DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

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March 5, 2009

To: Governor's Office Attn:Mike Volesky State Capitol, Room 204 PO Box 200801 Helena MT 59620-0801
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula MT 59804
Ravalli County Board of County Commissioners 215 S 4th St. Suite A Hamilton MT 59840
Laura Hendrix, Ravalli County Floodplain 215 S 4th St. Suite F Hamilton MT 59840
Union Ditch Company, Inc. John Joost 3428 Eastside Hwy Stevensville MT 59870-6671
Etna Ditch Do. H. Clark Mathison 585 Kootenai Creek Road Stevensville MT 59870
Tucker Crossing Ranch Hamilton MT 59840-2816
Bitterroot River Protective Association Ira T. Holt PO Box 8 Stevensville MT 59870-0008
Bitter Root Water Forum Laurie Riley, Executive Director PO Box 1247 Hamilton MT 59840-1247
Montana Water Trust Barbara Hall, Executive Director 140 S. 4th St. W, Unit 1 Missoula MT 59801
Janel Favero, DNRC Centralized Services jfavero@mt.gov
Paul Moore, DNRC Hamilton Unit Manager pmoore@mt.gov

Double Fork Ranch, LLC has submitted a land use license application for repair, reconstruct and siting of the Humble Siphon, located underneath the Mitchell Slough which is part of the Bitterroot River. The Bitterroot River is a navigable waterway, the streambed of which is owned by the State of Montana and managed by the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The proposed project is located within the SW4SW4 of Section 4, Township 7 North, Range 20 West. There is a map of the project area on the back of this letter.

Placement of permanent structures within navigable waterways requires an annual license. The purpose of the project is to repair and re-construct the Humble Siphon.

This project requires multiple permits. In addition to a land use license from the Montana DNRC, a floodplain permit is required from the Ravalli County Floodplain office, along with a 310 permit from the Bitterroot Conservation District. Other permits may be needed, such as a DEQ 318 permit and an Army Corp 404 permit.

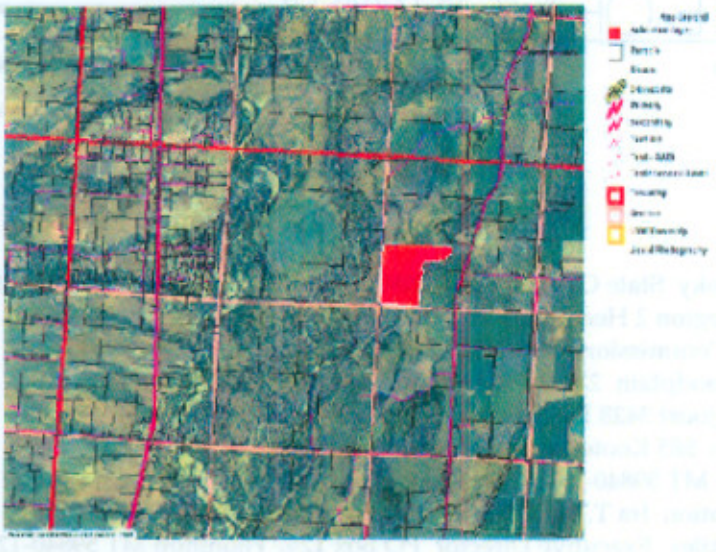
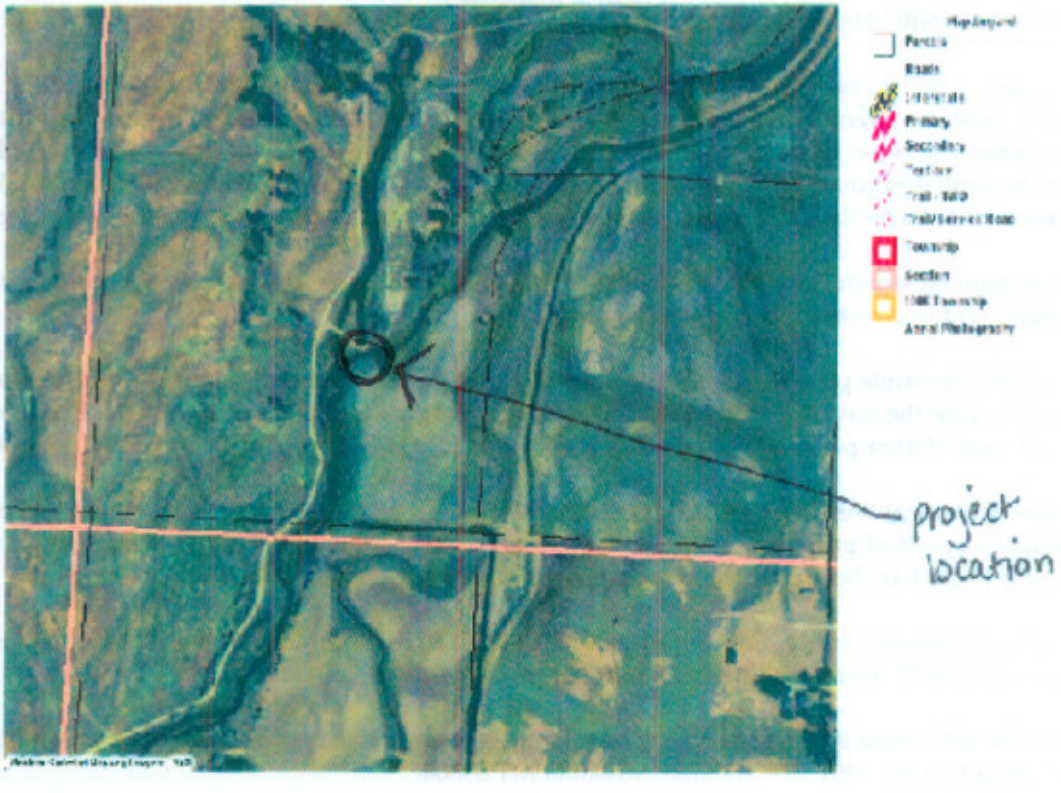
The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act to assess potential impacts of proposed activities on state lands to the human and physical environment. Public comments on this project are being sought in order to complete that assessment.

Public comment will be taken for 14 days (through March 20, 2009). This request for public comment is also being posted on the DNRC website at http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/about_us/notices.asp

Comments may be submitted by email at dboruch@mt.gov. You may also mail written comments to SWLO-DNRC, Attn: Dana Boruch 1401 27th Avenue, Missoula MT 59804.

Dana M. Boruch
Right-of-Way Specialist
Southwestern Land Office

Montana Cadastral Mapping Project



Montana Cadastral Mapping Project