

Decision Notice

Off-Season Stock Water Grant Projects – Mission South 2025 Environmental Assessment Prepared by DNRC Water Resources Division

Proposed Action

The CITT Off-Season Stock Water Mitigation Grant Program was created to address changes to the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project that will result in the loss of stock water outside of the irrigation season. The proposed action includes eight grant-funded projects which will address this need and provide off-season stock water to eight projects. These projects will involve installing new wells, stock tanks, waterline, pumphouses, and fencing; and connecting to electrical service. Projects are grouped because of their similar nature and location.

Action Alternative: Installation of necessary infrastructure to provide off-season stock water to livestock on eight projects.

No Action Alternative: No installation of infrastructure to provide off-season stock water. The no action alternative would result in livestock not having a reliable water source outside or irrigation season.

Montana Environmental Policy Act

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) to assess potential impacts of its proposed actions to the human and physical environments, evaluate those impacts through an interdisciplinary approach, including public input, and make a decision whether or not to proceed with the project.

In compliance with DNRC's Environmental Document Reporting Policy, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed on the proposed action by DNRC and released for a 30-day public comment period commencing on May 22, 2025. The official comment period closed on June 27, 2025.

Summary of Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Decision

Based on the environmental review conducted in the Draft EA, DNRC has determined that the proposed action will not have significant or long term adverse impacts. The proposed action is reasonable and a suitable means to accomplish the project goals and therefore, this environmental assessment is the appropriate level of analysis, and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

DNRC Water Resources Division adopts the Draft EA as Final and approves the Action Alternative.

Trevor Watson

6/30/2025

Trevor Watson

Deputy Division Administrator, DNRC Water Resources Division

The Decision Notice can be viewed on the DNRC website's [Environmental Documents](#) page.

Please direct questions to:

Maya Rao
MT DNRC, Water Resources Division
1424 9th Avenue, P.O. Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620-1601
Phone: (406) 542-5884
E-mail: maya.rao@mt.gov