DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION

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FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name:	Whitehall Lift Station Improvements and Extensions
Proposed Implementation Date:	September 2022 (projected)
Proponent:	Town of Whitehall
Location:	Whitehall
County:	Jefferson County

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

The town of Whitehall, Montana (Town) provides centralized water and sewer services to its residents. Potable water is provided by two wells with adequate capacity for expansion. The Town's wastewater collects at a singular lift station before being pumped to a lagoon treatment system. Inorganic material and gravels are collecting in the lift station and are eventually pulled through the lift station pumps and into the lagoon treatment cells. Damage caused by these materials moving through the pumps has resulted in the pumps needing to be replaced approximately every two years and an associated increase in operation and maintenance costs. The pumps should last at least 10 years. A map showing project locations and features is attached.

Since all the Town's wastewater collects at the lift station prior to being pumped to the lagoon treatment system, the lift station is a critical component to the overall wastewater treatment system. Failure of the lift station pumps has raised public health concerns due to the potential for backup of raw sewage into individual sewer connections and eventually into private residences. Raw sewage surfacing due to backups and allowing direct human and environmental exposure is also a concern as exposure to raw sewage creates serious public health and safety and environmental concerns. Discharge of inorganic material and gravels into the lagoon treatment cells also raises concerns due to the potential for these materials to have adverse impacts such as disrupting the biological processes within the treatment cells and presenting challenges with sludge removal and disposal due to the presence of non-sludge materials.

Liberty Place (facility) is an assisted living, non-profit facility in Whitehall that assists individuals with traumatic brain injuries. The facility's drinking water is serviced by a water supply well and wastewater is treated by an individual septic system. These current systems are at capacity and limit the expansion of the facility to be able to treat more individuals with brain injuries.

The purpose of the Whitehall Lift Station Improvements and Extensions project is twofold:

- Remove inorganics and gravel from wastewater prior to it entering the lift station and lagoon to reduce the potential for human and environmental exposure to raw sewage and associated health and safety and environmental concerns.
- Connect Liberty Place to Town supplied community water and wastewater (i.e., sewer) service which will support the potential for future expansion of the facility and its ability to

assist more individuals with traumatic brain injuries.

Project objectives include the following:

- Install a screen and associated infrastructure just upstream of the existing lift station to remove inorganics and gravel.
- Install infrastructure to connect Liberty Place to the Town's water supply and wastewater treatment systems.

Completion of a preliminary engineering design, final design, and agency plan review and approval was projected to be completed in 2022 with contractor solicitation and construction projected to occur in 2023.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project. List number of individuals contacted, number of responses received, and newspapers in which notices were placed and for how long. Briefly summarize issues received from the public.

There is no documentation demonstrating that any public involvement has yet occurred. The Town has procured Triple Tree Engineering of Helena, Montana, to assist with engineering design and planning for the project.

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

Examples: cost-share agreement with U.S. Forest Service, 124 Permit, 3A Authorization, Air Quality Major Open Burning Permit.

It is expected that the project design and specifications will be reviewed and approved by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Easements and lease agreements may be required to complete the project. The construction contractor may be required to submit and comply with a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and/or 318 Authorization.

3. ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT:

Describe alternatives considered and, if applicable, provide brief description of how the alternatives were developed. List alternatives that were considered but eliminated from further analysis and why. Include the No Action alternative.

No known alternatives have been developed or considered for the project.

The project includes the following proposed scope of work:

- Install a 16-inch wide by 15-foot long 6-mm mechanically cleaned bar screen at a 75-degree angle just upstream of the existing lift station to remove inorganics and gravel before wastewater enters the lift station pumps. The screen would be installed in a subsurface 8 foot by 10-foot vault over the existing sewer main and would extend above ground and into a 20-foot by 20-foot building where the controls would be housed, and disposal would take place.

- Install piping and a lift station to connect Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure. This would include installation of a gravity main, lift station, and a force main.
- Install a new hydrant near the Liberty Place property to provide the fire department better response should an incident occur.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:
Consider the presence of fragile, compactable, or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to soils.

Soils
The project consists of work elements being completed at separate locations within the Town. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey mapping application identifies the following soil types as being present within the project areas and surrounding area (total: 278.6 acres).

Soil Types within the Project Area

Soil Type	Acres	Percent of Area (%)	Percent Slope (%)	Predominant Soil Profile (inches)	Farmland Classification
Wetsand (40%), Cardwell (25%), and Clunton (25%) soils, channeled	13.8	5.0	0-8	0-10: gravelly sandy loam 10-14: silt loam 14-60: very gravelly loamy sand	Not Prime Farmland
McKenton silt loam	4.5	1.6	0-2	0-6: silt loam 6-11: clay loam 11-45: gravelly clay loam 45-60: gravelly clay loam	Not Prime Farmland
Ledger (50%)-Moltoner (20%)-McKenton (20%) complex	10.3	3.7	0-2	0-7: silty clay loam 7-25: silty clay loam 25-34: silty clay loam 34-60: silty clay loam	Not Prime Farmland
Clunton (45%)-Wetsand (30%)-Bonebasin (15%) complex	0.6	0.2	0-2	0-14: silty clay loam 14-38: silty clay loam 38-60: gravelly sandy loam	Not Prime Farmland

Soil Type	Acres	Percent of Area (%)	Percent Slope (%)	Predominant Soil Profile (inches)	Farmland Classification
Bronec (50%)-Amesha (30%) complex Minor components (20%)	1.4	0.5	8-15	0-5: cobbly loam 5-35: very gravelly loam 35-60: very gravelly sandy loam	Farmland of Local Importance
Fairway clay loam	35.8	12.8	0-2	0-13: clay loam 13-25: silty clay loam 25-60: stratified fine sandy loam to silty clay loam	Prime Farmland if Irrigated
Fairway (60%)-Nestley (30%) clay loams Minor components (10%)	32.8	11.8	0-2	0-13: clay loam 13-25: silty clay loam 25-60: stratified fine sandy loam to silty clay loam	Farmland of Local Importance
Fairway (50%)-Moltoner (35%) complex Minor components (15%)	137.6	49.4	0-2	0-13: clay loam 13-25: silty clay loam 25-60: stratified fine sandy loam to silty clay loam	Farmland of Local Importance
Moltoner silty clay loam	30.3	10.9	0-2	0-5: silty clay loam 5-27: silt loam 27-49: loam 49-60: loam	Not Prime Farmland
Miscellaneous water	11.4	4.1	----	----	----

Fragile, Compactable, or Unstable Soils
No fragile, compactable, or unstable soils have been identified. The project is occurring within developed or previously disturbed areas.

Special Reclamation Considerations
No special reclamation considerations have been identified. The project is occurring within developed or previously disturbed areas. Standard construction methods and procedures associated with installation of water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure are expected to be implemented.

Unusual Geologic Features
No unusual geologic features have been identified.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to geology and soil quality, stability, and moisture. Project features are planned to be installed in existing road, right-of-way, and previously developed and disturbed areas.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to geology and soil quality, stability, and moisture since none are currently known to be present.

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5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:
Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to water resources.

Surface Water
Big Pipestone Creek runs across the lower end of Whitehall near the Town's lift station and lagoon and is listed on the State's 303d list as impaired for nitrogen, phosphorus, and temperature. Other nearby surface water sources that are also 303d listed include the Jefferson River located within 2 miles of Whitehall and Whitetail Deer Creek that flows along the northeastern end of Whitehall. The Jefferson River is listed as impaired for sedimentation/siltation, and Whitetail Deer Creek is listed as impaired for nitrogen, phosphorus, nitrate/nitrite, and ammonia (Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application).

Groundwater
Potable water for the Town is provided by two wells with adequate capacity for expansion. Water for Liberty Place is provided by an individual supply well with no room for expansion.

The Montana Bureau of Mine and Geology Ground Water Information Center (GWIC) web mapping application identifies other wells within the larger project area that are used for domestic, irrigation, monitoring, and public water supply purposes.

Proposed Alternative –

Surface Water: Potential direct adverse impacts to surface water resources during construction activities associated with connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure. Pipes that pass under Big Pipestone Creek will need to be installed to connect the facility to existing infrastructure. Boring under the creek is the preliminary plan to install piping across the creek. There is the potential for release of sediments to the creek given the proximity of construction activities to the creek. It is expected that best management practices (BMPs) and compliance with any applicable permits will be implemented to reduce any potential adverse impacts to surface water resources from construction activities.

Activities associated with installation of a screen to remove inorganics and gravel prior to wastewater entering the lift station is not expected to have any adverse impacts to surface water resources given the distance from the work location to any surface water.

Groundwater: No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to groundwater resources are expected given the scope of work and construction activities associated with the project. It is not expected that boring under Big Pipestone Creek will have any adverse impacts to groundwater since the purpose of the boring is to install piping beneath the creek and not utilize groundwater resources for domestic or other similar purposes.

No Action Alternative –

Surface Water: Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to surface water quality depending on location since the potential for the lift station pumps to fail and cause backups and/or releases of raw sewage will remain.

Groundwater: No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to groundwater resources are expected. No water supply wells are known to be located proximal to the project area.

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6. AIR QUALITY:

What pollutants or particulate would be produced (i.e. particulate matter from road use or harvesting, slash pile burning, prescribed burning, etc.)? Identify the Airshed and Impact Zone (if any) according to the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to air quality.

The project is not located within any air quality non-attainment/maintenance areas (Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application and EPA NEPAssist web mapping application). The project is located within an open burning restriction area. The PJSG, Inc., Whitehall Batch Plant is a Montana Air Quality Registered Portable Facility that is located within Whitehall. It is not expected that this facility will have any adverse impacts on the project, nor the project have any adverse impacts on this facility.

Proposed Alternative – Potential temporary and short-term direct adverse impact to air quality (i.e., dust) may occur during completion of construction activities. Any adverse air quality impacts are expected to occur within the immediate vicinity of work areas and not adversely impact the surrounding community. Implementation of BMPs and dust control associated with general construction to reduce any short-term adverse impacts are expected. Although not expected, Jefferson County will need to be contacted for any open burning activities.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to air quality since there are currently no known air quality issues.

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7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:

What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to vegetation.

Over 33% of the land in Jefferson County is classified as farmland (Montana State University, Economic Impact of Agriculture, Jefferson County).

The Montana Natural Heritage Program identifies land cover (>2%) within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas as the following (total of 14,068 acres):

- Rocky Mountain Lower Montane, Foothill, and Valley Grassland, 38% (5,404 acres)
- Cultivated Crops, 20% (2,792 acres)
- Alpine-Montane Wet Meadow, 12% 1,702 acres)
- Rocky Mountain Lower Montana-Foothill Riparian Woodland and Shrubland, 6% (853 acres)
- Developed, Open Space, 5% (678 acres)

- Other Roads, 3% (491 acres)
- Low Intensity Residential, 3% (406 acres)
- Big Sagebrush Steppe, 3% (367 acres)
- Interstate, 2% (326 acres)
- Open Water, 2% (233 acres)

Per the Montana Natural Heritage Program, vascular plant species that have either been confirmed as occurring or observed or may potentially be present within a 1-mile buffer of the project work areas are summarized in the following table.

Vascular Plants within a 1-Mile Buffer of the Project Areas

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Vascular Plants	Annual Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja exilis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	----
Vascular Plants	Nevada Clubrush	*Amphiscirpus nevadensis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Ute Ladies'-tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	Threatened	----	----
Vascular Plants	High Northern Buttercup	*Ranunculus hyperboreus*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Hare's-foot Locoweed	*Oxytropis lagopus var. conjugans*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Small Yellow Lady's-slipper	*Cypripedium parviflorum*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Flat-topped Broomrape	*Orobanche corymbosa*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Mealy Primrose	*Primula incana*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Beaked Spikerush	*Eleocharis rostellata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Flatleaf Bladderwort	*Utricularia intermedia*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Panic Grass	*Dichanthelium acuminatum*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Platte Cinquefoil	*Potentilla plattensis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Pale-yellow Jewel-weed	*Impatiens aurella*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Wedge-leaf Saltbush	*Atriplex truncata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Vascular Plants	Parry's Fleabane	*Erigeron parryi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Crawe's Sedge	*Carex crawei*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Fleshy Stitchwort	*Stellaria crassifolia*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Kalm's Lobelia	*Lobelia kalmii*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Long-sheath Waterweed	*Elodea bifoliata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Slender Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja gracillima*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Musk-root	*Adoxa moschatellina*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Linear-leaf Fleabane	*Erigeron linearis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Simple Kobresia	*Kobresia simpliciuscula*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----

Notes:
BLM = Bureau of Land Management
MT = Montana
PSOC = potential species of concern
SCC = species of conservation concern
SOC = species of concern
USFS = Unites States Forest Service
USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service
---- = not applicable

Proposed Alternative – Potential direct adverse impact to rare plant types. The Montana Natural Heritage program documents 13 recorded observations of Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*), which is a USFWS listed threatened species, within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas. Montana Natural Heritage Program field guide information states "*Spiranthes diluvialis* is known from a small number of occurrences in southwest and south-central Montana. Plants occur in the valleys of the Missouri, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Ruby, and Madison River drainages where it is restricted in area by specific hydrologic requirements." "A few populations occur along highway right-of-ways". Given the proximity of Whitehall to the Jefferson River, number of recorded observations with a 1-mile buffer of project work areas, and that project work to connect Liberty Place to the Town's water and wastewater infrastructure is proposed to occur within the right-of-way, **it is recommended that work areas be visually inspected by a qualified professional for the presence of USFWS threatened species Ute Ladies'-tresses prior to the start of construction activities.**

Potential short-term direct adverse impact to any vegetation potentially present within the immediate areas where work associated with installing piping and infrastructure to connect Liberty

Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater infrastructure may occur due to the nature of construction and soil boring activities. Work, including boring required to run piping under Big Pipestone Creek, is planned to occur within or adjacent to existing roads, rights-of-way, and previously disturbed areas. Any vegetation adversely impacted by construction activities and/or disturbed areas is expected to naturally reestablish with no long-term adverse impacts.

The screen is planned to be installed in a subsurface 8-foot by 10-foot vault over the existing sewer main and would extend above ground and into a 20-foot by 20-foot building where the controls would be housed, and disposal would take place. This work area is located within a previously disturbed area on Town owned land. Although vegetation may be adversely impacted to complete construction activities, any adverse impacts are expected to be localized to the immediate construction area and not adversely impact surrounding vegetation communities. Any vegetation adversely impacted by construction activities and/or within disturbed areas is expected to naturally reestablish with no long-term adverse impacts.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to vegetation cover, quantity, and quality. The potential for raw sewage to backup or surface and damage/kill vegetation will remain.

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8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:
Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds, or fish. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

The project is not located within any critical habitat areas (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NEPAssist web mapping application). Per Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the project is not located within a wildlife habitat protection area or critical habitat for threatened and endangered (T&E) species (FWP Wildlife Habitat Protection Area and USFWS Critical Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species web mapping applications).

According to the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Map web mapping application, the project is not located within a Sage Grouse Executive Order (EO) Habitat Classification area or a United States Forest Service (USFS) priority habitat management area. The project is located within the Snake River Plain Management Zone.

The Montana Natural Heritage Program identifies bat roost (non-cave) important animal habitat (IAH) as being observed within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas.

Per the Montana Natural Heritage Program, terrestrial, avian, and aquatic life species and habitats that have either been confirmed as occurring or observed or may potentially be present within a 1-mile buffer of the project work areas are summarized in the following table.

Terrestrial, Avian, and Aquatic Life Species within a 1-Mile Buffer of the Project Areas

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Birds	Great Blue Heron	*Ardea herodias*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Birds	Long-billed Curlew	*Numenius americanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Lewis's Woodpecker	*Melanerpes lewis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	Sensitive
Birds	Sage Thrasher	*Oreoscoptes montanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Pinyon Jay	*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Loggerhead Shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Clark's Nutcracker	*Nucifraga columbiana*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	----
Birds	Thick-billed Longspur	*Rhynchophanes mccownii*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Mountain Plover	*Charadrius montanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Brewer's Sparrow	*Spizella breweri*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Cassin's Finch	*Haemorhous cassinii*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Evening Grosbeak	*Coccothraustes vespertinus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Burrowing Owl	*Athene cunicularia*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Bald Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SSS	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Birds	Hooded Merganser	*Lophodytes cucullatus*	Observed	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	*Selasphorus platycercus*	Observed	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Rufous Hummingbird	*Selasphorus rufus*	Observed	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	White-faced Ibis	*Plegadis chihi*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Birds	American White Pelican	*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Bobolink	*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Trumpeter Swan	*Cygnus buccinator*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Golden Eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Ferruginous Hawk	*Buteo regalis*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Sharp-tailed Grouse	*Tympanuchus phasianellus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Black-necked Stilt	*Himantopus mexicanus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Sprague's Pipit	*Anthus spragueii*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Greater Sage-Grouse	*Centrocercus urophasianus*	Observed	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Birds	American Goshawk	*Accipiter atricapillus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Barrow's Goldeneye	*Bucephala islandica*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Short-eared Owl	*Asio flammeus*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Common Poorwill	*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Ovenbird	*Seiurus aurocapilla*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Birds	Veery	*Catharus fuscescens*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	American Bittern	*Botaurus lentiginosus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Black-crowned Night-Heron	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Birds	Pileated Woodpecker	*Dryocopus pileatus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Black-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus erythropthalmus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Forster's Tern	*Sterna forsteri*	Potentially Present	SOC	----		Sensitive
Birds	Harlequin Duck	*Histrionicus histrionicus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Birds	Green-tailed Towhee	*Pipilo chlorurus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Birds	Black Tern	*Chlidonias niger*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Franklin's Gull	*Leucophaeus pipixcan*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	North American Porcupine	*Erethizon dorsatum*	Observed	PSOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Western Spotted Skunk	*Spilogale gracilis*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Silver-haired Bat	*Lasionycteris noctivagans*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Wyoming Ground Squirrel	*Urocitellus elegans*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Mammals	North American Water Vole	*Microtus richardsoni*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Hoary Bat	*Lasiurus cinereus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Columbia Plateau Pocket Mouse	*Perognathus parvus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Little Brown Myotis	*Myotis lucifugus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Mammals	Long-legged Myotis	*Myotis volans*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Fringed Myotis	*Myotis thysanodes*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Spotted Bat	*Euderma maculatum*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Long-eared Myotis	*Myotis evotis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Townsend's Big-eared Bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Mammals	Preble's Shrew	*Sorex preblei*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Dwarf Shrew	*Sorex nanus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	*Cynomys ludovicianus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Canada Lynx	*Lynx canadensis*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Wolverine	*Gulo gulo*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	Sensitive	Sensitive

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Fish	Westslope Cutthroat Trout	*Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Fish	Burbot	*Lota lota*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Familiar Bluet	*Enallagma civile*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	California Darner	*Rhionaeschna californica*	Potentially Present	PSOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Monarch	*Danaus plexippus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Suckley Cuckoo Bumble Bee	*Bombus suckleyi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Western Pearlshell	*Margaritifera falcata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Invertebrates	A Caddisfly	*Rhyacophila betteni*	Potentially Present	SSS	----	----	----
Amphibians	Northern Leopard Frog	*Lithobates pipiens*	Observed	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Amphibians	Western Toad	*Anaxyrus boreas*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Reptiles	Greater Short-horned Lizard	*Phrynosoma hernandesi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Reptiles	Western Milksnake	*Lampropeltis gentilis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Bryophytes	Meesia Moss	*Meesia triquetra*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
IAH	Bat Roost (Non-Cave)	----	Confirmed As Occurring	----	----	----	----

Notes:
BLM = Bureau of Land Management
IAH = important animal habitat
MT = Montana
PSOC = potential species of concern
SCC = species of conservation concern
SOC = species of concern
SSS = special status species
USFS = Unites States Forest Service
USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service
---- = not applicable

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to terrestrial, avian, or aquatic life and habitats are expected. Construction activities associated with connecting Liberty Place to the existing Town's water and wastewater system infrastructure is planned to occur either on or within existing roads, right-of-way, or previously disturbed and developed areas. Boring under Big Pipestone Creek to run piping beneath the creek is not expected to have any adverse impacts to any aquatic life within the creek since it is not expected to change or modify current conditions within and along the creek. Work associated with installing a screen immediately upstream of the existing lift station will occur within a previously disturbed and developed area. The area around roadways and existing wastewater treatment system infrastructure is not expected to be preferred habitat when compared to habitat immediately available within the surrounding area.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to terrestrial, avian, or aquatic life and habitats. The potential for raw sewage to backup, surface, and be released to the environment and adversely impacts any surrounding habitat will remain.

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9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:
Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

Threatened and Endangered Species
The Montana Natural Heritage Program identifies the following threatened and endangered (T&E) species within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas.

Threatened and Endangered Species within a 1-Mile Buffer of the Project Areas

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Vascular Plants	Ute Ladies'-tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	Threatened	----	----
Birds	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Canada Lynx	*Lynx canadensis*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Wolverine	*Gulo gulo*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	Sensitive	Sensitive

Notes:
BLM = Bureau of Land Management
MT = Montana
SOC = species of concern
USFS = Unites States Forest Service
USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service
---- = not applicable

Sensitive Species

The following table summarizes Montana special status species (SSS), Montana species of concern (SOC), USFS/Bureau of Land Management (BLM) sensitive species, and any species of conservation concern (SCC) that the Montana Natural Heritage Society identifies as either being confirmed as occurring or observed or potentially present within a 1-mile buffer of the project work areas.

Special Status Species, Species of Concern, Sensitive Species, and Species of Conservation Concern within a 1-Mile Buffer of the Project Areas

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Vascular Plants	Annual Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja exilis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	----
Vascular Plants	Nevada Clubrush	*Amphiscirpus nevadensis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Ute Ladies'-tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	Threatened	----	----
Vascular Plants	Mealy Primrose	*Primula incana*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Beaked Spikerush	*Eleocharis rostellata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Flatleaf Bladderwort	*Utricularia intermedia*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Panic Grass	*Dichanthelium acuminatum*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Platte Cinquefoil	*Potentilla plattensis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Pale-yellow Jewel-weed	*Impatiens aurella*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Wedge-leaf Saltbush	*Atriplex truncata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Parry's Fleabane	*Erigeron parryi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Crawe's Sedge	*Carex crawei*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Fleshy Stitchwort	*Stellaria crassifolia*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Kalm's Lobelia	*Lobelia kalmii*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Long-sheath Waterweed	*Elodea bifoliata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Slender Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja gracillima*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Vascular Plants	Musk-root	*Adoxa moschatellina*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Vascular Plants	Linear-leaf Fleabane	*Erigeron linearis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Vascular Plants	Simple Kobresia	*Kobresia simpliciuscula*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Great Blue Heron	*Ardea herodias*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Long-billed Curlew	*Numenius americanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Lewis's Woodpecker	*Melanerpes lewis*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	Sensitive
Birds	Sage Thrasher	*Oreoscoptes montanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Pinyon Jay	*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Loggerhead Shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Clark's Nutcracker	*Nucifraga columbiana*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	SCC	----
Birds	Thick-billed Longspur	*Rhynchophanes mccownii*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Mountain Plover	*Charadrius montanus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Brewer's Sparrow	*Spizella breweri*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Cassin's Finch	*Haemorhous cassinii*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Evening Grosbeak	*Coccothraustes vespertinus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Burrowing Owl	*Athene cunicularia*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Bald Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	Confirmed As Occurring	SSS	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Birds	White-faced Ibis	*Plegadis chihi*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	American White Pelican	*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Bobolink	*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Trumpeter Swan	*Cygnus buccinator*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Golden Eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Ferruginous Hawk	*Buteo regalis*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Birds	Sharp-tailed Grouse	*Tympanuchus phasianellus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Black-necked Stilt	*Himantopus mexicanus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Sprague's Pipit	*Anthus spragueii*	Observed	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Greater Sage-Grouse	*Centrocercus urophasianus*	Observed	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Birds	American Goshawk	*Accipiter atricapillus*	Observed	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Veery	*Catharus fuscescens*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	American Bittern	*Botaurus lentiginosus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Black-crowned Night-Heron	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Birds	Pileated Woodpecker	*Dryocopus pileatus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Black-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus erythropthalmus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Forster's Tern	*Sterna forsteri*	Potentially Present	SOC	----		Sensitive
Birds	Harlequin Duck	*Histrionicus histrionicus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Birds	Green-tailed Towhee	*Pipilo chlorurus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Birds	Black Tern	*Chlidonias niger*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Birds	Franklin's Gull	*Leucophaeus pipixcan*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Hoary Bat	*Lasiurus cinereus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Columbia Plateau Pocket Mouse	*Perognathus parvus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Little Brown Myotis	*Myotis lucifugus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----
Mammals	Long-legged Myotis	*Myotis volans*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Fringed Myotis	*Myotis thysanodes*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Spotted Bat	*Euderma maculatum*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive

Species Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence Description	MT Status	USFWS Status	USFS Status	BLM Status
Mammals	Long-eared Myotis	*Myotis evotis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Townsend's Big-eared Bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Mammals	Preble's Shrew	*Sorex preblei*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Dwarf Shrew	*Sorex nanus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Mammals	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	*Cynomys ludovicianus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Mammals	Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Canada Lynx	*Lynx canadensis*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	----	Threatened
Mammals	Wolverine	*Gulo gulo*	Potentially Present	SOC	Threatened	Sensitive	Sensitive
Fish	Westslope Cutthroat Trout	*Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi*	Confirmed As Occurring	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Invertebrates	Monarch	*Danaus plexippus*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Suckley Cuckoo Bumble Bee	*Bombus suckleyi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	----
Invertebrates	Western Pearlshell	*Margaritifera falcata*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Invertebrates	A Caddisfly	*Rhyacophila betteni*	Potentially Present	SSS	----	----	----
Amphibians	Northern Leopard Frog	*Lithobates pipiens*	Observed	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Amphibians	Western Toad	*Anaxyrus boreas*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	Sensitive
Reptiles	Greater Short-horned Lizard	*Phrynosoma hernandesi*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Reptiles	Western Milksnake	*Lampropeltis gentilis*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	----	Sensitive
Bryophytes	Meesia Moss	*Meesia triquetra*	Potentially Present	SOC	----	Sensitive	----

Notes:
BLM = Bureau of Land Management
MT = Montana
SCC = species of conservation concern
SOC = species of concern
SSS = special status species
USFS = Unites States Forest Service
USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service
---- = not applicable

Critical/Important Habitat
The Montana Natural Heritage Program identifies bat roost (non-cave) important animal habitat (IAH) as being observed within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas.

Wetlands and Riparian Zones
The National Wetlands Inventory web mapping application shows the presence of freshwater emergent wetland, riverine, and forested/shrub wetland along Big Pipestone Creek within the vicinity of where piping is proposed to be passed under Big Pipestone Creek to connect Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure.

Proposed Alternative –

USFWS Federally Listed Threatened or Endangered Species and Critical Habitat: Potential direct adverse impact to rare plant types. The Montana Natural Heritage program documents 13 recorded observations of Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*), which is a USFWS listed threatened species, within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas. Montana Natural Heritage Program field guide information states "*Spiranthes diluvialis* is known from a small number of occurrences in southwest and south-central Montana. Plants occur in the valleys of the Missouri, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Ruby, and Madison River drainages where it is restricted in area by specific hydrologic requirements." "A few populations occur along highway right-of-ways". Given the proximity of Whitehall to the Jefferson River, number of recorded observations with a 1-mile buffer of project work areas, and that project work to connect Liberty Place to the Town's water and wastewater infrastructure is proposed to occur within the right-of-way, **it is recommended that work areas be visually inspected, at the appropriate time of year to observe vegetative growth, by a qualified professional for the presence of USFWS threatened species Ute Ladies'-tresses prior to the start of construction activities.**

No adverse impact to USFWS threatened species Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*), Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), and Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) are expected. No critical habitat associated with these species is present at or near Whitehall. Project work areas are also located within previously disturbed areas, near a populated and developed area, and are not expected to have any adverse impact on the surrounding area and overall habitat range associated with these species.

Critical/Important Habitat: No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to bat habitat is expected given the scope of work associated with the project and that the project will take place within existing disturbed and developed areas.

Wetland Resources: Potential direct adverse impact to wetland resources. The National Wetlands Inventory web mapping application shows the presence of freshwater emergent wetland, riverine, and forested/shrub wetland along Big Pipestone Creek within the vicinity of where piping is proposed to be passed under Big Pipestone Creek to connect Liberty Place to existing Town water and wastewater system infrastructure. **It is recommended that the location of wet land resources be considered during the preliminary engineering design so that the placement of boring locations and work associated with passing piping beneath Big Pipestone Creek have no adverse impact to wetland resources.**

No Action Alternative – Potential direct adverse impact to any unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources since the threat of raw sewage backing up and surfacing will remain. Exposure to raw sewage would have adverse impacts to any of these types of resources present.

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Identify and determine direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources.

No National Register of Historic Places within the project areas have been identified (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NEPAssist web mapping application).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to historical and archaeological sites. It is not expected that any historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources will be identified during construction since construction is taking place within previously disturbed and developed areas.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to historical and archaeological sites since none have been identified within the project area.

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to aesthetics.

No prominent topographic features have been identified. Work associated with the project is occurring within existing roads, right-of-way, and previously disturbed and developed areas. These areas are not prominent topographic features. Big Pipestone Creek is not a wild and scenic river.

Proposed Alternative – Potential direct and temporary adverse impact to aesthetics due to noise associated with general construction activities. Construction equipment and work will be visible to people traveling along roadways and living and working near project work areas. Noise is expected to be localized around project work areas and not adversely impact the surrounding area. Project work areas are located near existing roadways where existing traffic noise is present. The project is being completed in previously disturbed and existing developed areas. No overall visual changes are expected.

No long-term adverse impacts are expected. The project is expected to be short-term given the proposed scope of work. Any temporary adverse noise will cease upon completion of the project. Given hazards associated with construction equipment working at night, it is expected that work will occur during daylight hours. No adverse impacts due to light are expected.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts impact to aesthetics since existing conditions will not change.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:
Determine the number of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to environmental resources.

The project is expected to be performed by local contractors and project personnel living and working within Whitehall, Jefferson County, and the surrounding area. Equipment and materials necessary to complete the project are expected to be locally or readily available and not be in limited supply. Fuel consumption associated with equipment necessary to complete the project is expected.

No other activities nearby that the project would adversely impact have been identified.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts to land, water, air, or energy resources are expected. Energy resources (i.e., power) will be required to operate the new lift station pump associated with connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment systems. However, the Liberty Place's water supply well pump will no longer be using power. Easements and lease agreements are anticipated to be necessary to complete the project; however, no adverse impacts to the land are expected since project areas are previously disturbed and developed. Any water, air, or energy resources necessary to operate equipment or perform activities necessary to complete the project are not expected to be adversely impacted given the expected short-term duration of the project.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to land and water resources. The threat of the lift station pumps failing, and raw sewage surfacing has the potential to adversely impact any land or water in contact with raw sewage.

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:
List other studies, plans, or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state, or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

The construction contractor may have to submit a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and/or 318 Authorization permit to DEQ. It is expected that DEQ will review and approve the final engineering plans and specifications since work will involve connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater system infrastructure.

The Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application identifies a 318 Authorization permit (Permit Number MTB004618) and a Storm Waster Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (Permit Number MTR107145) as both active within the vicinity of MT Highway 55 where the proposed piping to connect Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater infrastructure is proposed to be located.

There are no other known studies, plans, or projects within the proposed project areas. There are no known private, state, federal actions, or future proposed state actions that are under MEPA review within the proposed project area (Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web and EPA NEPAssist web mapping applications).

According to the Montana Natural Heritage Program, there have been several structured surveys within a 1-mile buffer of the project areas that include the following:

- Nocturnal Breeding Amphibian Calling Survey (2022)
- Bald Eagle Nest Survey (2004)
- Bird Point Count (2004)
- Eastern Heath Snail Survey (2012)
- Rake tows/pulls for Eurasian Water-milfoil (2019)
- Plankton tows for veligers of Invasive Mussels (2021)
- Kicknet Collection Survey for Invasive Mussels and Snails (2023)
- Noxious Weed Road-based Visual Surveys (2004)
- Noxious Weed Visual Surveys (2009)
- Visual Encounter Surveys for Aquatic Invasives on Shorelines or Underwater (2023)
- Bat Roost (Active Season) Survey (2019)
- Algal Scraping (2004)

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts on other environmental documents pertinent to the area. It is not expected that the project will have any adverse impact on the SWPPP, and 318 Authorization permits identified in the Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application. These permits may potentially be associated with a Montana Highway 55 bridge replacement project that was completed in 2018.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to other environmental documents pertinent to the area.

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

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14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:
Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

The Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application identifies several active petroleum release sites, regulated storage tanks, and hazardous waste handlers within the Town. These facilities are not expected to pose any adverse impacts to the project, and the project is not expected to pose any adverse impacts to these facilities.

Proposed Alternative – Potential direct adverse impact to human health and safety due to health and safety risks associated with the operation of construction equipment and working within an active construction site which are necessary to complete the project. Any potential health and safety risks are expected to be limited to project personnel working within project areas. Per standard of practice, it is expected that the contractor will have a health and safety plan that identifies project health and safety risks and associated mitigation measures.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to human health and safety. The threat of lift station pumps failing and raw sewage backing up into structures or surfacing and allowing human contact with raw sewage has the potential to adversely impact human health and safety.

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15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:
Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

Per the United States Census, Jefferson County has 322 total employer establishments. Over 33% of land in Jefferson County is farmland (Montana Statue University, Economic Impact of Agriculture). The largest industries in Jefferson County include agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining, construction, accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, and retail trade (United States Census). The highest wage industries in Jefferson County include mining; professional, scientific, and technical services; wholesale trade; utilities; and manufacturing (Montana.gov official state website, Local Area Profiles).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to industrial, commercial, and agricultural activities and production given the scope of work associated with the project. The project may add a beneficial impact to the local construction industry by providing work for local and area contractors and material suppliers.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to industrial, commercial, and agricultural activities and production since no there are currently no known adverse impacts.

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16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:
Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move, or eliminate. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the employment market.

The population of Jefferson County in 2020 was 12,085 (United States Census Bureau). The population of the Whitehall in 2020 was 1,006 (United States Census Bureau). Construction of the project is expected to be performed by existing local contractors and project personnel living and working within Whitehall, the surrounding area, and Jefferson County.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact. Potentially short-term direct and indirect beneficial impacts to the local employment market and suppliers by creating a job opportunity for local contractors and material suppliers. It is not expected that the project would create, move, or eliminate jobs.

No Action Alternative – No adverse impact to quantity or distribution of employment since no there are currently no known adverse impacts.

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17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:
Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

Over 33% of land in Jefferson County is farmland (Montana State University, Economic Impact of Agriculture). Jefferson County itself comprises 1,060392 acres. In 2019, the market value of all property in Jefferson County was approximately $1.0 billion. The taxable value of all property was

approximately $31 million. Agricultural property comprised 3% of Jefferson County's taxable value (Montana State University Extension, Economic Impact of Agriculture, Jefferson County, January 2021).

For tax year 2023, the market value of property in the City of Whitehall totaled $137,308,347 with a taxable value of $2,154,671 (Montana.gov official state website).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to local and state tax base and tax revenues. The project may result in beneficial impacts to the Town's revenues by adding an additional hook-up to the water and wastewater systems and associated increased revenue from usage charges.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to local and state tax base and tax revenues as the taxes and revenues generated from the current wastewater system service fees will not change.

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18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services.

The Whitehall Volunteer Fire Department and the Town of Whitehall Fire Department are in Whitehall. The Town has a contractual agreement with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office to provide police services for the Town (Town of Whitehall web page). An elementary, middle, and high school are also in Whitehall.

Proposed Alternative – Temporary adverse impact to traffic and traffic patterns during construction to connect Liberty Place to existing Town water and wastewater system infrastructure is expected since work will be occurring in and adjacent to roadways and right-of-way. Minor traffic control and signage may be necessary at the existing lift station work area. Per standard of practice, it is expected that a traffic control plan will be implemented to mitigate any adverse impacts. No long-term adverse impacts are expected. Upon completion of the project, traffic and traffic patterns are expected to return to pre-construction conditions.

No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts or changes to fire protection, police, or schools are expected given the limited scope of work associated with the project. A beneficial impact to fire protection services may result from the project since a new hydrant is proposed to be installed near the Liberty Place property to provide better response should a fire occur.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to demand for government services since none have currently been identified.

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19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning, or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

The Whitehall wastewater treatment system currently discharges to Pipestone Creek under permit#MT00220133 (Discover DEQ Throughout Montana web mapping application). DEQ circular

standards may be applicable for connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater system infrastructure. There are no other known zoning or management plans for the project area (Environmental Protection Agency NEPAssist and Montana DEQ Discover DEQ Throughout Montanan web mapping applications).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to locally adopted environmental plans and goals. The project is not expected to have any adverse impact to the discharge permit since there are no known compliance issues.

No Action Alternative – Direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impact to locally adopted environmental plans and goals since current conditions will not change.

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20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:
Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

The project is located within developed and previously disturbed areas. No wilderness or recreational areas or access routes within project work areas have been identified.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities since the project work areas as located within developed, previously disturbed areas that include roads, right-of-way, and existing wastewater treatment system infrastructure.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities since none have been identified within the project work areas.

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21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:
Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to population and housing.

The population of Jefferson County in 2020 was 12,085 with 5,375 housing units (United States Census Bureau). The population of the Whitehall in 2020 was 1,006 with 531 housing units (United States Census Bureau).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to density and distribution of population and housing. Construction of the project is expected to be performed by existing local contractors and project personnel living and working within Whitehall, Jefferson County, and the surrounding area; no additional housing or changes to current housing are expected.

The project is expected to have a beneficial impact to the population at Liberty Place as it will allow the facility to expand and treat more individuals with brain injuries.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impacts to density and distribution of population and housing since there are currently no known concerns and current conditions will not change.

22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:

Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.

Whitehall is not located within a tribal territory/reservation in Montana. The communities' lifestyles support agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining, construction, accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, and retail trade in the area (United States Census).

The larger project area was traditionally inhabited or used by the Salish and Shoshone-Bannock tribes (Native Land Digital web mapping application).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to social structures and/or traditional lifestyles or communities is expected. The scope of work associated with the project is not expected to change any current lifestyles within the community.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to social structures and/or traditional lifestyles or communities. The current communities and lifestyles are expected to remain as is.

23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:

How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?

No cultural uniqueness and diversity have been identified.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to any cultural uniqueness, diversity, or unique quality of the project area. The project is being completed within existing roadways, right-of-way, and previously disturbed and developed areas. None of these are unique qualities to the area. Post-project conditions will resemble pre-project conditions. No changes to the current culture and diversity are expected because of the project.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to any cultural uniqueness, diversity, or unique quality.

24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:

Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify direct, indirect, and cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

The future uses of the project areas will not change from their current uses.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to other appropriate social and economic circumstances are expected. The lift station area where the screen is to be installed will continue to be used for wastewater treatment system infrastructure. Use of the areas where piping and infrastructure to connect Liberty Place to the existing Town water and wastewater treatment systems and install a new hydrant are not expected to change from their current uses (i.e., private property, roadways, right-of-way, etc.). No economic or social changes are expected because of the project. The water and wastewater treatment systems will continue to be maintained by the Town. No changes to resident incomes are expected.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct adverse impact to social and economic circumstances. If the lift station pumps continue to routinely fail and require replacement, usage fees have the potential to increase to cover increased operation and maintenance costs.

---

25. DRINKING WATER AND/OR CLEAN WATER

Identify potential impacts to water and/or sewer infrastructure (e.g., community water supply, stormwater, sewage system, solid waste management) and identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

The Town provides centralized water and sewer services to residents. Potable water is provided by two wells with adequate capacity for expansion. The Town's wastewater collects at a singular lift station before being pumped to a lagoon treatment system. Inorganic material and gravels are collecting in the lift station and are eventually pulled through the lift station pumps and into the lagoon treatment cells. Damage caused by these materials moving through the pumps has resulted in the pumps needing to be replaced approximately every two years and an associated increase in operation and maintenance costs. The pumps should last at least 10 years.

Liberty Place assists individuals with traumatic brain injuries. Its drinking water is serviced by a water supply well and wastewater is treated by an individual septic system. These current systems are at capacity and limit the expansion of the facility to be able to treat more individuals with brain injuries.

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to water and/or wastewater (i.e., sewer) infrastructure. This project will have direct, indirect, and cumulative beneficial impacts to the existing wastewater treatment system and to Liberty Place. Installing the screen upstream of the existing lift station will reduce operation and maintenance costs associated with the system and potential for backup of raw sewage. Connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment systems will tie the facility into the community systems. This will eliminate an individual treatment system, and the solid waste management associated with individual systems.

No Action Alternative – Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impacts to the wastewater treatment system and infrastructure and corresponding adverse impacts to human health and the environment. The lift station pumps will continue to routinely fail and require frequent replacement. The threat of raw sewage backing up because of failed pumps and adversely impacting human health and the environment will remain.

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26. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Will the proposed project result in disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations per the Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898? Identify potential impacts to and identify direct, indirect, and cumulative effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

In 2022, the median household income in Jefferson County was $74,755 which is a 23.9% increase from 2017 to 2022. In 2022, people in poverty were 12.6% which is a 0.8% decrease from 2017 to 2022 (Montana Department of Commerce).

Proposed Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact is expected as the project

will not result in disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental impacts on minority or low-income populations. All current users of the wastewater treatment system will equally benefit from installation of the screen upstream of the lift station and resulting reduced operation and maintenance costs. Connecting Liberty Place to the existing Town water and wastewater treatment infrastructure will benefit workers and residents at Liberty Place by allowing the facility to expand. This benefit and potential expansion will not result in any disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations since Liberty Place is private property with the focus on treating individual with brain injuries.

No Action Alternative – No direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impact to environmental justice.

EA Prepared By:	**Name:**	Samantha Treu	**Date:**	1/2/2025
	Title:	MEPA/NEPA Coordinator	**Email:**	samantha.treu@mt.gov

V. FINDING

There is no documentation that alternatives have been developed or considered for the project.

The project includes the following proposed scope of work:

- Install a 16-inch wide by 15-foot long 6-mm mechanically cleaned bar screen at a 75-degree angle just upstream of the existing lift station to remove inorganics and gravel before wastewater enters the pumps. The screen would be installed in a subsurface 8-foot by 10-foot vault over the existing sewer main and would extend above ground and into a 20-foot by 20-foot building where the controls would be housed, and disposal would take place.
- Install piping and a lift station to connect Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure. This would include a gravity main, lift station, and a force main.
- Install a new hydrant near the Liberty Place property to provide the fire department better response should an incident occur.

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28. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY, AND DISTRIBUTION

Potential direct adverse impacts to surface water resources during construction activities associated with connecting Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater treatment system infrastructure. Pipes that pass under Big Pipestone Creek will need to be installed to connect the facility to existing infrastructure. Boring under the creek is the preliminary plan to install piping across the creek. There is the potential for release of sediments to the creek given the proximity of construction activities to the creek. It is expected that best management practices (BMPs) and compliance with any applicable permits will be implemented to reduce any potential adverse impacts to surface water resources from construction activities.

AIR QUALITY

Potential temporary and short-term direct adverse impact to air quality (i.e., dust) may occur during completion of construction activities. Any adverse air quality impacts are expected to occur

within the immediate vicinity of work areas and not adversely impact the surrounding community. Implementation of BMPs and dust control associated with general construction to reduce any short-term adverse impacts are expected. Although not expected, Jefferson County will need to be contacted for any open burning activities.

VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY, AND QUALITY

Potential short-term direct adverse impact to any vegetation potentially present within the immediate areas where work associated with installing piping and infrastructure to connect Liberty Place to the Town's existing water and wastewater infrastructure may occur due to the nature of construction and soil boring activities. Work, including boring required to run piping under Big Pipestone Creek, is planned to occur within or adjacent to existing roads, rights-of-way, and previously disturbed areas. Any vegetation adversely impacted by construction activities and/or disturbed areas is expected to naturally reestablish with no long-term adverse impacts.

The screen is planned to be installed in a subsurface 8-foot by 10-foot vault over the existing sewer main and would extend above ground and into a 20-foot by 20-foot building where the controls would be housed, and disposal would take place. This work area is located within a previously disturbed area on Town owned land. Although vegetation may be adversely impacted to complete construction activities, any adverse impacts are expected to be localized to the immediate construction area and not adversely impact surrounding vegetation communities. Any vegetation adversely impacted by construction activities and/or within disturbed areas is expected to naturally reestablish with no long-term adverse impacts.

UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES *– USFWS Federally Listed Threatened Species and Wetland Resources*

Potential direct adverse impact to rare plant types. The Montana Natural Heritage program documents 13 recorded observations of Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*), which is a USFWS listed threatened species, within a 1-mile buffer of project work areas. Montana Natural Heritage Program field guide information states "*Spiranthes diluvialis* is known from a small number of occurrences in southwest and south-central Montana. Plants occur in the valleys of the Missouri, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Ruby, and Madison River drainages where it is restricted in area by specific hydrologic requirements." "A few populations occur along highway right-of-ways". Given the proximity of Whitehall to the Jefferson River, number of recorded observations with a 1-mile buffer of project work areas, and that project work to connect Liberty Place to the Town's water and wastewater infrastructure is proposed to occur within the right-of-way, **it is recommended that work areas be visually inspected by a qualified professional for the presence of USFWS threatened species Ute Ladies'-tresses prior to the start of construction activities.**

Potential direct adverse impact to wetland resources. The National Wetlands Inventory web mapping application shows the presence of freshwater emergent wetland, riverine, and forested/shrub wetland along Big Pipestone Creek within the vicinity of where piping is proposed to be passed under Big Pipestone Creek to connect Liberty Place to existing Town water and wastewater system infrastructure. **It is recommended that the location of wet land resources be considered during the preliminary engineering design so that the placement of boring locations and work associated with passing piping beneath Big Pipestone Creek have no adverse impact to wetland resources.**

AESTHETICS

Potential direct and temporary adverse impact to aesthetics due to noise associated with general construction activities. Construction equipment and work will be visible to people traveling along

roadways and living and working near project work areas. Noise is expected to be localized around project work areas and not adversely impact the surrounding area. Project work areas are located near existing roadways where existing traffic noise is present. The project is being completed in previously disturbed and existing developed areas. No overall visual changes are expected.

HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY

Potential direct adverse impact to human health and safety due to health and safety risks associated with the operation of construction equipment and working within an active construction site which are necessary to complete the project. Any potential health and safety risks are expected to be limited to project personnel working within project areas. Per standard of practice, it is expected that the contractor will have a health and safety plan that identifies project health and safety risks and associated mitigation measures.

DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Temporary adverse impact to traffic and traffic patterns during construction to connect Liberty Place to existing Town water and wastewater system infrastructure is expected since work will be occurring in and adjacent to roadways and right-of-way. Minor traffic control and signage may be necessary at the existing lift station work area. Per standard of practice, it is expected that a traffic control plan will be implemented to mitigate any adverse impacts. No long-term adverse impacts are expected. Upon completion of the project, traffic and traffic patterns are expected to return to pre-construction conditions.

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29. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

No impacts appear to require a mitigated EA or EIS.

This is the final environmental assessment. DNRC concludes that no significant adverse impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project work, and therefore no additional environmental review is required. This environmental assessment was posted for a 30-day public notice, after which the final environmental assessment was established, and the environmental review of this project is considered complete.

[ ]	EIS	[ ]	More Detailed EA	[X]	No Further Analysis

EA Approved By:	**Name:** Mark W Bostrom **Title:** Division Administrator	
Signature: Mark W Bostrom		**Date**: 2/14/2025

Project Locations and Features

PRELIMINARY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

SCALE 25 0 25 50 FEET

N

TRIPLE TREE ENGINEERING

Oct 13, 2023 - 11:34am - P:\Whitehall\23-20 Whitehall Lift Station Improvements and Extensions\Design\CADD\ConstructionDrawings\ReferenceDrawings\23-20 areal.dwg

SHEET		
#####	PROJECT #:	23-20
	DRAFTED BY:	CKP
	CHECKED BY:	####
	DATE:	10/11/2023

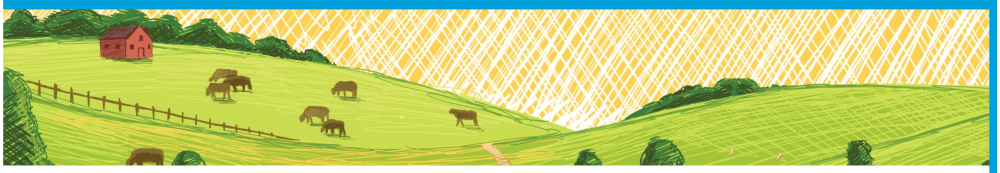
WHITEHALL LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS

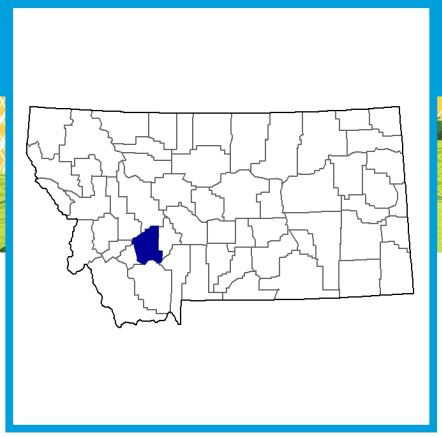
WHITEHALL
WHITEHALL, MT

#####

REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE *County Profile*





Jefferson County
Montana

Total and Per Farm Overview, 2017 and change since 2012

	2017	% change since 2012
Number of farms	370	-8
Land in farms (acres)	352,128	-5
Average size of farm (acres)	952	+3
Total	($)	
Market value of products sold	20,164,000	-10
Government payments	634,000	+22
Farm-related income	788,000	+24
Total farm production expenses	18,069,000	+11
Net cash farm income	3,517,000	-52
Per farm average	($)	
Market value of products sold	54,497	-3
Government payments (average per farm receiving)	14,741	+28
Farm-related income	8,568	+38
Total farm production expenses	48,835	+21
Net cash farm income	9,505	-48

1 Percent of state agriculture sales

Share of Sales by Type (%)

Crops	20
Livestock, poultry, and products	80

Land in Farms by Use (%) [a]

Cropland	16
Pastureland	78
Woodland	4
Other	1

Acres irrigated: 33,458
10% of land in farms

Land Use Practices (% of farms)

No till	1
Reduced till	7
Intensive till	5
Cover crop	7

Farms by Value of Sales

	Number	Percent of Total [a]
Less than $2,500	193	52
$2,500 to $4,999	29	8
$5,000 to $9,999	29	8
$10,000 to $24,999	34	9
$25,000 to $49,999	18	5
$50,000 to $99,999	23	6
$100,000 or more	44	12

Farms by Size

	Number	Percent of Total [a]
1 to 9 acres	30	8
10 to 49 acres	107	29
50 to 179 acres	88	24
180 to 499 acres	61	16
500 to 999 acres	22	6
1,000 + acres	62	17

USDA AGRICULTURE COUNTS
United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE *County Profile*

Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold

	Sales ($1,000)	Rank in State [b]	Counties Producing Item	Rank in U.S. [b]	Counties Producing Item
Total	**20,164**	**46**	**56**	**2,369**	**3,077**
Crops	**4,062**	**48**	**56**	**2,458**	**3,073**
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, dry peas	1,246	45	54	2,063	2,916
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	323
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	647
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes	(D)	31	42	2,017	2,821
Fruits, tree nuts, berries	121	4	27	1,213	2,748
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod	(D)	35	35	1,635	2,601
Cultivated Christmas trees, short rotation woody crops	-	-	9	-	1,384
Other crops and hay	2,687	34	56	938	3,040
Livestock, poultry, and products	**16,102**	**43**	**56**	**1,809**	**3,073**
Poultry and eggs	10	32	53	1,783	3,007
Cattle and calves	15,184	40	56	973	3,055
Milk from cows	-	-	25	-	1,892
Hogs and pigs	17	30	54	1,409	2,856
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, milk	579	20	55	296	2,984
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, donkeys	290	18	56	747	2,970
Aquaculture	-	-	13	-	1,251
Other animals and animal products	22	40	52	1,287	2,878

Total Producers [c] 693

Sex

Male	382
Female	311

Age

<35	58
35 – 64	339
65 and older	296

Race

American Indian/Alaska Native	1
Asian	2
Black or African American	1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	-
White	682
More than one race	7

Other characteristics

Hispanic, Latino, Spanish origin	10
With military service	83
New and beginning farmers	181

Percent of farms that:

Have internet access	90
Farm organically	-
Sell directly to consumers	5
Hire farm labor	15
Are family farms	96

Top Crops in Acres [d]

Forage (hay/haylage), all	23,668
Wheat for grain, all	5,599
Corn for silage or greenchop	(D)
Apples	19
Cultivated Christmas trees	15

Livestock Inventory (Dec 31, 2017)

Broilers and other meat-type chickens	(D)
Cattle and calves	24,879
Goats	175
Hogs and pigs	85
Horses and ponies	930
Layers	717
Pullets	75
Sheep and lambs	2,996
Turkeys	-

See 2017 Census of Agriculture, U.S. Summary and State Data, for complete footnotes, explanations, definitions, commodity descriptions, and methodology.
[a] May not add to 100% due to rounding. [b] Among counties whose rank can be displayed. [c] Data collected for a maximum of four producers per farm.
[d] Crop commodity names may be shortened; see full names at www.nass.usda.gov/go/cropnames.pdf. [e] Position below the line does not indicate rank.
(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. (-) Represents zero.

FWP MENU

RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

HATCHERIES

WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION AREA SEARCH

Select a Wildlife Habitat Protection Area on the map to view information. Or search for a Wildlife Habitat Protection Area from the dropdown below.

Visit a Wildlife Habitat Protection Area

Select a Wildlife Habitat Protection Area

Find by Activities

Select an Activity

Find by Hunting / Trapping Opportunities

Jefferson

Labor Market Info Jefferson County 2023

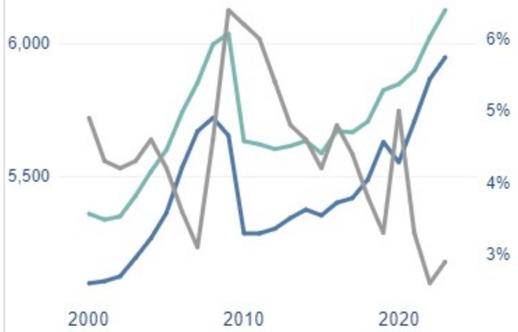
Labor Force
6,125

Employed
5,947

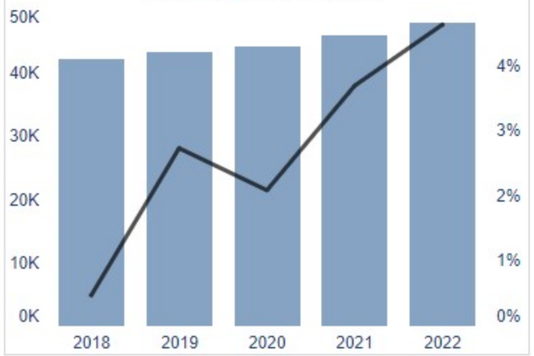
Unemployed
178

Unemployment Rate
2.9%

Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment Rate

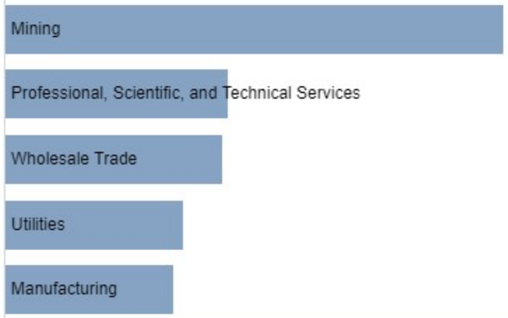


Average Annual Wages



Largest Industries
(by # of jobs)

Highest Wage Industries
(by average annual wage)



Use the buttons below to view more detailed labor market data

Labor Market Size | Labor Market Growth | Industry Size | Industry Growth | Ownership | Top Employers

Edit

Montana Income and Poverty
Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

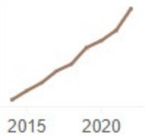
2022
current year

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

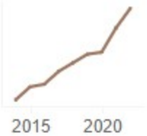
Income | Poverty | Rank | Table

Median Household Income

United States
$74,755
▲ $14,419 (23.9%)
Change 2017 to 2022

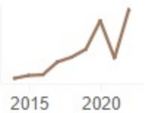


Montana
$67,915
▲ $14,653 (27.5%)
Change 2017 to 2022

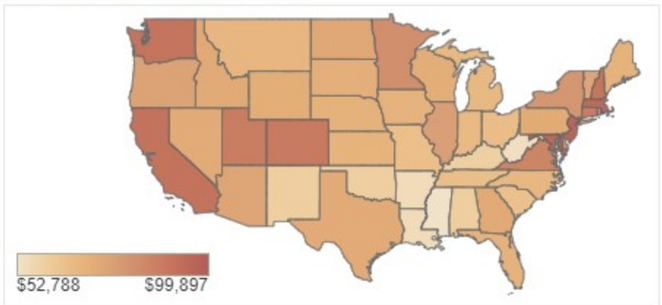


Select a County
Jefferson

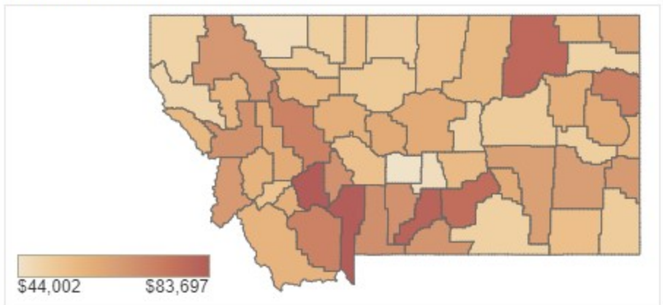
Jefferson
$83,697
▲ $16,884 (25.3%)
Change 2017 to 2022



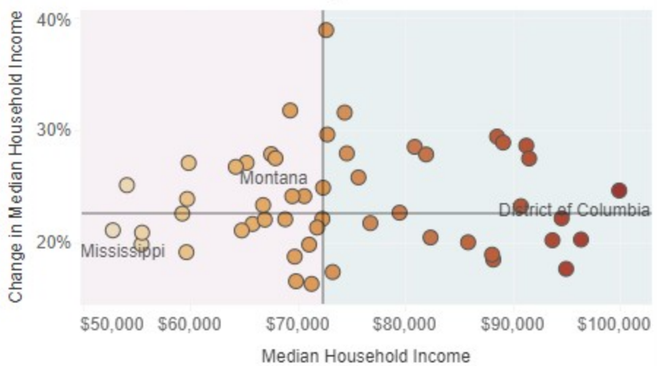
Median Household Income by **State**



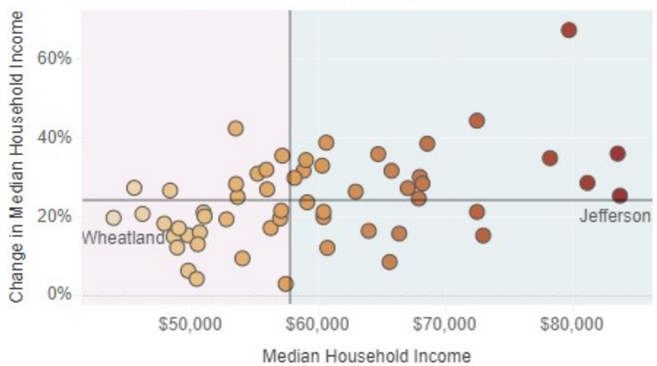
Median Household Income by **County**



Relationship of Median Household Income to Percentage Change in Median Household Income from 2017 to 2022 by **State**



Relationship of Median Household Income to Percentage Change in Median Household Income from 2017 to 2022 by **County**



Data Source: Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) from U.S. Census Bureau.

Jefferson County, Montana has 1,657.0 square miles of land area and is the 42nd largest county in Montana by total area. Jefferson County, Montana is bordered by Powell County, Montana, Lewis and Clark County, Montana, Madison County, Montana, Gallatin County, Montana, Silver Bow County, Montana, Broa...Read More

Share Profile

// United States / Montana / Jefferson County, Montana

Display Sources

Populations and People
Total Population
12,085
P1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Income and Poverty
Median Household Income
$73,875
S1901 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Education
Bachelor's Degree or Higher
33.3%
S1501 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Employment
Employment Rate
55.5%
DP03 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Housing
Total Housing Units
5,375
H1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Health
Without Health Care Coverage
5.7%
S2701 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Business and Economy
Total Employer Establishments
322
CB2100CBP | *2021 Economic Surveys Business Patterns*

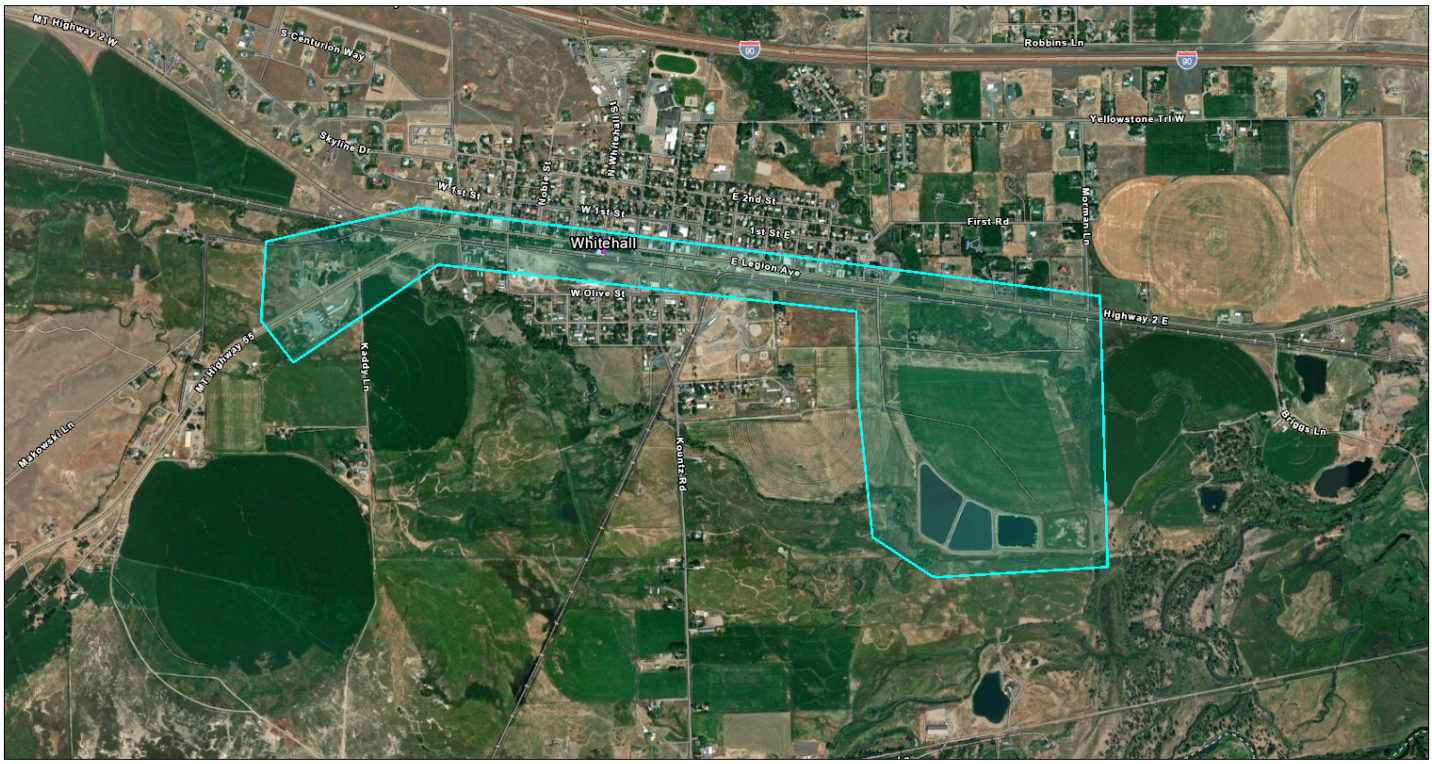
Families and Living Arrangements
Total Households
4,681
DP02 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Race and Ethnicity
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
291
P9 | *2020 Decennial Census*

NEPAssist Report

Whitehall Lift Station Improv.

A3 Landscape



May 16, 2024

Whitehall Lift Station Improv.

Search Result (point)

1:19,969

0 0.17 0.35 0.7 mi

0 0.28 0.55 1.1 km

Montana State Library, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, Maxar

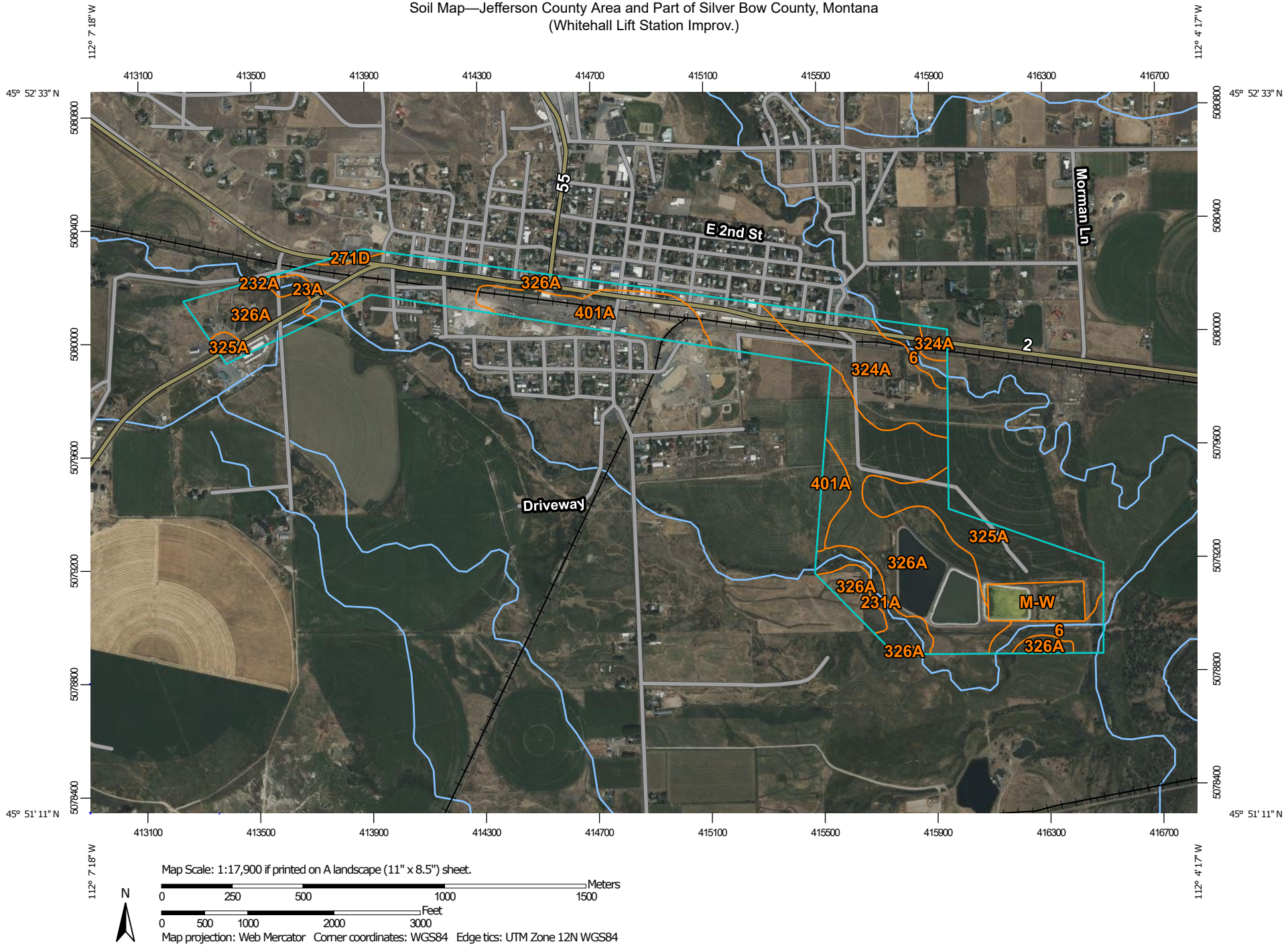
Input Coordinates: 45.867247,-112.118246,45.870027,-112.117988,45.871222,-112.110392,45.868114,-112.075974,45.858611,-112.075588,45.858252,-112.084171,45.858282,-112.084429,45.859657,-112.087433,45.864498,-112.088162,45.867576,-112.088248,45.869220,-112.109320,45.865783,-112.116615,45.867247,-112.118246

Project Area	0.63 sq mi
Within an Ozone 1-hr (1979 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within an Ozone 8-hr (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within an Ozone 8-hr (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within an Ozone 8-hr (2015 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a Lead (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a SO2 1-hr (2010 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a PM2.5 24hr (2006 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a PM2.5 Annual (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a PM2.5 Annual (2012 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a PM10 (1987 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a CO Annual (1971 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a NO2 Annual (1971 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within a Federal Land?	no
Within an impaired stream?	yes
Within an impaired waterbody?	no
Within a waterbody?	no
Within a stream?	yes

Within an NWI wetland?	Available Online
Within a Brownfields site?	yes
Within a Superfund site?	no
Within a Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) site?	no
Within a water discharger (NPDES)?	yes
Within a hazardous waste (RCRA) facility?	yes
Within an air emission facility?	no
Within a school?	no
Within an airport?	no
Within a hospital?	no
Within a designated sole source aquifer?	no
Within a historic property on the National Register of Historic Places?	no
Within a Land Cession Boundary?	yes
Within a tribal area (lower 48 states)?	no
Within the service area of a mitigation or conservation bank?	yes
Within the service area of an In-Lieu-Fee Program?	yes
Within a Public Property Boundary of the Formerly Used Defense Sites?	no
Within a Munitions Response Site?	no
Within an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)?	no
Within a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC)?	no
Within an EFH Area Protected from Fishing (EFHA)?	no
Within a Bureau of Land Management Area of Critical Environmental Concern?	no
Within an ESA-designated Critical Habitat Area per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	no
Within an ESA-designated Critical Habitat river, stream or water feature per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	no

Created on: 5/16/2024 3:06:14 PM

Soil Map—Jefferson County Area and Part of Silver Bow County, Montana
(Whitehall Lift Station Improv.)



MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)
- Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils
- Soil Map Unit Polygons
- Soil Map Unit Lines
- Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features
- Blowout
- Borrow Pit
- Clay Spot
- Closed Depression
- Gravel Pit
- Gravelly Spot
- Landfill
- Lava Flow
- Marsh or swamp
- Mine or Quarry
- Miscellaneous Water
- Perennial Water
- Rock Outcrop
- Saline Spot
- Sandy Spot
- Severely Eroded Spot
- Sinkhole
- Slide or Slip
- Sodic Spot
- Spoil Area
- Stony Spot
- Very Stony Spot
- Wet Spot
- Other
- Special Line Features

Water Features
- Streams and Canals

Transportation
- Rails
- Interstate Highways
- US Routes
- Major Roads
- Local Roads

Background
- Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Jefferson County Area and Part of Silver Bow County, Montana
Survey Area Data: Version 24, Aug 28, 2023

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Aug 17, 2022—Aug 23, 2022

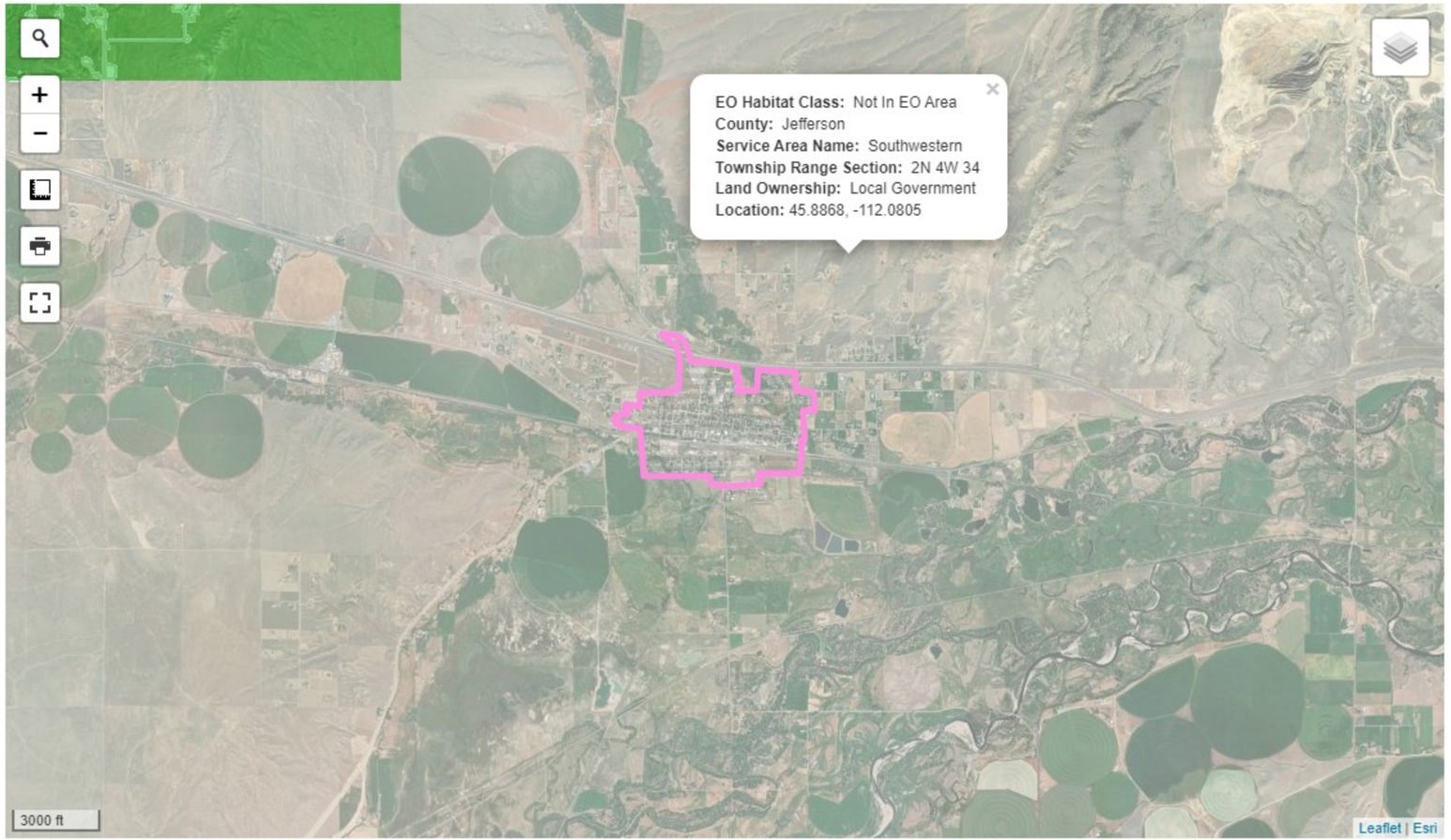
The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
6	Wetsand, Cardwell, and Clunton soils, 0 to 8 percent slopes, channeled	13.8	5.0%
23A	McKenton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.5	1.6%
231A	Ledger-Moltoner-McKenton complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	10.3	3.7%
232A	Clunton-Wetsand-Bonebasin complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.6	0.2%
271D	Bronec-Amesha complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	1.4	0.5%
324A	Fairway clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	35.8	12.8%
325A	Fairway-Nestley clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	32.8	11.8%
326A	Fairway-Moltoner complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	137.6	49.4%
401A	Moltoner silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	30.3	10.9%
M-W	Miscellaneous water	11.4	4.1%
Totals for Area of Interest		**278.6**	**100.0%**

an area, hold the Shift key and draw a rectangle. Anyone proposing new development activities in sage grouse habitat must submit a development project application for consultation.

If your project is close to designated sage grouse habitat or BLM Priority area, or if you are unsure your project is within designated sage grouse habitat or BLM Priority area, please submit your project for review as permitting agencies will be checking to see if your project is located within these designated sage grouse habitats. If your permitting agency requires evidence that your project is outside of designated sage grouse habitat, we recommend that you log in and start a project application and take a screenshot of your project's location.



Montana Certified Values

Jefferson

2023

City Of Whitehall

Download CSV

Select a county, year and taxing jurisdiction to view total market and taxable property values within the selected taxing authority. On a touchscreen you can navigate between taxing jurisdictions by swiping left and right on the table.

*The sum of all property types may not add up to the Total due to corrections, revisions and rounding. For some jurisdictions, the total value may not be divided into all property types. In these cases, only the total value will be shown.

More information on the certification of values process can be found on the Department of Revenue website.

City Of Whitehall		
Property Type	**Market Value**	**Taxable Value**
Special Mobile	$0	$0
Manufactured Homes	$709,660	$8,548
Personal Property	$780,211	$15,644
Real Property	$132,365,626	$1,837,380
Centrally Assessed	$3,452,850	$293,099
Net & Gross Proceeds	NA	$0
Total*	$137,308,347	$2,154,671
Other Information		
Newly Taxable	NA	$13,444
TIF Increment	NA	$627,752

Untitled map

Open in Map Viewer Classic

Sign In

Layers

Get started

You can explore maps, add layers, and more without signing in. To save your work, sign in before creating your map.

Learn more about Map Viewer

USFWS Critical Habitat

Add

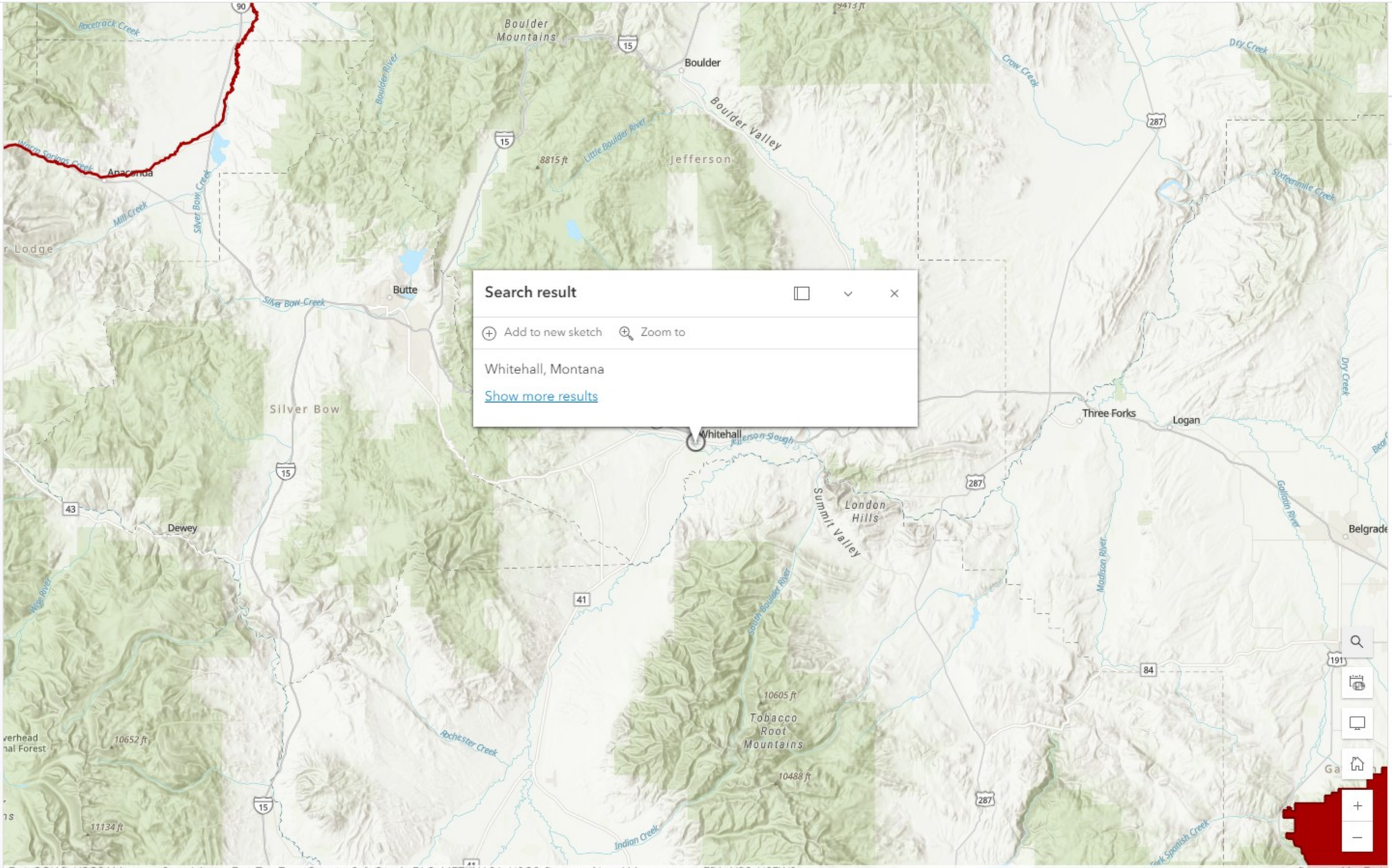
Search result

Add to new sketch

Zoom to

Whitehall, Montana

Show more results



surface waters and wetlands

ABOUT | GET DATA | PRINT | FIND LOCATION

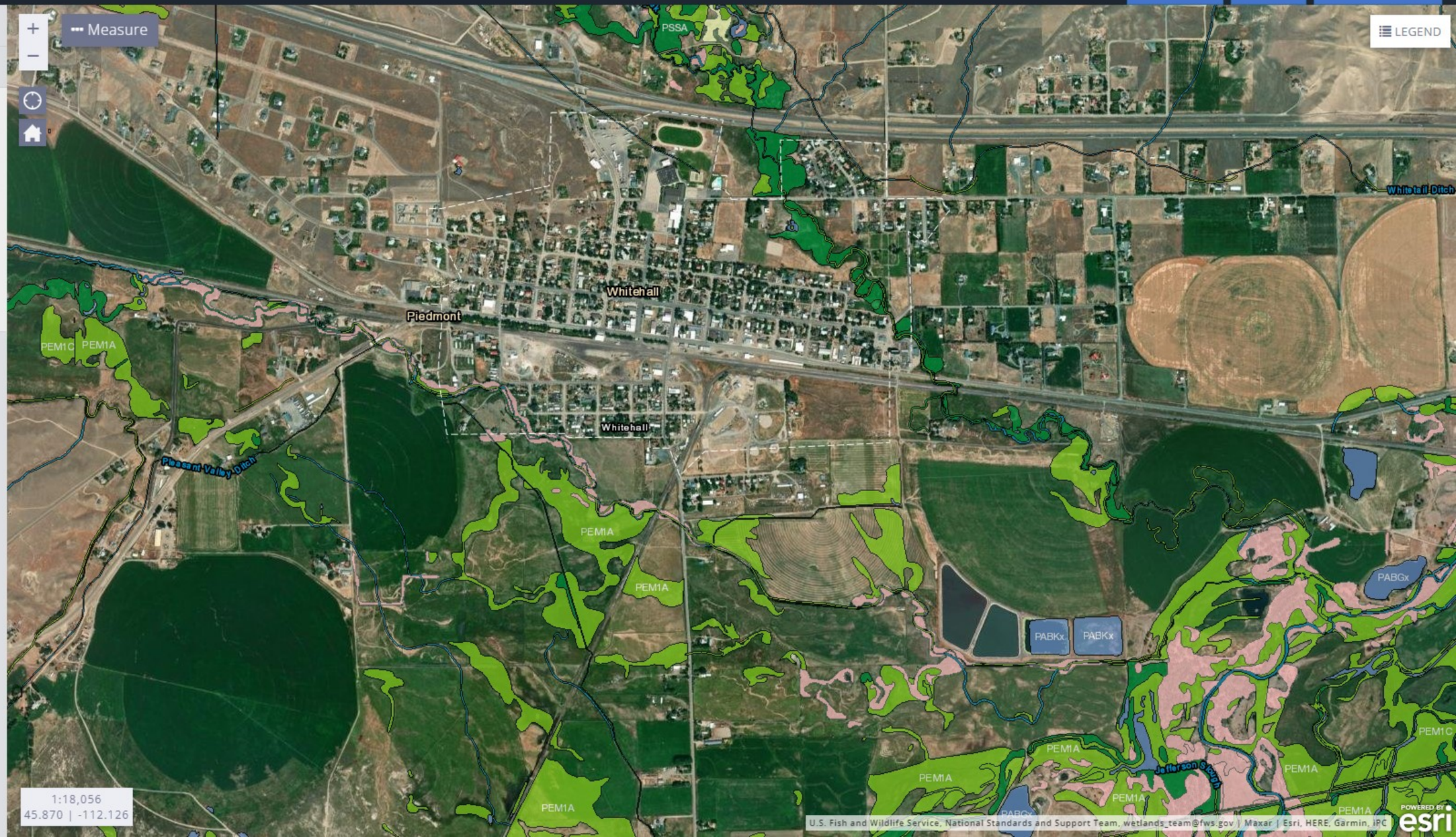
BASEMAPS >

MAP LAYERS >

- [x] Wetlands
- [x] Riparian
- [ ] Riparian Mapping Areas
- [x] Data Source
  - Source Type
  - Image Scale
  - Image Year
- [ ] Areas of Interest
- [ ] FWS Managed Lands

Measure

LEGEND



1:18,056
45.870 | -112.126

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Standards and Support Team, wetlands_team@fws.gov | Maxar | Esri, HERE, Garmin, iPC

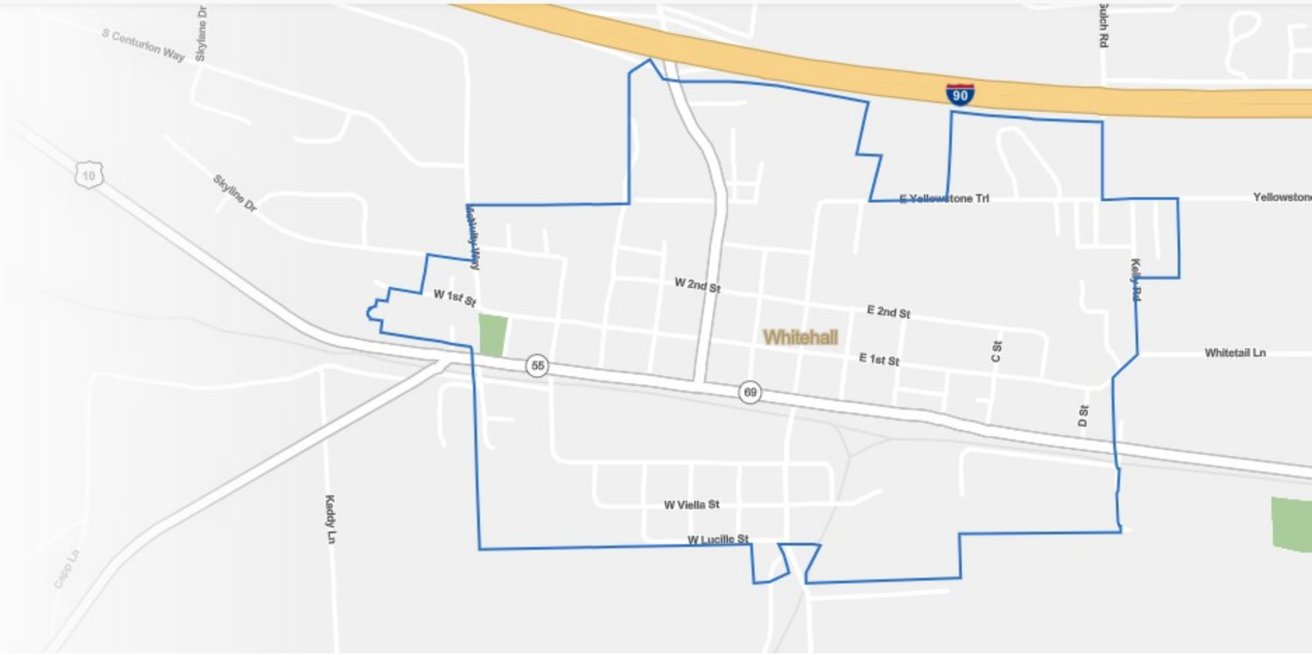
POWERED BY esri

Place

Whitehall town, Montana

Whitehall town, Montana is a city, town, place equivalent, and township located in Montana.

Share Profile



// United States / Montana / Whitehall town, Montana

Display Sources

Populations and People
Total Population
1,006
P1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Employment
Employment Rate
44.4%
DP03 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Families and Living Arrangements
Total Households
463
DP02 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Income and Poverty
Median Household Income
$41,477
S1901 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Housing
Total Housing Units
531
H1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Race and Ethnicity
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
19
P9 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Education
Bachelor's Degree or Higher
18.5%
S1501 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Health
Without Health Care Coverage
6.3%
S2701 | *2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*