



APPLICATION TO CHANGE A WATER RIGHT

§ 85-2-302, MCA
Form No. 606 (Revised 10/2025)

FILING FEE

\$2500/\$1500 – Without/with filing fee reduction.

\$400 – (The following types do not qualify for a filing fee reduction)

- Replacement well greater than 200 feet from original
- Replacement reservoir on the same source

INFORMATION

An application will be eligible for a filing fee reduction and expedited timelines if the applicant completes a preapplication meeting with the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(1)), which includes submitting any follow-up information identified by the Department (ARM 36.12.1302(3)(c)) and receiving either Department-completed technical analyses or Department review of applicant-submitted technical analyses (ARM 36.12.1302(4) and (5)). An application for the proposed project also must be submitted within 180 days of delivery of Department technical analyses or scientific credibility review and no element on the submitted application can be changed from the completed preapplication meeting form (ARM 36.12.1302(6)). If application is eligible for a filing fee reduction, \$500 paid for Form 606P-B will be credited toward filing fees shown above.

For Department Use Only

Application # _____ Basin _____
Priority Date _____ Time _____ AM/PM
Rec'd By _____
Fee Rec'd \$ _____ Check # _____
Deposit Receipt # _____
Payor _____
Refund \$ _____ Date _____

Applicant Information: *Add more as necessary.*

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Applicant Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

Contact/Representative Information: *Add more as necessary.*

Contact/Representative is: ☐ Applicant ☐ Consultant ☐ Attorney ☐ Other

Contact/Representative Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address _____

NOTE: If a contact person is identified as an attorney, all communication will be sent only to the attorney unless the attorney provides written instruction to the contrary (ARM 36.12.122(2)). If a contact person is identified as a consultant, employee, or lessee, the individual filing the water right form or objection form will receive all correspondence and a copy may be sent to the contact person (ARM 36.12.122(3)).



Answer every question and applicable follow-up questions. Use the checkboxes to denote yes ("Y"), no ("N"), or not applicable ("NA"). Questions that require items to be submitted to the Department have a submitted ("S") checkbox, which is marked when the required item is attached to the Application. Label all submitted items with the question number for which they were submitted. Narrative responses that are larger than the space provided can be answered in an attachment. If an attachment is used, specify "see attachment" on this form, and label the attachment with the question number. Constrain narrative responses to the specific question as is asked on the form; do not respond to multiple questions in one narrative. Responses in the form of a table may be entered into the table provided on this form or in an attachment. If an attachment is used, the table must have the exact headings found on this form, and "see attachment" must be entered as a response to the relevant question. Clearly label all units in tables and narrative responses.

PREAPPLICATION AND TECHNICAL ANALYSES INFORMATION

1. ☐ Y ☐ N Do you elect for Department technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment?

2. ☐ Y ☐ N Did you have a preapplication meeting AND complete a Change Preapplication Meeting Form Part A and Part B (Form 606P-A and 606P-B)?

IF QUESTION 2 IS NO, answer 2.a and 2.b:

2.a. ☐ S Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 606-TAA).

2.b. ☐ S ☐ NA Submit the technical analyses, if you elected in question 1 for Applicant technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment. Select "NA" if you elected for Departmental technical analyses.

IF QUESTION 2 IS YES, answer 2.c, 2.d, and 2.e:

2.c. ☐ Y ☐ N Has any element of the project described in this application changed from the mandatory elements of the project described in the completed Form 606P? **If yes,**

2.c.i. Please explain.

2.c.ii. ☐ S Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 606-TAA).

2.d. ☐ Y ☐ N Are the technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment exactly the same as those completed during the preapplication process? **If no:**

2.d.i. Please explain.

2.d.ii. ☐ S Submit the Technical Analyses Addendum (Form 606-TAA).

2.e. ☐ Y ☐ N Did you elect in question 1 for Department technical analyses to be used for criteria assessment? **If no:**

2.e.i. ☐ S Submit the technical analyses.



APPLICATION ADDENDA AND REVIEW

3. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the proposed change involves one or more places of storage, submit a Change Storage Addendum (Form 606-SA). This does not include reservoirs, pits, pit-dams, or ponds with a capacity less than 0.1 AF; water tanks; or cisterns (ARM 36.12.113(6)).
4. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the project involves an appropriation that is greater than 5.5 CFS and 4,000 acre-feet, submit a Reasonable Use Addendum (Form 606-B).
5. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the project involves out-of-state water use, submit an Out-of-State Use Addendum (Form 600/606-OSA).
6. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the proposed purposes include marketing or selling water, submit a Water Marketing Purpose Addendum (Form 600/606-WMA). This doesn't include marketing for mitigation/aquifer recharge.
7. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the proposed purpose includes instream flow, submit a Change to Instream Flow Addendum (Form 606-IFA).
8. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the proposed purposes include mitigation, aquifer recharge, or marketing for mitigation/aquifer recharge, submit a Mitigation Purpose Addendum (Form 606/606-MIT).
9. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If the project is in designated sage grouse habitat, submit a review letter from the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program.
10. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** If you propose to add a point of diversion or place of use on State of Montana Trust Land, submit documentation of consent from DRNC Trust Lands Management Division. If you propose to add a place of use on Trust Land with all points of diversion on private land, then, at a minimum, that component of the change authorization will be temporary for the duration of the lease term (§ 85-2-441, MCA).
11. ☐ **Y** ☐ **NA** You must provide a written notice of the application to each owner of an appropriation right sharing a point of diversion or means of conveyance (e.g., canal, ditch, flume, pipeline, or constructed waterway) pursuant to § 85-2-302(4)(c), MCA. Submit a copy of this notice and the recipient list.

APPLICATION DETAILS

12. How many change applications will be needed for this project? Refer to ARM 36.12.1305 for more information. _____

13. Fill out the table below for the water rights proposed for change.

Water Right No.	Current Authorized Flow Rate			Flow Rate Needed for Project			Means of Diversion
	Flow	GPM	CFS	Flow	GPM	CFS	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

14. Is the source surface water or groundwater? _____

15. What is the source name? _____

16. Identify the water right elements proposed for change, with a checkmark, for each water right proposed for change.

Water Right No.					
Point of Diversion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place of Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purpose of Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place of Storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. ☐ **S** Submit a historical use map created on an aerial photograph or topographic map that shows the following: section corners, township and range, scale bar, north arrow, all historical points of diversion (POD) labeled with a unique POD ID ("H" followed by a number), all historical places of use (POU), all historical conveyance structures, all historical places of storage, and historical place of use for all overlapping water rights. More than one map may be submitted, if necessary, to clearly convey all required information.

18. ☐ **S** Submit a proposed use map created on an aerial photograph or topographic map that shows section corners, township and range, scale bar, north arrow, and the following elements: points of diversion labeled with a unique POD ID ("P" followed by a number), places of use, conveyance structures, places of storage, and place of use for all overlapping water rights. Include all elements that will be on the water rights after the proposed change, regardless of whether the element will be modified by the change. The map should fully depict the water rights, as proposed, after the change. More than one map may be submitted, if necessary, to clearly convey all required information.

19. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** Does the proposed change involve a change in point of diversion?

IF YES,

19.a. Describe the location for all *new* and *unchanged* points of diversion to the nearest 10 acres. Label POD ID with the same POD ID number assigned for the proposed use map (question 18).

POD ID	¼	¼	¼	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	County	Lot	Block	Tract	Subdivision	Gov. Lot	New or Unchanged

19.b. ☐ NA Describe the location of all historical PODs you propose to *retire*. Label POD ID with the same POD ID assigned for the historical use map (question 17). If none are proposed for retirement, select “NA” checkbox.

POD ID	1/4	1/4	1/4	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	County	Lot	Block	Tract	Subdivision	Gov. Lot

19.c. What is the means of diversion for all *new* PODs? Means of diversion for surface water includes headgate, pump, dam, and others. Means of diversion for groundwater includes well, developed spring, pit pond, and others.

20. ☐ Y ☐ N Does the proposed change involve a change in place of use?

IF YES,

20.a. What are the geocodes of the proposed place of use?

20.b. Describe the legal land description of the proposed place of use, and if the water rights being changed will have an irrigation or lawn and garden purpose, list the number of irrigated acres.

Acres	Gov't Lot	1/4	1/4	1/4	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	County
	Total							

21. ☐ Y ☐ N Does the proposed change involve a change in place of use or purpose?

IF YES,

21.a. ☐ Y ☐ N Do other water rights supplement or overlap the proposed place of use?

IF YES,

21.a.i. How will the water rights be operated to serve the proposed purposes?

21.a.ii. For each supplemental or overlapping water right, please list the average period of diversion and use (MM/DD-MM/DD), flow rate (GPM or CFS), and the volume of water (AF) contributed.

Water Right No.	Avg. Period of Diversion	Avg. Period of Use	Flow Rate			Volume Contributed
	MM/DD-MM/DD	MM/DD-MM/DD	Flow	GPM	CFS	AF
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

22. ☐ Y ☐ N Are you filing on behalf of another entity? If yes, describe.

23. ☐ Y ☐ N Do you own the entire historical place of use for all water rights proposed for change?

IF QUESTION 23 IS NO,

23.a. ☐ Y ☐ N Was the water historically used for sale, rental, distribution, municipal use, or any other context in which water is being supplied to another and it is clear that the ultimate user would not accept the supply without consenting to the use of water on the user's place of use?

IF QUESTION 23.a IS NO,

23.a.i. ☐ Y ☐ N List the water rights for which you do not own the entire historical place of use.

23.a.ii. ☐ Y ☐ N Are the water rights listed in question 23.a.i severed from the historical place of use?

IF QUESTION 23.a.ii IS YES,

23.a.ii.1. ☐ Y ☐ N Do you own the entirety of the severed water rights proposed for change? If yes, skip to question 24. If no, answer question 23.a.iii.

IF QUESTION 23.a.ii OR 23.a.ii.1 IS NO,

23.a.iii. ☐ Y ☐ N ☐ NA Are all owners of the historical place of use or, if applicable, owners of the severed water rights, willing to sign the application?



IF QUESTION 23.a.iii IS NO,

23.a.iii.1. ☐ S Submit a Form 641 or 642 to split the water rights being changed for which all owners will not sign.

ADVERSE EFFECT

24. Explain how you can control your diversion in response to a call being made.

25. Describe any plans you have for ensuring existing water rights will be satisfied during times of water shortage.

26. ☐ Y ☐ N Are you aware of any calls that have been made on the source of supply or, if groundwater, on nearby surface water sources?

26.a. If yes, explain.

27. Describe how the proposed change will or will not affect your ability to make call.

28. ☐ Y ☐ N Does a water commissioner distribute water or oversee water distribution on your proposed source, or if groundwater, on nearby surface water sources?

28.a. If yes, list the sources.

29. When was the last time each water right proposed for change was appropriated and used beneficially?

IF THERE HAS BEEN A PERIOD OF NONUSE,

29.a. Why was the water right not used?

29.b. Why will a resumption of use not adversely affect other water users?

29.c. ☐ Y ☐ N Is the period of nonuse greater than 10 years for any of the water rights proposed for change? If yes, list which water rights.

29.d. ☐ Y ☐ N Have new water rights been authorized to use the source during the period of nonuse for any of the water rights proposed for change? If yes, explain.

30. ☐ Y ☐ N Do you propose to add one or more points of diversion or use new or existing conveyance infrastructure that will be shared with one or more existing water rights?

30.a. If yes, describe how the capacity of the shared points of diversion and/or conveyance infrastructure is sufficient for all water rights and how the proposed project will not adversely affect these water rights.

31. ☐ NA Answer questions 31.a to 31.b for point of diversion changes. If you do not propose a point of diversion change, mark "NA" instead.

31.a. Are the proposed points of diversion upstream or downstream of the historical points of diversion?

31.b. ☐ Y ☐ N Are there intervening water users between the historical and proposed points of diversion?

31.b.i. If yes, list the water rights.

ADEQUATE MEANS OF DIVERSION AND OPERATION

32. ☐ S Submit a diagram of how you will operate your system from all proposed points of diversion to all proposed places of use.

33. Describe specific information about the capacity of all proposed diversionary structures. This may include, where applicable: pump curves and total dynamic head calculations, headgate design specifications, and dike or dam height and length.

34. Describe the size, materials, capacity, and configuration of infrastructure to convey water from all proposed points of diversion to all proposed places of use.

35. ☐ Y ☐ N Does the proposed conveyance require easements?

35.a. If yes, explain.

36. Describe your plan of operations, including specific information about how water is delivered within the place of use. This may include, where applicable, the range of flow rates needed for a pivot.

37. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** ☐ **NA** If you propose to add one or more points of diversion, do you own the land where all proposed points of diversion are located? If you do not propose to add one or more points of diversion, mark "NA" instead.

37.a. ☐ **S** If no, submit documentation to show you have the right to use all points of diversion located on each property you do not own. This may include, but is not limited to, a well agreement, an easement, or permission of the party that owns the property where the proposed point(s) of diversion are located.

38. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** Will your system be designed to discharge water from the project?

38.a. If yes, explain the wastewater disposal method.

38.b. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** ☐ **NA** Have the necessary permits been obtained to comply with §§ 75-5-410 and/or 85-2-364, MCA?

39. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** Is the means of diversion for any proposed point of diversion a well?

IF YES,

39.a. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** Have all wells been drilled?

39.b. For all wells that have been drilled, what is the name of the well driller and, if available, what is their license number?

39.c. ☐ **Y** ☐ **N** ☐ **NA** For all wells yet to be drilled, will a licensed well driller construct the wells? If no wells are yet to be drilled, mark "NA" instead.

39.d. ☐ **S** ☐ **NA** Submit any well logs not yet submitted to the Department, such as for wells drilled after submittal of Form 606P. If all well logs have been submitted to the Department, mark "NA."

BENEFICIAL USE

40. ☐ Y ☐ N Does the Department have a standard period of diversion, period of use, flow rate, and/or volume for any of the purposes for which water is used? Department standards can be found in the DNRC Water Calculation Guide, ARM 36.12.112, ARM 36.12.115, and ARM 36.12.1902.

40.a. If yes, list the purposes for which the Department has a standard and note whether the water use falls within or outside the standard.

40.b. For any of the purposes with no Department standard or with proposed beneficial use that falls outside of Department standards, explain how the use is reasonable for that purpose.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

41. ☐ Y ☐ N Will your proposed project be subject to Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirements for a public water supply (PWS) system or Certificate of Subdivision Approval (COSA)?

42. ☐ Y ☐ N Are you proposing to use surface water for in-house domestic use?

42.a. ☐ Y ☐ N If yes, does a COSA exist for the proposed place of use?

42.a.i. ☐ S If yes, submit the COSA.

POSSESSORY INTEREST

43. ☐ Y ☐ N Do you meet one of the exceptions to possessory interest requirements, pursuant to ARM 36.12.1802 and § 85-2-402(2)(d), MCA? Exceptions include cases where the application is for sale, rental, distribution, or is a municipal use, or in any other context in which water is being supplied to another and it is clear that the ultimate user will not accept the supply without consenting to the use of water on the user's place of use, and applications for the purposes of instream flow, mitigation, and marketing for mitigation.

43.a. If yes, explain.

44. ☐ Y ☐ N ☐ NA Do you own all proposed places of use? Mark "NA" if you meet one of the exceptions to the possessory interest requirement.

44.a. ☐ S If no, explain and submit documentation that shows you either have possessory interest or written permission of the parties with possessory interest of the proposed place of use.

PROPOSED COMPLETION PERIOD

45. How many years will be needed to complete this project and to submit to the DNRC a Project Completion Notice (Form 618)? _____

46. Describe why this amount of time is needed to complete this project.

AFFIDAVIT & CERTIFICATION

Read carefully before you sign and review with legal counsel if you have any questions. All owners (or trustees) must sign the form. ***If the owner is a business or trust, include the title of the representative(s) signing the form (i.e., president, trustee, managing partner, etc.) and provide documentation that establishes the authority of the representative to sign the application.*

I affirm the information provided for this application is to the best of my knowledge true and correct. If a preapplication meeting form was submitted, I am aware that my application for this project will not qualify for a discounted filing fee and expedited timelines if upon submittal of the application to the Department, I changed any element of the proposed application from the preapplication meeting form and follow-up materials (ARM 36.12.1302(6)(a)).

I affirm I have possessory interest, or the written consent of the person with the possessory interest, in the property where the water is to be put to beneficial use, unless this application meets an exception to the possessory interest requirements in ARM 36.12.1802(1)(b).

I understand that making a false statement under oath or affirmation in this application and official proceedings throughout the examination of my application may subject me to prosecution under § 45-7-202, MCA, a misdemeanor punishable by a jail term not to exceed 6 months or a fine not to exceed \$500, or both. I have read this Affidavit and understand the terms and conditions.

I declare under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the state of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

