when used in high quantities.
- Manage animal waste from your pets or livestock. Keep manure facilities away from creeks.

**If you would like financial or technical assistance with a project to enhance watershed**



Fifteenmile Watershed Council  
c/o Wasco Soil & Water Conservation District  
2325 River Road, Suite 3  
The Dalles OR 97058  
(541) 296-6178 x119  
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## Intro to Instream Leasing and FAST



**FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP  
OF FIFTEENMILE AND  
EIGHTMILE WATERSHEDS**



# Attention Fifteenmile and Eightmile watershed producers!

## Fifteenmile Action to Stabilize Temperatures

Under FAST, irrigators agree to voluntarily shut off creek diversions when stream temperatures lethal to steelhead are predicted, reducing irrigator liability for 'take' under the Endangered Species Act.



The alert season for potentially lethal water temperatures typically runs June through September. Your name and number can be added to the alert list by contacting the watershed council at (541) 296-6178 x119

Financial compensation is available to irrigators in 2017 who temporarily lease part or all of their water rights for instream use. Irrigator compensation is based on three factors:

- ◆ 1) the type of lease (split season vs. full season);
- ◆ 2) the total volume/acreage of water rights leased;
- ◆ 3) the length of the lease term (up to five years);

Lease prices listed below can differ slightly year to year. Call the watershed council for more information: (541) 296-6178 x119

## Our Goals

- Balance irrigator needs with ecological demands
- Maintain vibrant agricultural communities
- Improve irrigation efficiency through beneficial upgrades
- Maintain fish friendly water temperatures to prevent fish kills
- Conserve riparian ecosystems

## How does Split Season Leasing Work?

Split season leases allow irrigators to use some of their water right until July 15th each year. Eligibility requires that an irrigator have a totalizing gauge installed on their irrigation system. During the application process, we will determine how much water will be leased instream beginning July 15th and how much water is available to use for irrigation before July 15th. Lease terms can range from one to five years and can include an opt-out provision.

## How does Full Season Leasing Work?

Full season leases require irrigators to dry up ground during the term of the lease. However, irrigators are allowed to grow a crop that does not require irrigation. There are no eligibility requirements for full season leasing except a valid water right. Lease terms can range from one to five years and can include an opt-out provision.

Transaction Type	Terms	Seniority	Payment
Leasing (full-season and split-season options available)	Required to shut off during term of lease, payment following final order from OWRD based on acre-feet approved	1856–1896	\$73.33/acre-foot
		1897–1909	\$50.00/acre-foot
FAST Option 1	Required to shut off during temperature alerts, payment at beginning of season based on acres enrolled and baseline alert days	1856–1896	\$51.82/acre
		1897–1909	\$44.42/acre
		1910–1949	\$22.24/acre
		1950–1959	\$13.88/acre
FAST Option 2	Choose to shut off during temperature alerts, payment at end of season based on gallons curtailed (capped at payment under FAST Option 1)	1960–1985	\$ 9.45/acre
		Any, provided not already regulated off at time of temperature alert	Jun: \$0.0004/gal
			Jul: \$0.0003/gal
Aug: \$0.0003/gal			
			Sep: \$0.0003/gal

Our Mission: To protect, maintain and/or restore watershed functions across all land uses.