



**Montana DNRC Water Resources Division, State Water Projects Bureau  
 Montana Environmental Policy Act, Categorical Exclusion Checklist  
 (as defined by MCA 75-1-201)**

Project Name: 2018 Fred Burr Conduit and Intake Area Inspection, Maintenance and Repairs.

Description of Action(s): A potentially hazardous situation was discovered at Fred Burr Dam in 2012. A sinkhole was noticed on the downstream face of the dam, adjacent to where the outlet passes through the dam. Repairs were completed on the sinkhole; however, the entire outlet conduit needs to be regularly inspected to monitor the structure for any abnormalities. To accomplish this, Fred Burr Creek needs to be temporarily rerouted around the reservoir inlet. The plan, similar to what was previously used in 2013, is to construct a temporary coffer dam/pump pit in the reservoir and pump the creek water over the top of the spillway and then discharge back into the creek. The existing flows (which will be very low) should be maintained with only minimal changes and/or interruptions. Additional minor repairs will be made to the conduit and intake areas as part of the project. No adverse water quality or streamflow effects are anticipated. The required MT DEQ, MT DFWP, and Corps of Engineers permits have been acquired, and the Forest Service provided a statement that the project will not affect bull trout or associated critical habitat.

Project Location: County: Ravalli Township: 7 North Range: 22 West Section(s) 14 Lat. 46.356 Long. -114.32

Project Schedule: Start Date: 9/1/18 Completion Date: 10/31/18; Note: The work is anticipated to take 1-week within this timeframe. The preferred start date is 9/10/18.

Exclusion Category (check all that apply)

- This action qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion as defined by rule or justified by a programmatic review.
- This action is defined as an administrative action: routine, clerical or similar functions of a department, including but not limited to administrative procurement, contracts for consulting services, and personnel actions.
- This action is classified as minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities.
- This action is classified as investigation and enforcement: data collection, inspection of facilities or enforcement of environmental standards.
- This action is ministerial in nature: action is one in which the agency exercises no discretion, but rather acts upon a given state of facts in a prescribed manner.
- This action is primarily social or economic in nature and does not otherwise affect the human environment.

Additional Comments: Outflows back into Fred Burr Creek from the pumping will be monitored daily to comply with the DEQ Dewatering Permit turbidity standards.

Signature of Submitting Official:

*James P. Domino*

Date: 8/2/18

James P. Domino  
 Environmental Science Specialist  
 DNRC Water Resources Division, State Water Projects Bureau